

CENTRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING SUMMARY OF THE AUGUST 3, 2023 MEETING

2023 CRPC MEMBERS

Ray Forziat, Chair
College Township

Andrew Meehan, Vice Chair
Halfmoon Township

Chris Gamble
Harris Township

Sharon Collins
Patton Township

Ellen Taricani
Ferguson Township

Josh Portney
State College Borough

Neil Sullivan
Penn State University

CENTRE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY

Director
Jim May

Regional & Local Planners
Mark Boeckel
Leslie Warriner

Sustainability Planner
Pam Adams

Transportation Planners
Greg Kausch
Anne Messner
Jim Saylor

GIS Planner
Steve Arnold

Office Manager
Marcella Hoffman



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The CRPC conducted its regular meeting on Thursday, August 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. and took action on the following agenda items:

Setback Requirements for At-Grade Structures - Harris Township -

The CRPC recommended that Harris Township approve the proposed amendments to Chapter 12, article 2.4, Use Regulations to reduce the required side and rear yard setbacks by 50% for at-grade and near-grade structures. At-grade structures would include sports courts, paved patios, and other similar structures. These structures are currently required to meet all setback requirements, regardless of the underlying zoning district. The proposed amendment would not apply to swimming pools or their associated patios/decks as they are addressed by other safety regulations.

The CRPC supported the proposed amendments and did not offer any specific comments for the Harris Township Board of Supervisors to consider.

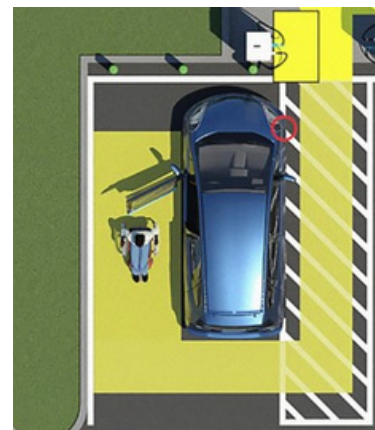
Final Draft Amended Regional Growth Boundary and Sewer Service Area Implementation Agreement - The CRPC took action to forward the Implementation Agreement to the COG Executive Committee for placement on the August 28, 2023 COG General Forum agenda. The CRPC has reviewed the revised agreement several times since September 2022. The RGB and SSA Implementation Agreement is required to be reviewed every five years and is required to be completed prior to the end of 2023. The RGB and SSA Implementation Agreement is an essential process that defines how the RGB and SSA can be expanded and how regional review and comment on rezoning applications should occur. It is one of the most consequential processes to manage growth in the Region. The process sets the bar high for expansions of the RGB and SSA but should be as clear and straightforward as possible.

The CRPC supported the revised RGB and SSA Implementation Agreement and did not offer staff any final comments.

Review of a Draft Model Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Ordinance and EV Readiness Guide

The CRPC received a detailed presentation from Mr. Dworsky, the CRPA's planning intern, regarding an overview of the proposed draft Model Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Ordinance and EV Readiness Guide. This ordinance has been proposed to be a model that can be modified and adopted by the Centre Region municipalities, and the readiness guide is to provide support and guidance for property owners and developers who want to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure in the Centre Region. The presentation covered several elements of the proposed ordinance, including:

- Definitions: EV Capable, EV Ready, and EVSE Installed
- Permitting rules for levels of charging infrastructure for Levels 1, 2, and 3 charging stations
- Permitting rules for battery exchange stations
- Recommendations for EV readiness related to covered and non-covered parking structures
- Design requirements for EV charging infrastructure related to parking and signage
- Design requirements for EV charging infrastructure related to accessibility



CRPC members asked several clarifying questions which were answered by CRPA staff. CRPA staff will provide the ordinance to planning staff in State College Borough, College Township, and Ferguson Township for review. A final draft is anticipated to be presented at the September meeting to forward to the municipal governing bodies for review.

2020 Census Results Update

The CRPC received a presentation regarding the additional results of the 2020 U.S. Decennial Census which includes data about the age of the population. This data release includes information on the age of Census respondents, broken down into cohorts that have been used consistently in previous censuses and allows for further analysis of the Centre Region's age structure and growth trends. These results indicated a lower-than-expected population increase in the Centre Region and a population decline in the State College Borough. Analysis of the results indicate that several age cohorts experienced declines, including the student-aged population. While declines in some cohorts can be explained with macro demographic trends, the decline in the student-age population was not anticipated given increased enrollment at Penn State over the previous decade. These results are likely due to an undercount related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Impacts of an undercount may include a decrease in federal funding, political representation, difficulty in planning for the future, and inaccurate baseline data for the American Communities Survey (ACS) and other population programs.

[COG General Forum](#)

Monday, August 28 at 7:00 p.m.

[COG LUCI Committee](#)

Thursday, September 7 at 12:15 p.m.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

[Centre Region Planning Commission](#)

Thursday, September 7 at 7:00 p.m.

[CCMPO Coordinating Committee](#)

Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 p.m.