AGENDA

2:30 p.m.  1. CALL TO ORDER
   A. Welcome  

2:35 p.m.  2. ACTION ITEM
   A. Adoption of July 27, 2022 Minutes  
   B. Approval of 2023 Meeting Dates  
   C. Appoint Nominating Committee  

2:45 p.m.  3. DISCUSSION ITEMS
   A. EEAB Subcommittee Reports  
      1) Environmental Subcommittee  
      2) Clean Energy Subcommittee  
   B. Municipal Plastic Bag Bans  
   C. Climate Action Plan Metrics  
   D. 2023 CCPC Work Program draft  

3:20 p.m.  4. UPDATES AND COMMENTS
   A. Planning Commission Director’s Report  
      1) DVRPC Model Solar Ordinance Update  
   B. Sustainability Director’s Report  
      1) Keep Chester County Beautiful Initiative  
   C. Facilities Director’s Report  
      1) Regional Power Purchase Agreement Update  
   D. Other Updates  
   E. Public Comment  

4:00 p.m.  5. ADJOURNMENT
Next quarterly meeting – January 25th, 2023

Attachments:
Draft July 27, 2022 Minutes
Draft 2023 Meeting Dates
Information on plastic bag bans from PA League of Women Voters
Climate Action Plan proposed metrics and tracking methodology
Draft 2023 CCPC Work Program
CALL TO ORDER:

The Environmental and Energy Advisory Board meeting, held in the Government Services Center Suite 270 and via Zoom video/audio on Wednesday, July 27, 2022 was called to order at 2:30 P.M. by Chair Jess Cadorette.

Ms. Cadorette introduced new board members Sarah Sharp, Associate Planner, Brandywine Conservancy, and Jason Suydam, Acting Director/Deputy Director for Law Enforcement Services, Chester County Department of Emergency Services.

ACTION ITEMS:

Adoption of April 27, 2022 Minutes:

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 27, 2022 MEETING WAS MADE BY MR. SUYDAM, SECONDED BY MR. O’LEARY, AND PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

EEAB Bylaws Revision:

A MOTION TO ADOPT THE REVISED BYLAWS TO CREATE 3-YEAR TERM LIMITS FOR THE CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR AND TO HAVE THE SECRETARY NOTIFY THE COMMISSIONERS OF VACANCIES WAS MADE BY MR. O’LEARY, SECONDED BY MS. DEWOLF, AND PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.
DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Subcommittee Reports:

Environmental Subcommittee:

Ms. Stauffer reported that the Environmental subcommittee met on June 22, 2022. Discussions included input on woodlands issues and related work program items. The CCPC draft work program items for 2022/2023 include the following:

2022 3rd and 4th quarter
- Woodlands and Tree Canopy mapping
- Tree planting and reforestation programs
- Urban heat island resources
- Easement programs

2023 1st and 2nd quarter
- Woodland/natural resource stewardship plans
- Carbon credit programs for Chester County

Clean Energy Subcommittee:

Mr. Wylie reported that the Clean Energy Subcommittee met on June 15, and July 20, 2022. Discussions included proposed initiatives. A timeline and work program were presented to the Board:

2022:
- Ongoing - Benchmarking (County Gov Facilities & Vehicles)
- September - Municipal Cohort - Climate Action - Kickoff
- October - School District & Municipal Funding Opportunities
- October (late) - Solar Stakeholders Meeting
- November - Building Codes Training

2023:
- February - EV Ready Policies for New Construction
- March - Municipal Cohort - Follow Up
- Spring - Solar Adopters Conference
- Mid '23 - Benchmarking – Businesses

A MOTION TO ALLOW THE SUBCOMMITTEES TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROPOSED INITIATIVES WAS MADE BY MR. KRUG, SECONDED BY MR. WILLIAMS, AND PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

UPDATES AND COMMENTS:

Outreach Updates:

Ms. Griffith updated members about current outreach initiatives. Planning Commission staff will be starting a quarterly sustainability eNewsletter that the Planning Commission will be sending out. Topics would include general county activities that relate to sustainability, resources such as funding and data sources, new policies, success stories, and case studies.
The board members were provided with a draft of the new Climate Action Plan Executive Summary. This summary will include a description of the Climate Action Plan, its goals, missions, and the objectives.

The board members were also provided with a draft implementation guide that lists actions specific to each organization identified as an implementer of the Climate Action Plan.

**Climate Action Plan Metrics:**

Ms. Rullo, who has been assisting in the Planning Commission as part of her Capstone Project with the Penn Master of Environmental Studies program, presented information on potential metrics for the Climate Action Plan.

**Open Space Outreach:**

Ms. Griffith explained that the Planning Commission and Open Space staff have been working to identify plans, policies, and ordinances related to open space within municipalities. A spatial analysis of 10-acre parcels that could potentially be preserved in Chester County was also completed. Staff then worked with land trusts to identify municipalities for more targeted outreach. The target timeline to begin the general outreach from the Planning Commission is September, 2022.

**Grid-Scale Solar Guide:**

Mr. O’Leary updated the members about the Chester County Solar Power Guide. This information provides guidance to the county's municipalities on regulating solar power facilities. The guide is focused on larger grid-scale solar facilities, which are essentially electric generation plants; however, it also includes information and links on accessory use of solar power.


Mr. O’Leary shared an analysis completed of a hypothetical demand for solar power facilities in Chester County based on 2015 electric usage county-wide, which was 6.1 million Mwh. A one-megawatt facility will generate 3.56 Mwh. Therefore, in 2015, the county would have needed 4,715.7 MW of total solar facility power, which translates to 28,294 acres of land. The map shows properties over six acres within a mile of electric transmission lines, which includes rooftops and parking lots, which is about 31,000 acres of land.

