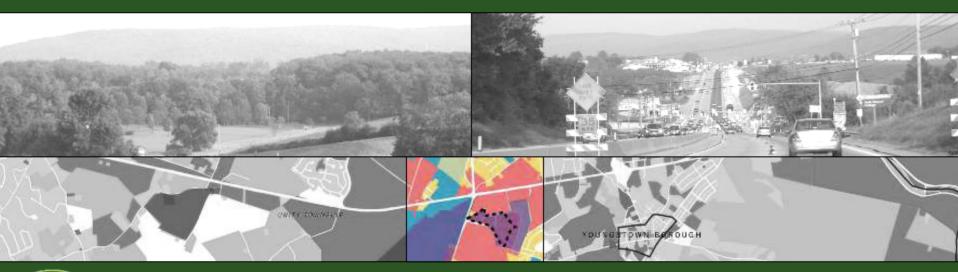
## ROUTE 30 DEMONSTRATION PLAN DESIGN CHARRETTE

# WELCOME!





The Smart Growth Partnership of Westmoreland County

October 26, 2007

#### TODAY'S AGENDA

- THE VALUE OF THE CHARRETTE
- WHAT WE HEARD
- PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE
- THE PLAN
- MAKING IT HAPPEN

#### Phase 1: THE VISION





**Route 30 Vision Statement:** 

"The Lincoln Highway is one of the best transportation corridors in the nation"

- Safe
- Efficient
- Vibrant
- High quality





## **Critical Opportunities**

- Optimize corridor safety & traffic flow
- Expand travel choices
- Revitalize core towns
- Shape suburban growth
- Preserve rural landscape







#### **Phase 2: THE DEMONSTRATION PLAN**





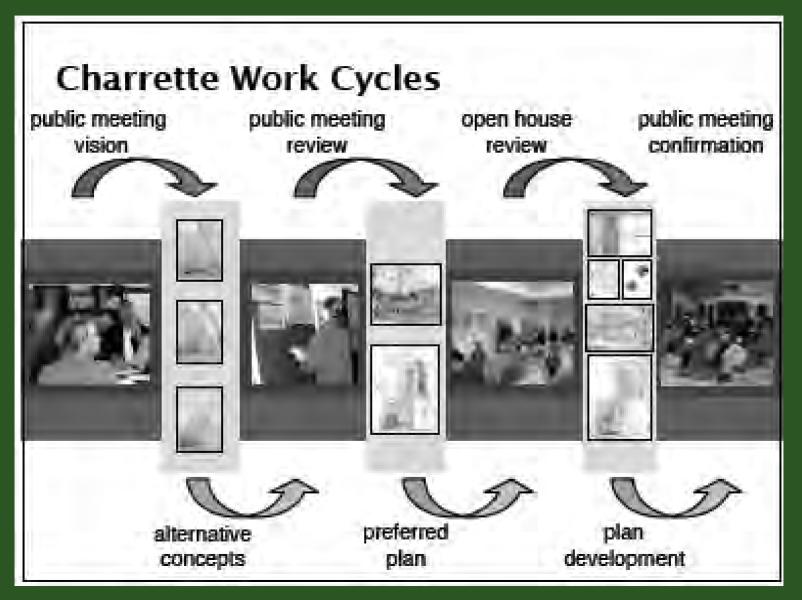
- Develop transferable solutions for the whole corridor
- Incorporate design elements from Phase 1: Walkability, Accessibility, Quality
- Week-long Design Charrette

   intensive work session on
   the Demonstration Plan





## THE VALUE OF THE CHARRETTE



### CHARRETTE MISSION

To develop an economically feasible, prototypical site plan for an area along Route 30 in Unity Township that fits the Vision of the entire 40mile corridor.

Utilizing a 5-day design charrette, we will design a prototypical site for Route 30 that is safe, efficient, and attractive, and connected to the surrounding community. Concepts emanating from the prototype will be transferrable to the rest of the corridor.



