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Meeting Report: Ma and PA Community Greenway Feasibility Study

Windsor Township Community Focus Group

Date: March 24, 2009

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Windsor Township Municipal Building

Project No.: 08MPR-01 By: Ann Yost

Persons Attending: Tom Conley, resident

Ronald and Judy Norman, residents

H. Burnell Sprenkle, resident

John Stitz, resident

Jay and Barbara Mundis, residents

JoAnna Shovlin, resident

Kathy Kerchner, Windsor Area Recreation Commission

Scott Brady, resident

Jennifer Gunnet, Windsor Township Dennis Klinedenst, Red Lion resident Ann Toole, Toole Recreation Planning

Chuck Strodoski, YSM

Ann Yost, YSM

Meeting Purpose: To explore ideas, opportunities, and issues regarding use of the historic Ma & Pa

rail corridor for a recreation trail.

Of Record:

1. A. Yost began the meeting with introductions of the consultant team.

- 2. A. Yost defined the purpose of the Ma & Pa Community Greenway Feasibility Study and identified the geographic limits of the study area. The three perspectives of feasibility to be explored as part of the project include 1) legal feasibility, 2) physical feasibility, and 3) operations and management feasibility.
- 3. A. Yost provided a summary of the work completed to date:
 - Kick off meeting and goal setting with the Study Committee
 - Public meeting in January.
 - Legal Feasibility The railroad right of way has been formally abandoned and the land of the right-of-way has reverted to the contiguous property owners.

- Physical Feasibility Site analysis has been completed for the entire corridor study area. There
 are issues to be addressed such as road crossings and stream crossings but the existing physical
 setting of the former rail bed is compatible with conversion to a recreation trail.
- 4. A. Yost presented a PowerPoint overview of benefits of community trails. Information provided was based on the 2007 Users Survey and Economic Impact Analysis of The York County Heritage Rail Trail, as it is a well known local trail. The presentation included statistics on trail users, typical times of trail use, safety and security, economic impact. The survey can be viewed at www.yorkcountyparks.org.
- 6. A. Toole described the hands-on portion of the focus group asking attendees to gather around the maps provided and explore opportunities and issues associated with the project study corridor in Windsor Township. Specifically, attendees were asked to identify options for work-arounds in areas where property owners were opposed to a trail or the historic corridor was not compatible with existing adjacent uses, identify any concerns such as flooding or traffic, and locate areas where the trail could be implemented. Attendees broke into two groups to complete the exercise and mark-up the maps provided.
- 7. Attendees were thanked for their time and input on the project.