**Regional Power Purchase Agreement Update:**

Ms. Stauffer and Ms. Bowers updated the board on the status of the Chester County Regional Power Purchase Agreement. Staff has been working with the consultant, Enel X North America, and continuing to meet monthly.

**Planning Commission Director’s Report:**

Mr. O’Leary mentioned the completion of the Schuylkill River Trail and the establishment of the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority (SRPRA).

**Other Updates:**

Mr. Connolly commented on a recent communication received that indicates PECO will be issuing rebates in the amount of $500 for gas customers. Mr. Connolly requested for the Planning
Commission staff to think about adding a metric to the Climate Action Plan to assess the number of proposed buildings with proposed electric heat vs gas heat.

Ms. De Wolf commented that the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (DCNR) will be having a second round of funding for projects that needs to be distributed by the end of 2022. Keystone Tree Fund and the Ag State Conservation Fund have programs and funding available as well.

Ms. Bowers commented on the Energy Star work that had been previously managed by a former staff member. The County has been awarded funding from US Representative Houlahan’s Community Projects funding of six hundred fifty thousand dollars ($650,000) for 26 charging stations at 19 county properties which include trailhead parking areas. Facilities staff have been working on a reserve study to analyze what to expect from capital investment over the next twelve years. Two hundred twenty buildings were included in the assessment.

Mr. Krug commented that the Smart Energy Initiative will have 2 more events in 2022. The PA House and Senate have expanded C-PACE financing and can now be used for multifamily buildings and projects addressing indoor air quality.

The next quarterly meeting will be on October 26, 2022.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 4:00 PM. WAS MADE BY MR. O’LEARY SECONDED BY MR. WYLIE AND PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE BOARD.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Brian N. O’Leary, AICP
Secretary

BNO/CJS/RG/slw
CHESTER COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD
2023 MEETING SCHEDULE

Quarterly on fourth Wednesday of the month at 2:30 p.m.,
Government Services Center unless otherwise noted

January 25, 2023 - 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
April 26, 2023 - 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
July 26, 2023 - 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
October 25, 2023 - 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

BNO/CS/slw
Strategic Plan Recommendation: Single-use Plastic Bag Ban

Submitted by Kathy Cook, LWVPA, and Tamela Trussell, Move Past Plastic

**Problem Definition:** The entire lifecycle of single-use plastic (SUP) has many direct and indirect costs. These costs include contributing to excess litter,\(^1\) creating stormwater management problems, and increasing expenses for waste management.\(^2\) Plastic can cause endocrine disruption that leads to cancer, birth defects, immune system suppression, and developmental problems in children. The production of plastics contributes to harmful greenhouse gas emissions,\(^1\) air particulates, and over 2400 toxic chemicals\(^4\) that impair environmental and human health.\(^2\)

Single-use plastic bag bans have eight main goals:

1. **Bring public awareness to the harms of single-use plastic.**

2. **Address environmental racism.**\(^5\) The single-use plastic life cycle distributes harm unequally. Frontline communities and workers near fracking, cracker plants, pipelines, transportation, and waste facilities bear the brunt of the damage and disruptions to their health and quality of life.

3. Reducing single-use plastic will **decrease litter** and clean-up costs and enhance the community's aesthetics.\(^1\)

4. **Decrease waste management expenses** costs.\(^2\) (Comply with The Pennsylvania Stormwater Act of 1978 (known as Act 167) stormwater obstruction, aesthetics.) Decreasing the clogs in Material Recovery Facility (MRF) sorting machines decreases costly downtime to repair and clean MRF sorting machines.

5. **Decrease** and some toxic air pollutants found with them.\(^3\)\(^2\)

6. **Decrease SUP litter, microplastics, and hazardous chemicals** that enter our watershed. They impair wildlife, plants, aquatic life, soil life and composition, and drinking water. Microplastics enter the food chain. Over time a decrease in single-use plastic will reduce the harmful health impacts on residents by decreasing drinking water contamination from microplastic and chemicals such as PFAS and BPA.

7. **Transition from disposability to reuse and repair.**

8. **Societal costs**\(^7\)

**Community Context:** Primary concerns from previous surveys in other townships surveys of residents and business owners related to single-use plastic bans were **convenience, equity, alternative products, and costs.**

To address **convenience**, businesses and residents would be educated about the actual cost of single-use plastic bags and how to unlearn habits of disposability that the industry taught them. Residents would be allowed to purchase paper or stitch bags as **alternatives** to single-use plastic bags. “Share Bags” could be available at various retail locations. Perhaps expandable containers or boxes could be accessible.
Low-income community residents, SNAP, and WIC participants would be given reusable bags. These alternative bags would be available at libraries, unemployment benefits offices, Medicaid Outreach offices, Project Share, and certain grocery stores to ensure equity.¹

Cost: There are many costs of single-use plastic that are hidden from the public. The direct costs and indirect costs for the City of Durham amount to $2,686,943/per year.²

The cost to material recovery facilities for trapped bags is between $300,000 to $1 million.² Roadside litter costs the Department of Transportation over $13 million yearly.¹ Based on the report, “Plastics: The cost to society, environment and the economy,”² plastic costs to the environment, society and the economy are ten times more than the market price of virgin plastic.”²

According to Economic Impact from Regulation of Single-Use Plastics, of three options: bag ban, bag fee, and bag ban and fee, the bag ban with fee combination will result in: the most significant decrease in consumer bag usage and the most considerable decrease in bag expenses for retailers and consumers. Consumers will only see a 0.2-cent increase/per bag.

