Mission Statement:
To provide appropriate planning services and to develop leadership so that all Clearfield County municipalities can begin to plan for their future.
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community Development Block Grant: CCPCD reviewed three applications for CDBG funding in 2014. The County has recommended all three projects for funding, pending DCED approval, using the County’s 2014 CDBG allocation. Projects to be funded are shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Requested Amount</th>
<th>Awarded Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brady Township</td>
<td>Sewage Lateral Program</td>
<td>$78,000</td>
<td>$78,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houtzdale Sewer Authority</td>
<td>Energy Efficiency Improvements</td>
<td>$43,588</td>
<td>$43,588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irvona Municipal Authority</td>
<td>Water Main Replacement</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLEARFIELD VISION 20/20-A local visioning effort has led town leaders to form committees and continue working towards the goals set by the community. Our staff participated on these committees with the Director serving on the Recreation and Culture Committee and our Community Development Specialist serving on the Infrastructure Committee.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

NORTH CENTRAL COORDINATED HUMAN SERVICE TRANSPORTATION PLAN- The North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission and the Rural Transportation Planning Committee developed a Public Transit Human Service Transportation Plan. The plan identifies the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes as well as providing strategies for meeting the identified local needs; reduces duplication in services, fills service gaps, and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation.

STATE BRIDGE BUNDLING PROJECT -Five hundred fifty-eight (558) bridges have been selected for the program based on criteria such as age and if the bridge needs to be replaced. The bridges selected also have similar designs so the parts can be standardized and pre-fabricated in mass production. PENNDOT has narrowed its search down to four firms. The chosen firm will sign up for a twenty-eight and one-half year contract which includes construction and maintenance of each bridge for twenty-five years. The repairs will happen over a span of four years with construction projected to start in the summer of 2015 and wrap up by the summer of 2018. Ten bridges have been selected for this project.

AIRPORT INVESTMENTS -Public use airports in the state were eligible for the aviation development program. Airports eligible for the federal block grant program include: general aviation airports, designated reliever airports, and non-primary commercial service airports (those with fewer than 10,000 annual passengers) that are part of the National Plan of Intergraded Airport Systems. The Clearfield-Lawrence Airport received $467,993 to rehabilitate an apron and seal cracks in the pavement.

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM-The City of DuBois was awarded $596,695 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority for a Multimodal Transportation Program. The project objective is to evaluate transportation conditions in DuBois and Sandy Township, and to recommend short and long term multimodal solutions that promote the continued development and expansion of the greater DuBois/Sandy Township area.

NEW TRANSPORTATION FUNDS-As a result of Act 89, which is the State Transportation Bill that was passed, they used the financial guidance formulas and distributed funds across the state immediately to be put to use on the current TIP. For the North Central Region, it is a total of $17,969,000 for Highway/Bridge projects. The North Central Region received an additional $17 million bringing a total of $53 million over the next four years. This is referring back to the “Decade of Investment”. The Decade of Investment included the base 2013-2016 TIP and the next six years of projects that are anticipated to be completed. The website www.dotdecade.pa.gov has a list of projects as a result of Act 89 that are committed. Municipalities received a separate set of money to increase their liquid fuels funding as part of Act 89. Part of this is to go to local infrastructure. An additional $220 million a year in liquid fuels allocations statewide is for locally owned roads and bridges by the fifth year. This is how municipalities will fund local roads and bridges repair.

DIRT & GRAVEL ROAD FUNDING-The recently adopted State Transportation Funding Package gives much needed support to rural Pennsylvanians by including $35 million earmarked for the State’s Dirt & Gravel Roads Program. These dollars will flow through the County Conservation District’s existing Dirt & Gravel Roads programs. Our County Conservation District announced an increase from $60,000 to $300,000, and encouraged townships and boroughs to participate in the training for this year’s grant round.

