

V. Conclusion



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Effective land use is about our future. It is about preserving the open space that is part of the Pennsylvania we love and the quality of life we enjoy in our communities.

Governor Ridge on the passing of Growing Smarter Land Use Legislation, June 2000

The Center's land use role has evolved, changed and expanded since we issued our first *Annual Report on Land Use*. The passage of the amendments to the MPC increased the responsibilities of the Center even more. Today, the Center's role is no longer just the principle state entity for land use monitoring and assistance. Instead, Center staff act as consultants, advisors, trainers, guides, promoters, coordinators and mediators.

Nevertheless, our primary responsibility continues to be to local governments that choose to plan responsibly and manage growth.

Because of our responsibility to local governments, and planning in general, the Center's second *Annual Report on Land Use* focuses on our efforts to provide local governments the tools and support needed to plan responsibly. The Center sets out our Action Plan in this *Annual Report*, which we have adopted as the basis for the Agenda.

The Center heads into the future building on our successes of 2000, and the five important components that define Pennsylvania's formula for success:

outreach, education and training, technical assistance and support, financial assistance and agency coordination. The Center selects outreach, communication and coordination as the focal points for our work in 2001. The Center will continue to educate and to train to support local governments in their planning efforts, and find the means to provide technical and financial assistance. The Center is committed to strengthening our partnerships with our county planning agencies.

The Center's partnership and continuing work with the Interagency Team is important work for 2001. By strengthening the communication and coordination between state agencies, counties and municipalities, the Center believes better land use decisions and planning can be achieved.

The Center has long been diligently working on the Agenda. The Center invites all stakeholders to continue to share in the responsibility of planning Pennsylvania's future – one that supports a vibrant quality of life for all. ■