Benefits: Bag ban/fee combination ordinances are the most effective for shifting the community to reusable bags and successfully shifting toward more sustainable practices.² saw an increase in reusable bags by 58%, reduced plastic bag pollution in storm drains by 89%, and a 35-50% reduction in downtime for material recovery facilities. In Alameda County, CA, a ban on thin plastic bags and a fee on paper and reusable bags led to an 80% decline in the use of single-use paper and plastic bags, a 200% increase in the number of shoppers bringing reusable bags, or not using a bag at all. A 44% decrease in plastic bags found in County storm drains.²

This includes a decrease in 1.58 kg CO2e (carbon dioxide equivalent)⁸ per single plastic bag.⁸ The 4,740,000 single-use plastic bags Carlisle residents are estimated to use contribute 7,489,200 CO2e. This is equivalent to a small petrol car’s driving emissions of 37,920,000 km. San Diego’s impact study for their bag ban and fee did a life cycle assessment that included less energy, greenhouse gas emissions, solid waste will be created, and less water used and contaminated.

We will have less litter entering our local watershed contaminating it with toxic chemicals and microplastics.¹⁰

Implementation: After a six-month notification and public awareness campaign, a ban with a 12-cent minimum fee for reusable bags combination ordinance could begin.

Notices could be sent to all businesses with the required signage for posting. The businesses and the public will be informed by educational fliers, signs, infographics, memes, news articles, meetings & presentations at schools, academic institutions, churches, clubs, and social media. Community organizations such as environmental advocacy groups, libraries, and Farmer's markets could be used to increase awareness.

Data would be collected to serve as a baseline before implementing the ordinance. Require the performance of a pre-and assess litter composition and bag use profiles to assess performance.¹¹
**Measures of Impact:** Implementation of data collection and analysis will occur two years after the ordinance goes into effect. Success will be measured by:

- 80% reduction in single-use plastic bag usage
- 70% favorable attitudes toward the law from local businesses and residents disaggregated by race and income
- 55% increase in reusable bags, no bags or alternative containers (box/bin)
- 50% decrease in materials facility recovery tanglers and a reduction in waste management fees
- 50% decrease in single-use plastic bags on streets
- 50% decrease in microplastics in wastewater
- 40% decrease in single-use plastic bags in storm drains
- 40% percent reduction in greenhouse gas emission equivalent for the single-use plastic life cycle
- Test for a decreased amount of microplastics, PFAS, and endocrine disruptors in local creeks and rivers

**Work Cited:**

Climate Action Plan Draft Metrics and Data Sources

Buildings and Energy

A1. Number of county-owned facilities with Energy Star score of 75 or higher (of 6 eligible buildings)

Proposed data source: Energy Star Portfolio Manager

A2. Combined kWh of electricity used by all 11 buildings currently tracked through Energy Star Portfolio Manager

Proposed data source: Energy Star Portfolio Manager

A3. Combined kBTU of natural gas/fuel oil used by all 11 buildings

Proposed data source: Energy Star Portfolio Manager

A4. Total greenhouse gas emissions for 11 buildings

Proposed data source: Energy Star Portfolio Manager

A5. Percentage of total kw of electricity purchased/used that was generated by a renewable source

Proposed data source: Electricity bills from facilities office

A6. Change in the number of municipal renewable energy ordinances

Proposed data source: annual reporting from CCPC plan review planners

A7. Total solar kilowatts installed county-wide certified through PA Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS)

Proposed data source: Pennsylvania Alternative Energy Credit Program; updated in real-time, tracked by CCPC annually

Transportation and Land Use

B1. Percent increase in multi-use trail, sidewalk, and bike lane mileage in the county

Currently tracked annually

B2. Percentage of residents using means other than single-occupant vehicles for transportation to work

Currently tracked annually

B3. Change in public transit ridership trips in the county including bus routes, regional rail, and AMTRAK

Currently tracked annually

B4. Percentage of new housing units that are attached or multi-family

Currently tracked annually

B5. Percentage of proposed residential lots/units in designated Growth Areas

Currently tracked annually
B6. Percentage of proposed non-residential square footage in designated Growth Areas
   Currently tracked annually

B7. Number of electric vehicles county wide
   Proposed Data Source: Vehicle registration data from DVRPC

B8. Number of electric vehicle charging stations county-wide
   Proposed data source: DOE’s Alternative Fuels Data Center data

B9. Percentage of county fleet that is electrified
   Proposed data source: Report from Chester County fleet manager

B10. Number of municipalities that have adopted a Clean Energy Transition plan or Climate Action Plan
   Proposed data source: PA Clean Energy website; internal information

Waste Management
C1. Percent change in municipal solid waste per capita in the county
   Currently tracked annually.

Agriculture, Food, and Forestry
D1. Percent increase in protected open space
   Currently tracked annually

D2. Percent increase in protected farmland
   Currently tracked annually

D3. Percent increase in protected woodlands
   Proposed data source: Chesapeake Conservancy Land Cover data, Chester County Protected Open Space Tracking data

D4. Net change in tree cover
   Proposed data source: Chesapeake Conservancy Land Cover data (updated every 5 years)
Chester County Climate Action Plan
Draft Metrics and Methodology

The following text describes proposed methodology for measuring progress toward implementing the Climate Action Plan. These methods relate only to the metrics that are currently not being tracked by Chester County. Unless noted otherwise, the base year for metrics will be 2021, the year the Plan was adopted. All metrics will be tracked annually except where noted otherwise.