### SPONSORS + FUNDERS

Charrette Signature Sponsor



Charrette Gift Donors Sony Technology Center – Pittsburgh Bravia 32" LCD Flat Panel HDTV Westmoreland County Airport Authority Northwest Airlines \$300 credit voucher –any destination served by NWA Smail Automotive Group Two Complete Detailing coupons \$300 value Westmoreland Conservation District Unique Gift Basket Municipal Authority Westmoreland County Glass Water Carafe Set

#### Route 30 Plan Funding Partners

RK Mellon Foundation Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation Heinz Endowments McCune Foundation Laurel Foundation Jack Robertshaw, Jr. McFeely-Rogers Foundation

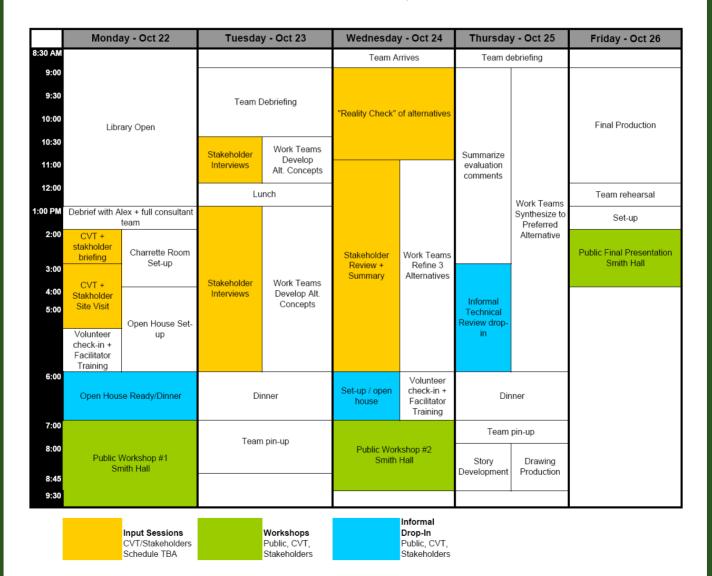
Sarah Scaife Foundation Sony Technologies Center - Pittsburgh **Robertshaw Charitable Foundation** Arnold/Winifred Palmer Foundation. **Miller Penn Development** PA DCED Community Revitalization Senator Bob Regola **Representative Jess Stairs** PA DCED Land Use Planning and Technical **Assistance Program** PA DCNR Lincoln Highway Heritage **Corridor Program** PA DCNR Growing Greener Program Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Westmoreland County Planning Westmoreland County Commissioners Unity Township Hempfield Township North Huntingdon Township Irwin Borough Ligonier Township and Ligonier Borough City of Greensburg **Derry Township** 

## CHARRETTE TEAM



#### CHARRETTE DAY-BY-DAY

#### US ROUTE 30 MASTER PLAN DESIGN CHARRETTE SCHEDULE OCTOBER 22 - 26, 2007



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



### PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

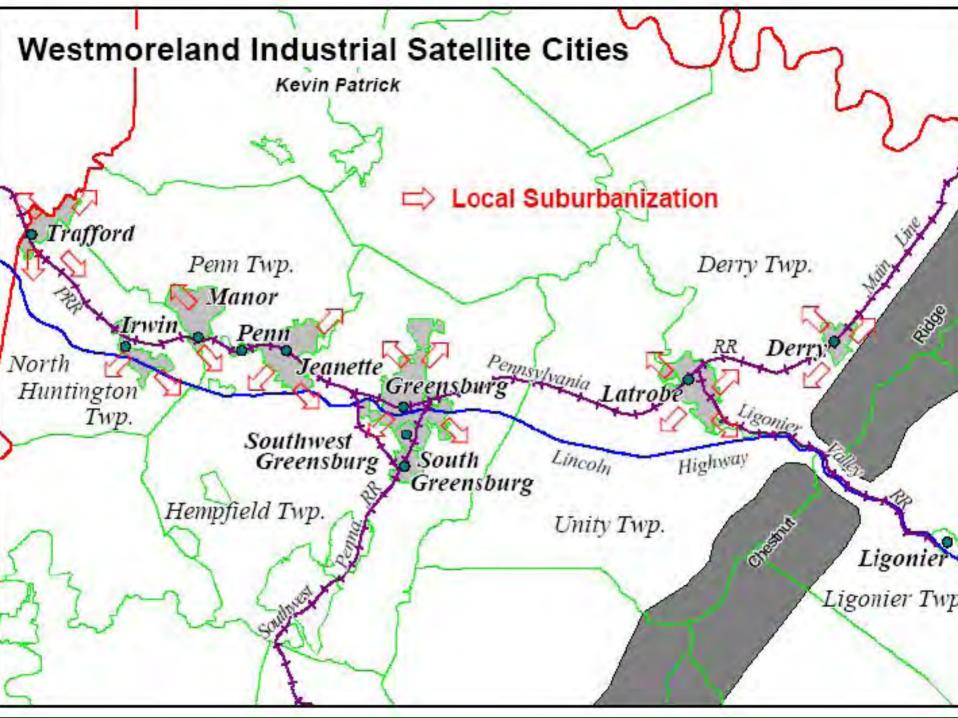
**Overview of Westmoreland County Geography** 

