

***GROWING TOGETHER:***  
***A Comprehensive Plan for Central Lancaster County, Pennsylvania***

**PROJECT HISTORY**

**BEGINNING**

1. Discussions beginning in 2001 gave high priority to a regional comprehensive plan as a major new work project for the LIMC.
2. March to May 2002 – All 12 municipalities that were LIMC members at that time approved letters/resolutions expressing their interest in participating in the preparation of a regional comprehensive plan.
3. Summer 2002 – Lancaster County and Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development each agreed to provide half of the \$300,000 funding for the consultants for the plan.
4. Summer 2002 – Consultant selection process began.
5. November 2002 to January 2003 – 11 LIMC municipalities passed ordinances and signed an agreement approving their participation in the planning project (City of Lancaster; Boroughs of East Petersburg, Millersville, and Mountville; Townships of East Hempfield, East Lampeter, Lancaster, Manheim, Manor, West Hempfield, West Lampeter).
6. Late 2002 to early 2003 – Municipalities and Lancaster County Planning Commission appointed members of Steering Committee.
7. Steering Committee held first meeting on February 13, 2003.
8. Steering Committee held second meeting and elected officers (Chairman Neil Kinsey and Vice Chairman Todd Weiss) on April 3, 2003.
9. Steering Committee held 44 meetings, usually on first Thursday of each month, to provide overall guidance for plan; subcommittees of Steering Committee have met on several occasions to address specific issues.
10. August 2003 – Lancaster County signed contract to work with consulting team of ACP Visioning & Planning of New York, NY, and Thomas Comitta Associates of West Chester, PA.

**PLAN DEVELOPMENT**

11. January 15, 2004 – Stakeholder workshop held to introduce project to municipal officials, representatives of organizations, and others.
12. January and February 2004 – 4 public meetings held.
13. March 4, 2004 – LIMC’s annual dinner meeting included goal-writing exercise.
14. April and May 2004 – Steering Committee refined goals and provided an opportunity for review by municipalities.
15. September 30, 2004 – Community Summit held.
16. 2004 to early 2005 – Steering Committee drafted objectives during 2004 and provided an opportunity for review by municipalities in late December 2004 and January 2005.
17. March 2 & 3, 2005 – 2 public forums held.
18. 2005 – Strategies discussed at March 3, 2005, LIMC annual dinner meeting, with an opportunity for municipal review through May 20, 2005.
19. December 8 & 9, 2005 – 2 public forums held.

**STEERING COMMITTEE REVIEW**

20. November 3, 2005 – First complete draft of *Growing Together* provided by consultants, with copies provided to municipalities for review.

21. December 7 & 8, 2005 - Steering Committee held 2-day work session to review November 3, 2005, draft.
22. April 18, 2006 – Consultants provided second complete draft of *Growing Together*, with revisions based on comments on November 3, 2005, draft.
23. May 4, 2006 – Steering Committee met, reviewed initial comments on April 18, 2006, draft, and voted unanimously to forward the draft to the municipalities for their formal review.

#### **FINAL MUNICIPAL REVIEW**

24. June 1, 2006 – The draft of *Growing Together* was forwarded to each municipality for formal review. The municipalities received the number of hard copies and CDs that they previously requested; the draft was also accessible on-line.
25. June 29, 2005 – A regional meeting was held to give an overview of *Growing Together*, discuss the review and adoption process, and answer municipal questions.
26. August 18, 2006 – This was the deadline for municipalities to give the Steering Committee their comments on the *Growing Together* draft and the draft resolution for adoption. Comments were to include questions, requested revisions, and a list of any unacceptable elements of the draft. All comments from each municipality were to be submitted in one unified list approved by the governing body.

#### **FINAL REVISIONS AND PRINTING**

27. August to October 2006 – The Steering Committee reviewed the municipal comments, made revisions to *Growing Together* to address those comments, responded to the municipalities about how it addressed all the municipal comments, and requested revisions by the consultants.
28. October 2006 to January 2007 – The consultants, Steering Committee, and staff completed the final revisions.
29. January 2007 – The consultants provided the final electronic version of *Growing Together*.
30. January and February 2007 – Hard copies and CDs of *Growing Together* were printed in the quantities requested by each municipality and circulated at and following the February 8, 2007, Steering Committee meeting.

#### **ADOPTION PROCESS**

31. February 8, 2007 – The Steering Committee recommended (1) that *Growing Together* be circulated to the LCPC, neighboring municipalities, and school districts for the 45-day review period required by the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) and (2) that all participating municipalities adopt *Growing Together*.
32. February 8, 2007, and Following Week - Copies of *Growing Together* and letters explaining the review and adoption process were delivered/mailed (1) to participating municipalities and (2) to the LCPC, neighboring municipalities, and school districts.
33. March 14 and 21, 2007 – A joint legal notice for all municipal public hearings and adoptions appeared in the Lancaster Newspapers.
34. March 2007 – All eleven municipal planning commissions held public meetings on *Growing Together*, as required by the MPC, and recommended that their governing bodies adopt the plan.
35. April 2007 – All 11 municipal governing bodies held public hearings on *Growing Together*, as required by the MPC, and voted unanimously to adopt the plan.