Methodology for Metric A1, Number of County Owned Facilities with Energy Star score of 75 or higher (of 6 eligible buildings)

**Data Source:** Energy Star Portfolio Manager—Chester County account

**Methodology:**

1. Each January, CCPC Sustainability Division will log in to the County of Chester Energy Star Portfolio Manager account and note how many of the eligible county buildings have an Energy Star score of 75 or higher.

Methodology for Metric A2, Combined kwh of Electricity Used by all 11 Buildings

**Data Source:** Energy Star Portfolio Manager—Chester County account

**Methodology:** Each January, CCPC Sustainability Division will log into the County of Chester Energy Star Portfolio Manager account and calculate the total electricity use for all 11 buildings. Use the Energy Star metric “Electricity Use - Grid Purchase and Generated from Onsite Renewable Systems (kWh)”

Methodology for Metric A3, Combined kbtu of Natural Gas/Fuel Oil Used by all 11 Buildings

**Data Source:** Energy Star Portfolio Manager—Chester County account

**Methodology:** Each January, CCPC Sustainability Division will log into the County of Chester’s Energy Star Portfolio Manager account and sum the total natural gas use for all 11 buildings. Use the Energy Star metric “Natural Gas Use (kBtu)”.
Methodology for Metric A4, Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions for 11 Buildings

Data Source: Energy Star Portfolio Manager—Chester County account

Methodology: Each January, CCPC Sustainability Division will log into the County of Chester’s Energy Star Portfolio Manager account and sum the total metric tons of CO2e for all 11 buildings using the “Total GHG Emissions” metric within Portfolio Manager.

Methodology for Metric A5, Percentage of Total kw of Electricity Purchased/Used that was Generated by a Renewable Source

Data Source: Utility bills for county facilities that have on-site renewable energy systems and/or electricity purchased from a future renewable power purchase agreement (PPA) or other offsite renewable electricity generation systems.

Methodology: Annually or monthly Chester County Facilities Department shares electricity usage data from utility bills for county facilities that have on-site renewable energy systems. Should Chester County enter into an alternative method of electricity procurement in the future, including but not limited to a power purchase agreement, methodology for obtaining renewable electricity data will be revisited. This metric does not include the purchase of Renewable Energy Credits.

Methodology for Metric A6, Change in Number of Municipal Alternative Energy Ordinances

Data Source: Individual Municipality websites/zoning ordinances; inventories produced by CCPC Plan Review planners

Methodology: Each January a planner within CCPC’s Plan Review planners will generate a report that lists municipal ordinances amended or adopted the previous year related to geothermal energy, wind energy, and solar energy. Planners will update the county-wide inventory document to reflect the changes. The criteria used for evaluating each type of ordinance is as follows:

- Utility-scale solar energy: Specific methodology is currently in development based on DVRPC’s regional model solar ordinance (in progress)
- Accessory use solar energy: Specific methodology is currently in development based on DVRPC’s regional model solar ordinance (in progress)
- Small wind energy systems: For ordinances regulating residential wind energy systems: Kw limits are not less than 20 kW in rural areas and not less than 50 kW for farm use;
maximum total height is not overly restrictive (less than 60’); ordinance does not require costly tests like sound tests.

- Geothermal Energy: Criteria TBD. Baseline inventory will identify which municipalities have a geothermal energy ordinance, and where in the municipal code the ordinance is located.

Current year metrics will be compared with base year metrics to determine the overall change since the base year (year-end 2021).

For each of the 4 types of alternative energy ordinances, Metric 6 represents the number of municipalities that received a “Yes” score (not “Limited” or “No”). All the “Yes” scores will be totaled for a “total score.” Note that a change from “No” to “Limited” will not be included in this metric because this change likely reflects additional restrictions being placed on the renewable energy system.

**Methodology for Metric A7, Total Solar Kilowatts Installed County-Wide Certified Through PA Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards (AEPS)**

**Data Source:** PA PUC Alternative Energy Reports and Map

**Methodology:**

1. Each January, CCPC Sustainability Division planners will access the Pennsylvania Alternative Energy Credit Program data through the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission through their website. Note that this data source is updated in real time, so data for this metric should be accessed as close to January 1 as possible to ensure exactly one year of data is being reflected in the metric.

2. Data will be accessed through the “Qualified Facilities Map” by clicking “County” and “View Project Map” and choosing the dark red colored dot located near King of Prussia.

3. Record the total number of solar projects as well as the total kW of direct current (DC) projects in the county.

Total solar kilowatts certified in Chester County as of 8/11/22: 35,993kW
Methodology for Metric B7, Number of Electric Vehicles County-Wide

Data Source: Electric vehicle registration data from PennDOT

Methodology:

1. Each September, CCPC Sustainability Division planners will contact DVRPC’s Air Quality Programs Manager and obtain electric vehicle registration data for Chester County.

Methodology for Metric B8, Public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations County-Wide

Data Source: U.S. Department of Energy Alternative Fuels Data Center

Methodology:

1. Each year in July, CCPC will download the Pennsylvania Alternative Fuels Data Center information from the U.S. Department of Energy website, with Advanced Filters specifying Location in Pennsylvania, Electric Fuel Type, All Chargers, Public Access, and Available Status. Download the results and calculate the number of stations within Chester County.

Methodology for Metric B9, Percentage of County Fleet that is Electrified

Data Source: Chester County Fleet Manager

Methodology:

1. CCPC Sustainability Division will gather data from Chester County’s Fleet Manager every June. Data request should be for the following data:
   1. # new EVs ordered that calendar year
   2. # existing EVs in the county’s fleet
   3. Total number of vehicles in the county’s fleet
Methodology for Metric B10, Number of Municipalities That Have Adopted a Clean Energy Transition Plan and/or Climate Action Plan

Data Source: PACleanEnergy.com; CCPC Community Planning Division, CCPC Sustainability Division, Municipal Outreach

Methodology:

1. Each year in January, CCPC Sustainability Division will check the pacleanenergy.com webpage for a list of municipalities with a Clean Energy Transition Plan and/or Climate Action Plan. Additionally, check with the Community Planning division director for any known plans, and conduct municipal outreach as needed.

