LACKAWANNA COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 14th, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of the Lackawanna County Regional Planning Commission was held at the Electric City Trolley Museum, 300 Cliff St., Scranton, PA 18503 on May 14th, 2026. Carol Scrimalli began the meeting at 10:35 AM.

ROLL CALL

On Roll Call the following members were present:

Carol Scrimalli
Germaine Carey
Harry Lindsay
Chet Merli Jr.
Rosemary Broderick
Cindy Campbell
Tony Grizzanti
John Pocius
Bruce Zero

Absent were:

Also in attendance:
Mary Liz Donato, Director
Jessica Edwards, Regional Planning Manager
Eric Middleton, Transportation Planning Manager
Paul Dunay, Senior Planner
Robert Kenney, Associate Planner
Matthew Chorba, Public

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment offered at the meeting.

MINUTES

Carol Scrimalli stated the minutes for the April 9th Board Meeting had been distributed via e-mail to the board. She asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the documents. Hearing no comments, she asked for a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. A motion to approve was made by John Pocius with a second from Cindy Campbell. The motion carried on a voice vote.

BILLS

Jessica Edwards: Travel Reimbursement (Land Conservation Conf.) $515.06

Jessica Edwards: Travel Reimbursement	$205.77
The Times Tribune: LLTS Meeting Ad.: 4/7/26 Mtg.	$105.38
TOPP Copy Products: Plotter Paper	$182.24

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Correspondence from Mr. Kenney to Nicole Tier, GFT Infrastructure Inc., regarding a PENNVEST grant for the CSO 013-014 Poplar St. Storage Facility Project. The project includes a two-million-gallon storage tank for combined sewage overflow, along with piping and pumps. He wrote that the project is consistent with the Lackawanna-Luzerne Regional Comprehensive Plan of 2021 and noted that the LCRPC supports the plan.

B. Correspondence from Mr. Kenney to Nicole Tier, GFT Infrastructure Inc., regarding a PENNVEST grant for the CSO 015 Gordon St. Storage Facility Project. The project includes a 400,000-gallon storage tank for combined sewage overflow, along with necessary valves, gates, and pumps. He wrote that the project is consistent with the Lackawanna-Luzerne Regional Comprehensive Plan of 2021 and noted that the LCRPC supports the plan.

C. Correspondence from Mr. Kenney to Vince Coveleskie, Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, regarding a DCNR C2P2 grant application for the proposed adaptive reuse of the Marvine Bridge to provide a dedicated pedestrian/bicycle crossing. He wrote that the project is consistent with the Lackawanna-Luzerne Regional Comprehensive Plan of 2021 and noted that the LCRPC supports the plan.

D. Correspondence from Mr. Kenney to Vince Coveleskie, Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority, regarding a DCNR C2P2 grant application for a master plan for the implementation of the Lackawanna River Water Trail, improving access, signage, and coordination between land- and water-based recreation. He wrote that the project is consistent with the Lackawanna-Luzerne Regional Comprehensive Plan of 2021 and noted that the LCRPC supports the plan.

E. Correspondence from Ms. Edwards to Yesenia Leon, of the Pocono Heritage Land Trust, regarding a DCNR C2P2 grant application the proposed purchase of a 270-acre parcel in Clifton Township, known as the Scranton Skeet Club property. The property would be accessible for public recreation and connect 3,500 acres of State Game Lands and 772-acres of privately owned land, protected by a conservation easement held by the Pocono Heritage Land Trust. She wrote that the project is consistent with the Lackawanna-Luzerne Regional Comprehensive Plan of 2021 and noted that the LCRPC supports the plan.

Act 67 and 68 Reviews and Chapter 102 Permits

Municipality	Development Name	Engineer/	Date	Date

		Consultant	Received	Replied
Olyphant	1220 East Lackawanna	Mericle	4/06/26	4/06/26
Dickson City	Dickson City Hyundai	Colwell-Naegele	4/07/26	4/07/26
Mayfield/Archbald	Century Logistics L1/2	McCarthy Eng.	4/13/26	4/15/26
Old Forge	SR 3011 Bridge Replace.	LaBella	5/7/2026	5/7/2026

OLD BUSINESS
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROGRAM – FY 2025-26

1. ADMINISTRATION

The 4th Quarter FY 2024-25 invoice has been re-submitted to PennDOT in the revised amount of $63,986.76, of which $4,984.84 is pass through FTA funds for COLTS.

