



**COUNTY OF ERIE**  
**Erie County Planning Commission**

Erie County Courthouse  
140 West Sixth Street - Room 111  
Erie, Pennsylvania 16501  
Phone: (814) 451-6336  
[www.eriecountyplanning.org](http://www.eriecountyplanning.org)

Gerry Dahl  
*Chair*

Jan Cornwell  
*Vice-Chair*

**MEETING NOTICE**

A regular meeting of the Erie County Planning Commission will be held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, October 10, 2013 in the Admiral Room at the Raymond M. Blasco, M.D. Memorial Library, 160 East Front Street, Erie PA.

**- AGENDA -**

- I. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Hearing of the Public
- III. Approval of the September 12, 2013 Minutes (attached)
- IV. ECDP Monthly Activity Report (attached)
- V. Old Business
- VI. New Business
- VII. Other Business
  - A. Municipal Reports
- VIII. Adjournment

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS: PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE**



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*Vice-Chairman*

**ERIE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

**October 10, 2013**

A meeting of the Erie County Planning Commission was held at 6:30 PM on Thursday, October 10, 2013 in the Admiral Room at the Raymond M. Blasco, M.D. Memorial Library, 160 East Front Street, Erie, PA

**Those in attendance were:**

<b>ECPC members:</b>	<b>Representing:</b>
Gerry Dahl	Corry City (Chair, Exec. Board)
Jan Cornwell	County (Vice-Chair, Exec. Board)
Carol Loll	County Council (Exec. Board)
Charles Casey	Erie City (Exec. Board)
Paul Pangratz	Girard Twp (Exec. Board)
Joe Legnasky	Lake City Boro (Exec. Board)
Patricia Pfadt	Venango Twp (Exec. Board)
Flory Kondzielski	Waterford Twp (Exec. Board)
Ed Kissell	County
Edward DiMattio	County Council
William Taylor	Elk Creek Twp
Jim Cardman	Fairview Twp
Mark Kukla	Lawrence Park Twp
Kurt Lichtenfeld	North East Twp
<b>Planning Department Staff:</b>	
John McGranor	
John Morgan	
<b>Guests:</b>	

Executive Board members present – 8 of 9; quorum attained

## **CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Gerry Dahl called the meeting to order and the pledge of allegiance was given.

## **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

None.

## **APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2013 MINUTES**

A motion was made by Jan Cornwell and seconded by Joe Legnasky to approve the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **ECDP MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT**

The ECDP Monthly Activity Report was provided with the meeting notice. No additional report was given. However, John McGranor offered to address any questions.

Ed Kissell mentioned that Millcreek Township has selected a firm, Emergency Traffic Systems, to assist with repairs/improvements to the RELCO emergency pre-emption traffic signal system. The contract is currently being negotiated between the firm and participating municipalities. This will cover 60 units that are located in Millcreek, Lawrence Park, Harborcreek, Fairview and Summit Townships.

Ed also suggested that future topics for presentation to the ECPC include the Coastal Zone Boundaries and the renovations at Raccoon Park. John McGranor indicated that he would forward this request to Jake Welsh, and added that Carol Loll had suggested the new FEMA ordinance requirements as another possible future topic of discussion.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Erie County Comprehensive Plan – Land Use Map Update – John McGranor reviewed the purpose of the update, citing that the MPC requires County comprehensive plans to be updated every 10 years. The land use plan map has no regulatory authority, but is important for policy and planning purposes. It is often used when the County is requested to consult on municipal zoning amendments, permit applications and grant applications. John stressed that the goal of the map update is to achieve consistency between the County plan and the plans of all municipalities. Great care will be taken to base recommended revisions on municipal plans, zoning ordinances and the availability of water & sewer infrastructure. ECDP will consult with municipalities on any recommended revisions when it has completed its research. John emphasized the importance of municipal involvement in the review process. When the update is completed, a final draft of the updated map will be presented to ECPC for its review, comment, and possible endorsement to County Council for adoption as part of the County's Comprehensive Plan.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Erie County At-Risk Bridge Program – John Morgan gave a presentation on the Erie County At-Risk Bridge Program, which receives funding from the Act 13 Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund. The fund was established to help Counties address structurally deficient bridges. However, since Erie County does not own any bridges, the County will make this funding available, in the form of grants, to Erie County municipalities.

John noted that funding for 2013 was approximately \$390,000, and that funding levels will fluctuate in subsequent years. Since the actual cost to address structurally deficient bridges far exceeds available funding, the County has developed criteria to evaluate and prioritize bridge repair/replacement projects. Evaluation criteria consider traffic volumes, and the negative impacts, in the form of increased vehicle miles traveled and increased travel time by the general public and commercial vehicles, that would result from a bridge closure. The results of this analysis highlighted 36 bridges for prioritization. Twenty-two of these bridges are located in urbanized areas, and the remaining 14 bridges are located in rural areas throughout the County.

Following his presentation, John addressed questions and comments. The general consensus was support for the evaluation criteria and methodology that was used to help prioritize bridges for funding.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Carol Loll noted that County Council is reviewing the County Executive's proposed 2014 budget. No tax increase is included in the budget, and no tax increase is expected. Carol indicated concerns about reductions in state funding that is impacting programs at the County Department of Health. Council hopes to mitigate the effects of these impacts, to the extent that it is possible.

Ed DiMattio shared Carol's concerns about funding cut-backs and their effect on health services. He also voiced concerns about the County's reliance on Gaming Revenues. He noted that gaming revenues are not a permanent funding source, and that they may be reduced in the future.

John Morgan encouraged members to review the 2013 LTAP Course Schedule. Many worth-while training opportunities are available at no charge. Anyone interested may register by contacting Sue Smith at the Northwest Commission. John also asked members to contact Sue with any suggested topics for future training courses. Sue may be contacted at (814) 677-4800 x 131 or [sues@northwestpa.org](mailto:sues@northwestpa.org).

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.