

Memorandum of Understanding

Entered into by and between

_____ and
(municipality)

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC)

The intent of this Memorandum of Understanding is to ensure the 2011 Regional Growth Management Plan (RGMP) is implemented in an open manner involving regional stakeholders, consistent with Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) policies, and an accurate reflection of the region's values. Its purpose is to form a working relationship between TCRPC and its municipalities in the implementation of the regional plan.

WHEREAS, TCRPC has served as a central forum for information sharing, consensus building, and coordination to resolve regional issues since 1966, and continues to establish priorities for implementing projects and programs on a regional basis; and

WHEREAS, in June 2000, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania created amendments to the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code that give new tools to municipalities for development and implementation of regional plans; and

WHEREAS, the most recent update of the TCRPC Regional Growth Management Plan (RGMP) was adopted in January 2011; and

WHEREAS, the RGMP, collaboratively created by TCRPC members, business, environmental and elected leaders, provides a regional framework for local decisions on growth and development within the TCRPC region; and

WHEREAS, _____ recognizes that local growth and development decisions can impact neighboring municipalities and the region; and

WHEREAS, _____ understands that unplanned development can place a significant burden on transportation systems, sewer and water infrastructure, school districts and municipal services; and

WHEREAS, _____ is willing to encourage and accommodate planned growth and development, provide for the orderly extension and integration of community services, promote the economic vitality of the region; protect the environment and enhance the quality of life of its residents; and

WHEREAS, _____ recognizes that multi-municipal planning and implementation is mutually beneficial, in the public interest, and necessary to provide for the orderly growth and development of the region; and

WHEREAS, _____ acknowledges neighboring municipalities share many common characteristics such as economic base, development pressure, environmental resources, traffic, and limited infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, _____ desires to voluntarily and collaboratively set forth the principles defined in the RGMP that illustrate their commitment to address the nature and location of growth within its individual and neighboring municipalities, and the region as a whole; and

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a mechanism to encourage all municipalities to have plans and ordinances in place that are consistent with the regional planning concepts incorporated into the adopted RGMP.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above, _____ hereby recognizes that there are certain fundamental principles which guide integrated growth and development on a regional scale and agree to rely on the following, as provided in the RGMP:

Intergovernmental cooperation. _____ will communicate with neighboring municipalities to incorporate a regional context in local decisions; cooperate in all practical ways with local, state and federal government agencies so as to maximize funding opportunities and enhance the effectiveness of regional plan implementation.

“Land Needs” concept. _____ will focus development activity and investment priorities where infrastructure is already in place, as defined by planned growth and community service areas, and based on desired densities and capacities for future growth.

Infrastructure investment. _____ will align local capital to achieve balanced built and natural support systems for efficient functioning on a regional scale.

Livability and sustainability principles. _____ will integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, and transportation management decisions to promote compact, infill development which supports conservation and quality of life goals.

Signed: _____
Chairman —*Tri-County Regional Planning Commission*

Date: _____

Signed: _____
Name, Title - Authorized Elected Official

Date: _____