Methodology for Metric D3, Percent Increase in Protected Woodlands

Data Source: Chesapeake Bay Conservancy Land Use/Land Cover Data; Chester County Protected Open Space Tracking data

Methodology:

1. This metric utilizes the Chesapeake Bay Conservancy’s 2017/2018 Land Use/Land Cover (LULC) data. The Land Use/Land Cover data are available in the summertime approximately every 5 years.

2. Overlay Chester County’s Protected Open Space Tracking GIS layer on the Chesapeake Bay Conservancy’s LULC GIS layer. Turn off all open space parcels protected by the Agricultural Land Preservation Board (ALPB). Calculate the area (in acres) of tree cover within protected open space parcels.

Methodology for Metric D4, Net Change in Tree Cover

Data Source: Chesapeake Bay Conservancy Land Use/Land Cover Data

Methodology:

1. Baseline Year: 2017

2. The 2017/2018 Land Use/Land Cover (LULC) data layer will be gathered from the Chesapeake Bay Conservancy. The Land Use/Land Cover data are available in the summertime approximately every 5 years.
3. Overlay the Chesapeake Bay Program LULC GIS layer on the most up-to-date aerial image of the county. All LULC layers should be turned off except for the following layers:

- Tree Canopy, Other
- Tree Canopy Over Turf Grass
- Tree Canopy Over Impervious
- Forest
Draft

2023
Work Program

Projects highlighted in yellow relate to the EEAB
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Chapter 1
Using this Work Program

The 2023 Work Program lists proposed projects and events for 2023 and provides more detailed administrative information about larger scale efforts. This information includes:

**Project Staffing:** Under each project, the lead division is listed; however, in a number of cases, the project is a multi-division team project. In these cases, other divisions involved in the project are also listed.

**Time Frame:** The time frame reflects the general timing of the project during the upcoming calendar year.

**Funding:** In some cases, specific grants are helping to fund specific projects. These are noted when applicable.

**Staff Resources:** There are three levels of staff resources – limited, moderate, and significant. Limited usually involves one person or a smaller team for a project that can be completed relatively quickly or easily. Moderate usually involves a larger project managed by one person or a small team. Significant projects involve multiple people for a large project.

**Communications:** Three levels of communications are identified for each project, and these are focused on the four primary audiences of municipalities, implementation partners, policymakers, and the public.

- **Communications Level I**
  A level I project pertains to a single event or entity. It also can be a simple brochure, tool, or study about one topic. This type of project may have a limited audience such as a single municipality.

- **Communications Level II**
  A level II project spans over a couple of months to up to two years and includes more than one audience group. It also would include projects that have a couple of public meetings, events, an in-depth study, etc. Coordination with the executive director may be necessary.

- **Communications Level III**
  A level III project spans over one to three years and includes multiple audiences. The project would include multiple public meetings, hearings and events. Coordination with the executive director and the Chester County Commissioners is often necessary.

**Scoping Meetings:** There should usually be three scoping meetings during the process of completing a project, with a focus on the organization, production and communications, and project status. The exact nature of each meeting will depend on the specific project, and the need for scoping meetings for the Work Program projects will be determined by the management committee on a regular basis. Project leads should check with their manager to see if a scoping meeting is needed.

Project leads should prepare an agenda for the scoping meeting that addresses the purpose elements identified below. This agenda should be shared with all meeting participants ahead of time.
Organizational Scoping Meeting

**Purpose:** Identify key planning issues to be addressed, important stakeholders, relationship to other CCPC projects, critical CCPC and intra-county coordination, overall timeline, anticipated events, and major resources needed.

**Key Participants:**
- Project Lead
- Division Director for Project Lead
- Key Staff Members for Project
- Executive Director
- Assistant Director
- Director of Design and Technology

**Time Frame:** Before project begins

**Duration of Meeting:** An hour

Production and Communications Scoping Meeting

**Purpose:** Discuss a detailed timeline, expected products, design needs, division coordination, communication needs, and meeting needs.

**Key Participants:**
- Project Lead
- Other Project Participants
- Division Director for Project Lead
- Representative of Design and Technology Division
- Representative of Communications Team

**Time Frame:** In early stages of project

**Duration of Meeting:** An hour

Project Status Meeting

**Purpose:** Determine the status of the project, the timeline, the production of materials, and communications, including communications after the project is completed.

**Key Participants:**
- Project Lead
- Other Project Participants
- Division Director for Project Lead
- Executive Director (if necessary)
- Assistant Director (if necessary)
- Designer
- Representative of Communications Team

**Time Frame:** In mid-stage of project or other appropriate time.

**Duration of Meeting:** An hour, if needed
Chapter 2
2023 Work Program

The 2023 Work Program lists proposed projects and events for 2023 that implement Landscapes3. This work program is structured around the six goal areas of Landscapes3 – Preserve, Protect, Appreciate, Live, Prosper, and Connect – plus work activities that implement the Landscapes vision and map.

These projects and events are larger scale efforts that have a distinct beginning and ending point and require more production and communications support. Major ongoing planning activities, which usually do not involve significant production or communications work, are listed at the end of this Chapter.