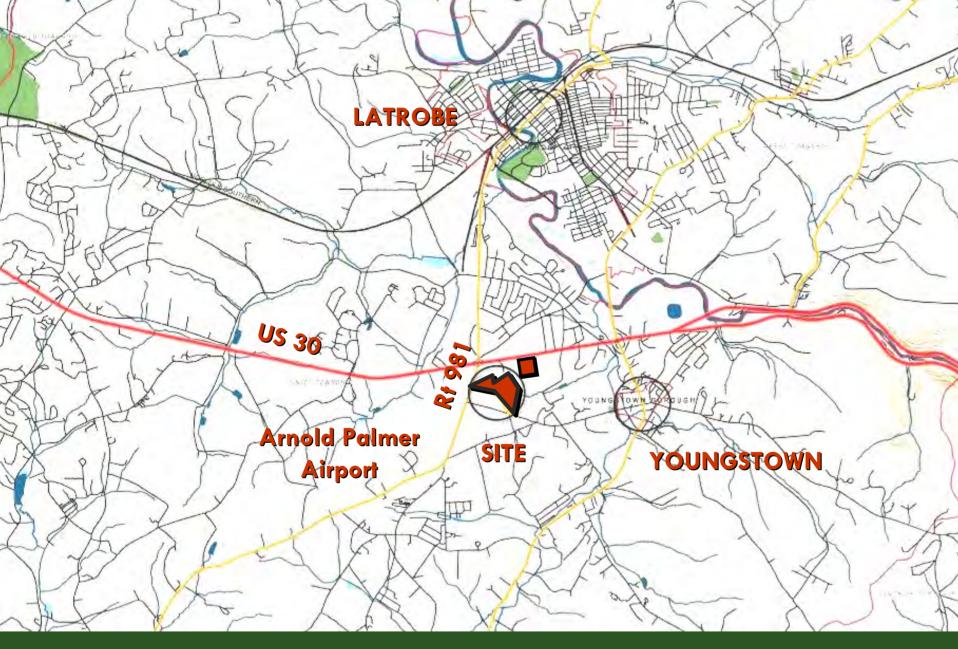
1. Westmoreland as a Corridor County

Loyalhanna Gorge:

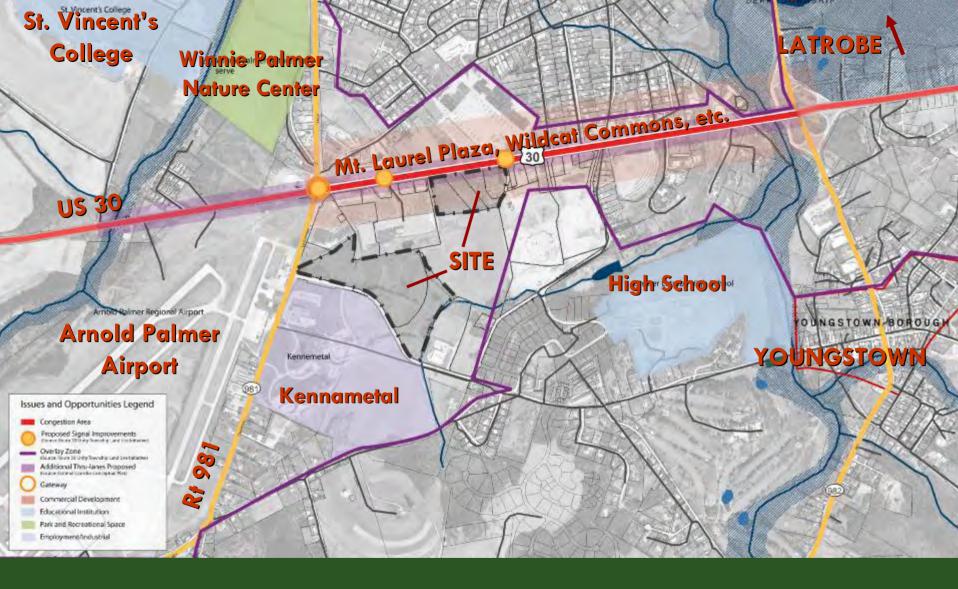
Forbes Road (1758) Philadelphia-Pittsburgh Turnpike (1818) Ligonier Valley Railroad (1878) Lincoln Highway (1913)