Continued on page 3
Continued on page 4
NEW AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNTY’S SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE (S.A.L.D.O.)—Amendments to the Clearfield County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance took effect on August 24, 2014. Most of these changes simply put into writing unwritten policies and procedures our office has relied on to implement the ordinance. Other changes include an increase in review time for major land development plans from one to two weeks, setbacks have been reduced to ten feet to allow development on smaller borough/village lots, signage provisions have been removed and replaced with suggested voluntary guidelines, storm water requirements now refer to local and state requirements, plan submittals must now include an electronic version, and some additional information will be required on plans in an effort to bring to light any possible development issues saving time and money for the developer. The amended ordinance in its full text can be viewed at www.planning.clearfieldco.org/landordinance.htm

CLEARFIELD COUNTY’S SUBDIVISION & LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE (S.A.L.D.O.)—Clearfield County currently has jurisdiction over 30 of our 50 municipalities. In 2014, the Planning Commission reviewed 38 plans for compliance with the County’s Ordinance. Of those, 2 were land development plans, a Dollar General Store in Houtzdale Borough and a building expansion for Dominion in Brady Township. The following chart outlines the activity that occurred in administering the County’s Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance in 2014. The following municipalities did not have any activity for the year: Bigler Township, Bloom Township, Brisbin Borough, Chester Hill Borough, Coalport Borough, Glen Hope Borough, Grampian Borough, Huston Township, Irvona Borough, Mahaffey Borough, Newburgh Borough, New Washington Borough, Ramey Borough, Wallacetown Borough, and Westover Borough.

Continued on page 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Total Acres</th>
<th>Subdivisions</th>
<th>Land Development</th>
<th>Lots Created</th>
<th>Proposed Buildings</th>
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<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>Troutville Borough</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>2,898.54</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>9</td>
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ACT 247 REVIEWS-The County Planning and Community Development Department reviewed and provided comments on sixty-five plans from those twenty municipalities that administer their own S.A.L.D.O. Of those sixty-five plans, eight were land development plans and fifty-seven were subdivision plans. Land Development Plans proposed Jefferson Paving Corporation Woodland yard, Samuel J. Lansberry, Inc. building addition, Joseph Marino parking lot, Kylertown Dollar General, Phillipsburg Kwik Fill expansion, Colonial Courtyard-Clearfield reconstruction, Houtzdale Hardware, and the Jesse A. Shirey garage.

The adjacent table reflects the activity. The following municipalities either did not have any activities: Covington Township, Falls Creek Borough, Goshen Township, and Pine Township.

PERMIT AND PROJECT NOTICES-In addition to S.A.L.D.O. reviews, our office reviewed several other permit and project notices throughout the year. The type and quantity of those reviews are listed below. Our office also provided support letters for community based projects:

Act 14 Notifications – 61
Act 67 & 68 Reviews –13
Act 95 Reviews – 5
Act 537 Reviews – 1
Air Quality – 2
Blasting Notices – 1
Bond Releases –22
CDBG Reviews – 1
Correspondence – 41
Environmental Assessments/Reviews – 1
General Projects/Assessment Reviews/
   Permits – 7
Miscellaneous –1
NPDES – 3
Public Utility Commission – 3
Sewage Component Reviews/Planning
   Modules – 30
SRBC Permits – 6
Support Letters – 12
Water Withdrawals-1
Zoning Changes/Reviews – 4
HOUSING INITIATIVES

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST FUND
Clearfield County solicited applications for affordable housing activities to be funded by the Clearfield County Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Projects which increase the availability of quality affordable housing either through sales or rental to any County resident whose annual income is less than the median income of county were considered. A total of eight applications were received and reviewed by the County's Office of Planning &Community Development based on the program guidelines. While the total amount requested, $102,699, was well over the amount of funds available for this round, all eight projects were recommended for partial or full funding based on the reviews and approved by the Commissioners. Those projects include:

Colver Development Corporation/ Northern Cambria Community Development Corp.-Has been awarded $15,000 per year for five years, for the construction of Leonard Street Gardens. Leonard Street Gardens is a proposed elderly (62+) affordable housing development that will provide thirty safe, affordable, and attractive housing units. This project addresses a priority need identified in the County’s Housing Study and leverages over seven million dollars in additional funds.