The Work Program for 2023 contains a large number of projects and events and is divided into the following topic areas:

- Preserve
- Protect
- Appreciate
- Live
- Prosper
- Connect
- Landscapes Vision and Map
- Ongoing Planning Activities

### Preserve Goal

**Municipal Open Space Outreach**

Using available data and collective knowledge, develop a strategy for municipal outreach jointly with land trusts with the goal of helping municipalities augment their land preservation efforts. Conduct municipal outreach as identified by the strategy.

- **Lead Division** – Sustainability
- **2023 Time Frame** – First half of year (Continuation of project from 2022)
- **Staff Resources** – Moderate
- **Communications** – Level 1
- **Scoping Meetings Needed** – Yes (Completed in 2022)

**Open Space Preservation Updated Mapping and Data (POST)**

Prepare annual summary of the amount and type of permanently protected open space in Chester County.

- **Lead Division** – Multimodal Transportation Planning
- **2023 Time Frame** – First quarter of year
- **Staff Resources** – Limited
- **Communications** – Level 1
- **Scoping Meetings Needed** – No
**Preserved Open Space Map**
Update the map of preserved open space to reflect eased areas on properties and revise POST information as necessary.

*Lead Division – Design and Technology*
*Supporting Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year*
*Staff Resources – Limited*
*Communications – Level I*
*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*

**Open Space Summit**
Work with the Department of Parks and Preservation to convene an open space summit.

*Lead Division – Sustainability*

*2023 Time Frame – First half of year*
*Staff Resources – Limited*
*Communications – Level II*
*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*

**Protect Goal**

**Solar Ordinance Inventory and Outreach**
Conduct municipal inventory of grid-scale and accessory use solar ordinances; develop checklist using DVRPC’s model, assess each ordinance based on checklist, conduct municipal outreach. Host relevant web-based trainings for municipalities as required for SolSmart certification.

*Lead Division – Sustainability*
*Supporting Division – Design and Technology*

*2023 Timeframe – First half of year (Continuation of project from 2022)*
*Staff Resources – Moderate*
*Communications – Level 1*

*Scoping Meeting Needed – Yes (completed in 2022)*

**Sustainability Conference**
Plan and host in-person event for networking and speakers for full or half day conference. This involves establishing a planning committee, coordinating presenters, program, catering, venue, promotion, etc. This would serve as the Protect event.

*Lead Division – Sustainability*

*2023 Timeframe – First quarter, with event in April 2023*
*Staff Resources – Moderate*
*Communications – Level 1*

*Scoping Meeting Needed – Yes*
Sustainable Practices for HOAs

Develop a slate of best practices for HOA management of open space (community gardens, agriculture, stormwater BMP management, stewardship of natural areas, etc.). Compile current data on solar panels as they relate to consumer aesthetic preferences and overall interest, potentially to include co-development of design guidelines for solar panel installations with HOA focus group. Conduct outreach to HOAs (and to municipalities). Identify partners who could provide resources or programming, including Chester County Water Resources Authority (BMP training), Chester County Food Bank (raised beds), Natural Lands (land management), Penn State Extension (Master Watershed Stewards), Solarize, etc.

Lead Division – Sustainability

2023 Time Frame – Full year

Staff Resources – Medium

Communications – Level II

Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes

Woodland and Tree Conservation

Complete woodland and tree preservation program started in 2022, including woodland and natural resources stewardship planning, incentivizing easement programs, exploration of carbon credit programs, and dissemination of woodland conservation information.

Lead Division – Administration

Supporting Division – Sustainability

2023 Timeframe – First three quarters of year (continuation of project from 2022)

Staff Resources – Moderate

Communications – Level I

Scoping Meeting Needed – Yes (completed in 2022)

Keep PA Beautiful Affiliate Implementation

Convene a steering committee that will identify ways for the affiliate to connect volunteers to opportunities, expand capacity for litter abatement and beautification in communities, and connect schools and community groups with education programs related to litter abatement, waste, and environmental stewardship.

Lead Division – Sustainability

2023 Time Frame – Full year

Staff Resources – Limited

Communications – Level 1/2

Scoping Meeting Needed - TBD
Regional Benchmarking Initiative

Work with DVRPC and other counties to develop a program for mandatory or voluntary benchmarking and energy usage reporting for buildings over 50,000 SF. Tailor this benchmarking for Chester County.

Lead Division – Sustainability
2023 Time Frame – Full year
Staff Resources – Low
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes

Appreciate Goal

Brandywine Battlefield Phase 3

Continue phase 3 of the Brandywine Battlefield study that examines the battlefield area.

Lead Division – Community Planning
2023 Time Frame – First three quarters of the year (continuation of project from 2021)
Staff Resources – Moderate
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes

Adaptive Reuse Design Guide

Complete design guide with case studies, real-world implementation techniques and strategies, adaptive reuse examples, and sample ordinance provisions and guidelines.

Lead Division – Community Planning
2023 Time Frame – First quarter of year (continuation of project from 2021)
Staff Resources – Limited
Communications – Level II
Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes (completed in 2022)

Town Tours and Village Walks

Continue Town Tour and Village Walks program, with approximately ten events.

Lead Division – Community Planning
2023 Time Frame – First three quarters of year
Staff Resources – Moderate
Communications – Level II
Scoping Meetings Needed – No
**Leadership Luncheon**
Conduct annual training and technical assistance to municipal historic commissions with training specific to the commission chairs.

*Lead Division: Community Planning*

*2023 Time Frame: First quarter of year*

*Staff Resources: Limited*

*Communications: Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed: No*

**Historic Tourism Study**
Work with a consultant on a tourism, education, and interpretation study of the county’s historic sites and facilities. This study will provide specific action steps to increase the capacity and public visitation to historic and cultural sites and areas.