2. SYSTEMS PLANNING

Mary Liz Donato, Eric Middleton, and Jessica Edwards participated in the virtual Bi-monthly Planning Partners meeting on April 15th.

Mary Liz Donato and Eric Middleton met virtually with the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Action Plan consultant on April 16th and 21st to discuss options and assistance for the municipalities to utilize the plan for transportation safety-related grant opportunities. A virtual webinar for the municipalities was scheduled for May 12.

Eric Middleton attended a virtual meeting by PennDOT's Center for Program Development and Management on April 27th for MPOs/RPOs to discuss and review components of the 2045 Pennsylvania Freight Movement Plan.

3. PROGRAMMING

The public comment period for the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) begins on June 5 and ends on July 6. A hybrid TIP public comment meeting will be held on June 24th at the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Airport. A public hearing and adoption of the TIP will take place at the July 7th quarterly MPO meeting at LCTA in Wilkes-Barre.

SCRANTON-NEW YORK PASSENGER RAIL RESUMPTION

No activity.

HAZARD MITIGATION

FEMA has completed the review of the Hazard Mitigation Plan update. Several pages of comments were received; the consultant is in the process of addressing the comments for resubmission to FEMA for approval.

NORTHERN LACKAWANNA PLANNING ASSOCIATION (NorLack)

The series of meetings with the local planning commissions to review and discuss the zoning ordinance updates is under way and should be concluded by the end of June.

NORTH POCONO PLANNING ASSOCIATION (NPPA)

The Visions and Goals analysis was completed and summarized. The choice for the Vision Statement was selected unanimously by all eight municipalities: "With shared services and thoughtful planning, the North Pocono Region will maintain its rural character, guide sustainable growth, and protect the natural landscapes that define the community." A draft of the comprehensive plan framework and implementation strategy was submitted to our office for review. The Visions and Goals and the implementation strategy will be reviewed at the next planning committee meeting on June 10th.

SCRANTON-ABINGTONS PLANNING ASSOCIATION (SAPA)

The county planning staff and SAPA planning consultant held a virtual meeting with the SAPA planning committee and solicitors on May 7 to review Article XI of the MPC and the Intergovernmental Cooperative Planning Implementation Agreements that authorize regional planning and the distribution of land uses across the planning region in light of the rapid emergence of data center developments with the county. Newton Twp is currently facing an exclusionary challenge to their zoning ordinance regarding a proposed data center application that was denied by the township zoning officer. An in-person meeting of the committee will be held within the next few weeks to further discuss zoning ordinance amendments for data centers and possible appropriate places to allow them within the SAPA planning region.

ACT 167 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

No activity.

OPEN SPACE, TRAILS, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION MASTER PLAN

The planning office has submitted a grant application to PA DCNR to update the 2004 Lackawanna-Luzerne Open Space, Greenways, and Outdoor Recreation Master Plan. Both counties will be developing individual updates on the direction of DCNR. The funding amount requested was $75,000, which is 50% of the estimated project cost.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Development Reviews

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED on this 9th day of April in 2026, the Lackawanna County Regional Planning Commission, having received and reviewed the following proposals:

Municipality	Nature of Proposal
Covington	Lands of Baird
Mayfield	Lands of Piwowarski
Olyphant	Lot 1/Lot 2 E. Lack. Land Dev.
Archbald	Lands of Perrone
Jefferson	Lands of Margotta
Scranton	Wright Center Land Dev. Revision
Throop	507 Center St./517 Charles St.
Moosic	Davis St. Warehouse Revision
Taylor	Lands of Flippin Valley Properties
Jessup	Lands of Nogick
North Abington	Lands of GMMM, LLC Stone Farm
North Abington	Lands of Yatko
Waverly	Lands of Gress
Ransom	Lands of Wells
LaPlume	Lands of Millett 21st Century
Roaring Brook	Lands of Morrissey
Thornhurst	Zoning Ord. Amend.: Short-Term Rentals

do hereby submit the following reports, which are attached hereto and made part hereof, pursuant to the requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

A motion to recommend approval of the reviews was made by Rosemary Broderick with a second from Germaine Carey. The motion carried on a voice vote. John Pocius and Cindy Campbell abstained from the vote for any plans prepared by Labella.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business offered at the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment offered at the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

As all business had been conducted, a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Zero with a second by John Pocius. The motion carried.

Submitted by
Mary Liz Donato
Director