Central PA Community Action-Has been awarded $15,000 for it’s CHORE program. The CHORE program is geared to assisting approximately forty-eight elderly, disabled, and low income individuals with basic health and safety home repairs. Improvements may include accessibility upgrades such as wheelchair ramps or bathroom grab bars, replacing unsafe electrical fuses/wiring, or efficiency repair, for example, furnaces or leaky windows. This funding will also be matched from private donations.

Habitat for Humanity-Has been awarded $10,000 to assist with finalizing the construction of a home for a family of four on South Fourth Street in Clearfield.

Cen-Clear Child Services-Has been awarded $7,500 for it’s Specialized Housing Counseling Initiative. This program, in its third year, is designed to assist another sixty low income families and individuals who are homeless or seeking housing assistance due to inadequate or substandard housing by helping them identify their housing needs, providing them with appropriate housing counseling, training, and services they need.

Haven House-Has been awarded $4,800 for it’s Emergency Rental & Utility Assistance Program. This homeless shelter is seeking assistance in helping eligible guests at its shelter to secure independent permanent housing. It anticipates using these funds to help at least eight homeless individuals or families with utility or security deposits. It will also be monitoring its success rates by staying in touch with those assisted. The goal of the program is to reduce the number of homeless individuals and families within the County.

Clearfield County Housing Authority– Has been awarded $4,770 for ADA accessibility upgrades. The Housing Authority is seeking assistance with ADA accessibility upgrades at the Henry Meyers Towers located in Clearfield. Henry Meyers Towers is a ninety-nine apartment unit complex for low income elderly and disabled persons. With these funds, the Authority will be able to provide the availability of a handicapped accessible vehicle drop-off area and an outdoor seating area for their residents.

St. Michael Terrace-Has been awarded $3,900 for the replacement of a generator. St. Michael Terrace is an elderly and disabled one hundred two-unit subsidized apartment complex located in DuBois. This facility, operated by a non-profit, did not have adequate funds in its capital reserve to cover the entire cost of replacing the backup generator which has deteriorated to the point it is no longer reliable to provide for the safety and well being of its residents if electricity was lost.

Young People Who Care-Has been awarded $3,500 for improvements to its women’s shelter. YPWC requested funds to make necessary repairs to its first floor handicap bathroom and purchase a refrigerator for its women’s shelter. It has provided shelter to 47 women and children from Clearfield County.

CLEARFIELD COUNTY BLIGHT STUDY-In January 2014, the Clearfield County Commissioners appointed a Blight Task Force to work with the County Planning and Community Development Office to identify the most appropriate strategies to address the growing problem of blighted properties. The thirty three municipalities that responded to the survey identified 323 properties that were abandoned or blighted. The top reasons given for abandoned or blighted properties included absentee landlords, owners who did not perform necessary maintenance, and owners, such as seniors, who lacked the resources to maintain their properties.

The results of the study were unveiled at an outreach and educational workshop on April 30th. Information was provided as to what tools are available to local governments for use in addressing blight if they choose to do so.

CLEARFIELD COUNTY PHARE-While many housing needs have been identified in the County, two programs stood out as to having the greatest potential to serve an immediate need and met the eligibility criteria. Since the chance for success greatly improves when you provide the individual or family with the skills needed to maintain a home, whether it be through providing financial or household management skills such as preparing a monthly household budget, to putting eligible candidates in touch with job training opportunities which could increase their household earnings. The following programs were awarded $104,500 to be administered by Cen-Clear Child Services:

The Rental & Homeless Assistance Program would be used to assist individuals and/or at-risk families; preventing homelessness by finding them long-term living solutions through the use of direct rental assistance, security deposit payments, and/or past due utility payments, as well as case management services to assist the individual or family served maintain home stability. Priority will be given to households at or below 50% of the area median income.