*Lead Division: Community Planning*

*2023 Time Frame: Full year (Continuation of project from 2022)*

*Staff Resources: Limited*

*Communications: Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed: Yes (completed in 2022)*

**Village Preservation Guide**
Complete a guide to the county’s villages that identifies existing historic villages, analyzes zoning codes for village preservation consistency, and recommends municipal village preservation techniques.

*Lead Division: Administration*

*Supporting Divisions – Design and Technology*

*2023 Time Frame: First half of the year (continuation of project from 2022)*

*Staff Resources: Moderate*

*Communications: Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed: Yes (completed in 2022)*

**Live Goal**

**County Workforce Housing Implementation**
Support implementation of county workforce housing initiative, working with the Commissioners’ office and CCEDC.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year (continuation of project from 2022)*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications –Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes*
**Housing Summit**
Convene a housing summit to advocate for A+ Homes, focusing on municipalities and developers.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*
*2023 Time Frame – Second half of year*
*Staff Resources – Limited*
*Communications – Level II*
*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*

**Adaptable Housing Guide**
Prepare a planning guide that addresses evolving market forces, changing demographics, buyer and renter preference, and environmental conditions. This guide will assist the county and its municipalities to better adapt to future changes. The project will include a needs assessment that calculates and analyzes: housing supply, housing gap, demographics, housing tenure, and housing trends.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*
*2023 Time Frame – Full year (continuation of project from 2022)*
*Staff Resources – Moderate*
*Communications – Level I*
*Scoping Meeting Needed – Yes*

**Accessible Housing Locations Guide**
Prepare a map and planning guide that identifies growth area locations for new housing that has good access to amenities. This guide will include municipal approaches and strategies to encourage housing in these areas.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*
*2023 Time Frame – Last half of the year (will continue in 2024)*
*Staff Resources – Limited*
*Communications – Level I*
*Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes*

**Chester County Housing Report**
Prepare annual housing report on Chester County housing sales and construction prices, total units built, and types.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*
*2023 Time Frame – First half of year*
*Staff Resources – Limited*
*Communications – Level I*
*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*
Prosper Goal

**Urban Centers Forum**
Coordinate annual Urban Centers Forum with support from the Department of Community Development.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*
*2023 Time Frame – Second half of year*
*Staff Resources – Limited*
*Communications – Level II*
*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*

**County Economy Website Area**
Prepare an annual update of data about the county’s economy, working with CCEDC, putting the data into a website format.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*
*2023 Time Frame – Last half of year*
*Staff Resources – Moderate*
*Communications – Level I*
*Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes*

**Non-Residential Construction Report**
Prepare annual report on non-residential construction in the county.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*
*2023 Time Frame – First quarter of year*
*Staff Resources – Limited*
*Communications – Level I*
*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*

**Farm Product Guide**
Update annual guide to farm products in Chester County, which is targeted at consumers.

*Lead Division – Agricultural Development*
*2023 Time Frame – First half of year*
*Staff Resources – Moderate*
*Communications – Level II*
*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*
**Municipal Outreach on Agriculture**

Follow-up on agricultural economic development study with targeted outreach to municipalities on agricultural issues, including an ag-focused flyer for new officials, ag information sheets, an analysis of current municipal agricultural regulations, development of an agricultural definition, and ag marketing materials.

*Lead Division – Agricultural Development*

*Supporting Divisions – Design and Technology, Administration*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year (continuation of project from 2021 and continuing in 2024)*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level II*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*

**Board and Commissioner Tours of Farms**

Conduct tours of various types of farms around Chester County with boards whose work impacts the agricultural industry. Also, conduct county commissioner tour. These tours would highlight current agricultural issues and concerns.

*Lead Division – Agricultural Development*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*

**Agricultural Awards Program**

Manage the Farmer of the Year and Distinguished Service awards program.

*Lead Division – Agricultural Development*

*2023 Time Frame – Second and Third quarters of the year.*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*

**Ag Producer Annual Meeting**

Participate in annual ag producer meeting with the Conservation District to provide agricultural community with updates on the ag economic development plan.

*Lead Division – Agricultural Development*

*2023 Time Frame – First and Fourth quarters of the year.*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*
**Farm Suitability Tool for Municipalities**

Develop an online tool for municipalities and potential ag businesses that identifies locational characteristics of different types of agriculture and maps different types of ag businesses in the county. This tool could be used to pinpoint the best locations for new or expanded agricultural operations in the county.

*Lead Division – Agricultural Development*

*Supporting Divisions – Design and Technology, Administration (continuing in 2024)*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*

**Advancing Sustainability Reporting within the Agricultural Sector**

Assemble a steering committee/focus group of agricultural sector representatives, including from mushroom farms, to identify needs for sustainability reporting and enhancing sustainable practices for increasing product marketability and competitiveness.

*Lead Division – Sustainability*

*Supporting Division – Agricultural Development*

*2023 Time Frame – Last three quarters of the year*

*Staff Resources – Low*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes*

**Connect Goal**

**Public Transportation Plan Update, Phases Two**

Continue phase two of the public transportation plan, which will update the plan for *Landscapes3* and the vastly different public transportation environment.

*Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year (continuation of project from 2021)*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level III*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*
Non-Transportation Infrastructure Needs
Refine interactive map of existing sewer service areas and use 537 Plans to show planned expansion areas. Note capacity and current usage where data exists. Map areas currently served by public water service. Investigate the existence of public water future extension area data. Potential collaboration with WRA and Health.

Lead Division – Sustainability
2023 Time Frame – First half of year (continuation of project from 2021)
Staff Resources – Low
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes (Completed in 2022)

Transportation Event
Coordinate a transportation summit.

Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning
2023 Time Frame – Third quarter of year
Staff Resources – Limited
Communications – Level II
Scoping Meeting Needed - Yes

Countywide Trails Master Plan
Continue to map the network of existing trails in the county, analyze which trail gaps could be the most impactful to fill, and propose an overall trail network for the county, including both Circuit trails and local trails.

Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning
2023 Time Frame – Full year (continuation of project from 2022)
Funding: DCNR grant
Staff Resources – Significant
Communications – Level III
Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes (held in 2022)

Transportation Improvement Inventory
Conduct biannual update of Transportation Improvement Inventory list.

Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning
2023 Time Frame – First half of year
Staff Resources – Moderate
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes
**Transportation Priority Projects**

 Prepare a new Transportation Priority Projects list.

*Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – Second and third quarters of year*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*

**Transportation Outreach in Rural & Agricultural Communities**

 Work with the rural and agricultural communities/municipalities to create a better understanding of the issues they are facing with respect to roadway design and maintenance and open better lines of communication between those communities, Chester County, and PennDOT.

*Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning*

*Supporting Division – Agricultural Development*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes*

**Safe Routes to School**

 Work with the Chester County Health Department to analyze pedestrian access to select schools.

*Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*

**West Chester Metro**

 Determine passenger rail feasibility and facilitate meetings between interested partners to advance the West Chester Rail Restoration Committee’s West Chester Metro concept to provide public transit service along the West Chester rail line to Wawa.

*Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – First half of year*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*
**DVRPC Safety Program**
Conduct outreach, provide support, and develop county recommendations for DVRPC’s Regional Vision Zero 2050 Action Program, while helping to develop Chester County recommendations.

*Lead Division – Multimodal Transportation Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - No*

**Landscapes Vision and Map**

**Assess Progress on Landscapes3 Implementation**
Assess the progress on the Landscapes3 implementation after five years, determine need for amendments, produce report on progress, and share results with partners and the public.

*Lead Division – Administration*

*2023 Time Frame – Second half of year*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level II*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*

**Landscapes3 Annual Progress Report**
Produce annual progress report that tracks the metrics in Landscapes3 while also highlighting implementation successes during the year.

*Lead Division – Environment and Infrastructure*

*Supporting Divisions – Administration and Office and Communications*

*2023 Time Frame – First half of year*

*Staff Resources – Limited*

*Communications – Level III*

*Scoping Meetings Needed – No*

**Rural Landscapes Design Guide**
Complete a Rural Landscapes Design Guide, following the format of the other design guides.

*Lead Division – Design and Technology*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*
**Municipal Officials Education Outreach**
This would be a general update of the website combined with marketing pieces aimed at municipal officials involved in planning projects. This effort would help these officials understand the planning process and the best ways to acquire more detailed information when needed.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*

*Supporting Division - Administration*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year (will continue in 2024)*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes*

**Kennett Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance**
Prepare an updated subdivision ordinance for Kennett Township that synchronizes with their new zoning ordinance.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year (will continue in 2024)*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*

**Oxford Region Comprehensive Plan**
Prepare an updated comprehensive plan for the Oxford region, which includes Oxford Borough, Lower Oxford Township, Upper Oxford Township, East Nottingham Township, West Nottingham Township, and Elk Township.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – Full year (will continue in 2024)*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes*

**Oxford Comprehensive Plan**
Prepare a new, implementable comprehensive plan for Oxford Borough.

*Lead Division – Community Planning*

*2023 Time Frame – First quarter (continuation of project from 2021)*

*Staff Resources – Moderate*

*Communications – Level I*

*Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes (completed in 2022)*
East Caln Comprehensive Plan
Prepare a new, implementable comprehensive plan for East Caln Township.
Lead Division – Community Planning
2023 Time Frame – Full year (will continue in 2024)
Staff Resources – Moderate
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes (completed in 2022)

East Vincent Zoning Ordinance Update
Prepare an updated zoning ordinance for East Vincent Township.
Lead Division – Community Planning
2023 Time Frame – Full year (will continue in 2024)
Staff Resources – Moderate
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes (completed in 2022)

East Bradford Zoning Ordinance Update
Prepare an updated zoning ordinance for East Bradford Township.
Lead Division – Community Planning
2023 Time Frame – Last quarter of year (will continue in 2023)
Staff Resources – Moderate
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes (completed in 2022)

West Grove Zoning Ordinance Update
Prepare an updated zoning ordinance for West Grove Borough.
Lead Division – Community Planning
2023 Time Frame – Full year (will continue in 2024)
Staff Resources – Moderate
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed – Yes

West Sadsbury Comprehensive Plan Update
Prepare an updated comprehensive plan for West Sadsbury Township.
Lead Division – Community Planning
2023 Time Frame – Full year (will continue in 2024)
Staff Resources – Moderate
Communications – Level I
Scoping Meetings Needed - Yes
Major Ongoing Planning Activities
The following planning activities are very important elements of the department’s work program and recur constantly throughout the year. These activities typically need limited, but recurring, support from production and communications.

**Review and Support Letters for Subdivisions, Land Developments, Ordinances, Plans, Developments, Grant Applications, and Sewage Facilities**

**Vision Partnership Program Cash Grant Monitoring**

**Pipeline Information Center**

**Demographic and Economic Development Data Updates**

**Coordination with and Outreach to Municipal, Transportation, Conservancy, Natural Resource, Housing, Agricultural, Economic Development, Energy, and Historic Preservation Partners, as well as the General Public**

**Geographical Information Systems Updates for Transportation, Historic Resources, Demographics, Land Use, and Other Topics**

**Administration of Planning Commission, Agricultural Development Council, and Environmental and Energy Advisory Board**