The Substandard Housing Repair Program would be used in conjunction with housing counseling services to assist individuals and/or at-risk families living in substandard housing by repairing those identified housing deficiencies; making for a safe and healthy living environment; and providing the necessary counseling services for achieving sustainability. Priority will be given to households at or below 50% of the median income.
ECONOMIC, ENERGY, AND UNCONVENTIONAL GAS DEVELOPMENT

JOBS 1ST INITIATIVE-JOBS 1st is a workforce/economic development collaborative among North Central PA Regional Planning & Development Commission and the local county economic development partners (PREP). The primary goal of the PREP partners and the Workforce Investment Board in North Central Pennsylvania is to ensure that our employers are competitive in a global economy and that our regional economy thrives. Their first objective is to complete a comprehensive strategic plan. The second objective is to complete a comprehensive analysis of our employers. The final objective is to implement key activities and services identified by our employers as critical to their success. The project service area includes the North Central PREP region, including the Counties of Cameron, Clearfield, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter.

ALTERNATIVE & CLEAN ENERGY- CNG Motor Fuels of Clearfield County has been awarded $681,680 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority. This funding will be used to help finance the installation of a public CNG fueling station at the existing Pacific Pride petroleum-based fuel site located in the City of DuBois.

WINDFALL OIL AND GAS INJECTION WELL-The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has approved a permit to allow construction of an underground disposal injection well in Brady Township, Clearfield County. This permit allows for Windfall Oil and Gas of Falls Creek, PA to build and operate a disposal well in Brady Township. The injection well will pump fluids into a geologic layer approximately 7,300 feet underground, known as the Huntersville Chert and Oriskany Sandstone, which has been tapped during decades of gas production according to EPA records. Windfall Oil and Gas will be limited to injecting 30,000 barrels per month into the well.

INCREASING SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES-Clearfield County being a 6th class county located in an area of the Commonwealth impacted by the development of the Marcellus Shale. As Act 13 of 2012 makes specific allocations to the PHARE Fund to address housing needs in counties with unconventional gas, Clearfield County applied for and received such funds to increase safe, affordable housing opportunities. In 2014, three new programs using these funds were established. Two programs are being administered through the Moshannon Valley Council of Governments aimed at implementing local property codes, where none previously existed, and by providing the much needed funding for housing rehabilitation to correct those identified safety & code violations. Such an initiative helps to restore and maintain a safe affordable housing stock while preventing such housing from falling into a state of blight in the first place. Specifically, PHARE funds will be used to create a housing stock rehabilitation program for both owner occupied as well as rental properties and a program to mitigate priority blighted structures.

MARCELLUS SHALE OIL AND GAS ACTIVITY-It was another extremely slow year for Marcellus Shale oil and gas activity with no new wells being drilled for the year. The production of the existing wells totaled 21,910,570.98 Mcf. The below table shows the companies, type of well, number of wells, and the quantity of gas produced per company within Clearfield County.

WATER WITHDRAWALS-Throughout 2014, our office received seven water withdrawal permits. Even though no new Marcellus Shale wells were drilled, companies are still securing water withdrawal permits for natural gas development and drilling activities; 6,400,000 gallons per day from the West Branch of Susquehanna River, 138,000 gallons per day from Houtzdale Water Authority, and 720,000 gallons per day from Mosquito Creek have been requested for natural gas development and drilling activities. An additional 200,000 gallons per day have been requested from the West Branch of Susquehanna River for use on a golf course in Burnside Township.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPANY</th>
<th>ACTIVE HORIZONTAL WELLS</th>
<th>ACTIVE VERTICAL WELLS</th>
<th>2014 PRODUCED QUANTITY (Mcf)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENERGY CORPORATION OF AMERICA</td>
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<td>1,762,625</td>
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<td>CAMPBELL OIL &amp; GAS INC</td>
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<td>EOG RESOURCES INC</td>
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<td>EQT PRODUCTION CO</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>94</strong></td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,910,570.98</strong></td>
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</table>
EDUCATION- On March 4th, together, the Centre and Clearfield Counties Planning and Community Development offices and Elk County Planning Department cohosted a one day training session to cover the process of obtaining a federally funded project. This training session was designed to aid contractors, engineers, and municipalities in understanding the regulations associated with State and Federally funding, and completing the seemingly confusing paperwork associated with federal funded projects. This session starts with: is my project eligible, to preparing a bid notice, to seeing a bid notice in the paper, to bid submittal, to pre-construction conference, to payroll reporting, to invoicing, and to project completion.

GRANTS- Throughout 2014, the Community Development Specialist has continued assisting municipalities, county non-profit groups, and county level agencies with grant writing services. The following is a summary of those services provided:

- $150,000 has been awarded to help with the financing of Coalport Borough Flood Project from DCED Keystone Communities Grant.
- $200,000 has been awarded for the paving of a parking lot and ADA access to the Clearfield Community Pool from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.
- $10,000 has been awarded to the County’s District Attorney and Children and Youth Services Multidisciplinary Team from the PA District Attorney Association. The grant will provide funding for certified forensic training and video equipment to be used during child abuse interviews.
- $50,000 has been awarded to Lumber City RV Park from the Clearfield County Recreation and Tourism Authority.
- $27,900 has been awarded to the Clearfield County EMA to purchase and install river mile markers along the Susquehanna River from Cherry Tree to Karthaus. This grant was funded by Susquehanna Greenways.
- $4,150 has been awarded to the Clearfield-Grampian Rails to Trails to add interpretive kiosks at two entrances and way find signage along the trail. This grant was funded by the Clearfield County Recreation and Tourism Authority.
- $49,967 is pending on behalf of the District Attorneys Office and Cen-Clear Child Services to further assist the Clearfield County Multi-Disciplinary Investigation Team and move toward a child advocacy center for the County. This application was submitted to PA Commission for Crime and Delinquency.
- DCED Sewage Facility Program denied a request for $28,489 to update Beccaria Township’s 537 plan to address sewage needs in the Utahville and Rosebud areas.
- The PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency and the Byrne Justice Assistant Grant Program (JAG) denied a request of $146,889. The request was to create a County wide criminal justice record management system that would provide real time data for all police departments and the County’s 911 Office.
- The U.S. Department of Justice denied a request of $600,000 for the Clearfield/Jefferson Right Turn Program. The request was to assist Clearfield and Jefferson County’s jails reduce recidivism rates of inmates with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse problems.
- The Pennsylvania Lumber Heritage denied a $10,000 request for matching funds for a trail development in Irvin Park, Curwensville Borough.
- The North Central Greenways Mini-Grant denied a request of $10,000 for trail development in Irvin Park, Curwensville Borough.
- DCED Small Water and Sewer Program denied a request of $150,000 for Curwensville Borough Arnoldstown sewer extension.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: 

Emergency Solutions Grant- The County has been awarded $79,000 for the 2014-15 ESG program being administered by Central Pennsylvania Community Action. The Community Development Specialist has been monitoring the program.

Housing Alliance of PA HOMES WITHIN REACH- The Community Development Specialist presented Clearfield County’s Blight Study findings and the work that is being done within the county at their conference held on November 17th-19th.

Curwensville Revitalization Team- The Community Development Specialist met with the Curwensville Revitalization Team to discuss the Borough’s comprehensive plan and their accomplishments, as well as, potential grant opportunities. She also assisted in completing an application to the PA Downtown Center for Blue Print Community.

DuBois Chamber of Commerce- The Community Development Specialist conducted a grant writing seminar on September 17th. This half-day grant writing presentation was attended by approximately thirty people representing both non-profit and for profit organizations.

DCNR C2P2 Grants- The Community Development Specialist has attended the grant training for the 2015 grant round. She has been providing assistance to the following potential applicants: Brady Township is looking for funding for restrooms. Osceola Mills Borough is seeking funding for a master site plan for the community pool.