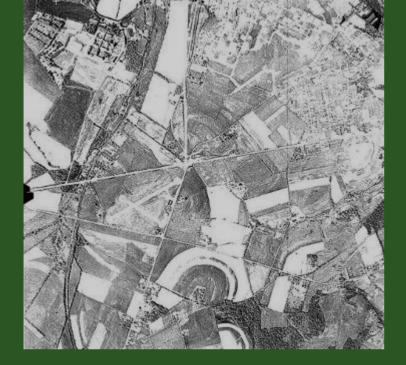


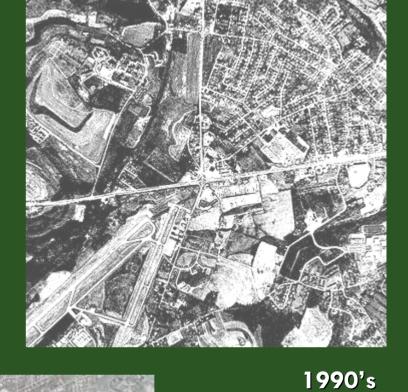


#### **Demonstration Plan Site**









1950's

2007



2030?

Trend is not destiny - Lewis Mumford

#### WHAT WE HEARD

#### MONDAY NIGHT WORKSHOP

- Create connections
- Improve access to/from Route 30
- Make it pedestrian-friendly
- Create a gathering place for the community
- Build on local assets to make a Destination
- Protect as much green space as possible
- Preserve views to Chestnut Ridge
- Promote a mix of uses
  - Housing for young adults and seniors
  - Hotel/Conference Center with proximity to airport
- Create Landmark buildings



#### WHAT WE HEARD

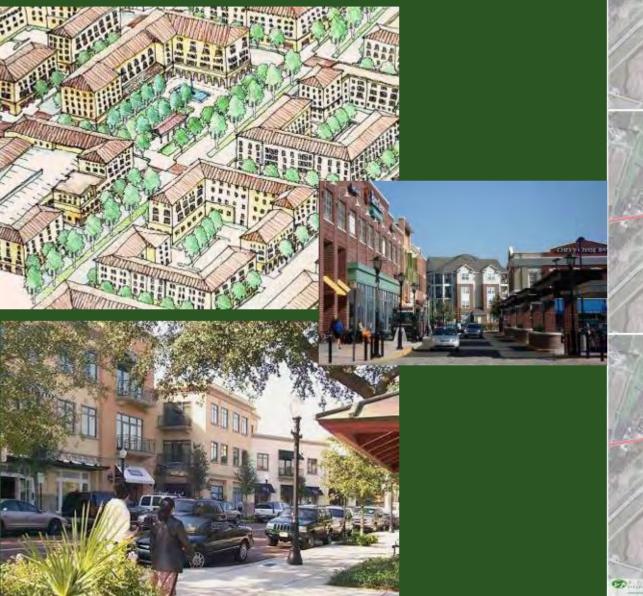
TUESDAY STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

- Create value for the community
- We need a 'third place'
- We need attractive, affordable development
- Build hotel and restaurant
- Build housing! Don't build housing!
- Build more offices! Don't build more offices!
- Developing this suburban site helps preserve rural farms
- Promote connectivity
- Don't make level of traffic flow worse
- Study commuter rail from Latrobe-Pittsburgh (underway)
- Can we really do things differently?

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- Improve connectivity
- Create a pedestrian-friendly place
- Develop a unique community / sense of place
- Incorporate mixed uses
- Acknowledge views to Chestnut Ridge
- Protect and enhance stream corridors
- Respect topography
- Enhance gateway to Laurel Highlands/ Latrobe

## CONCEPT PLAN A. "Streets"





## CONCEPT PLAN B. "Squares"





## CONCEPT PLAN C. "Greenways"







## SHAPING THE PLAN

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORKSHOP

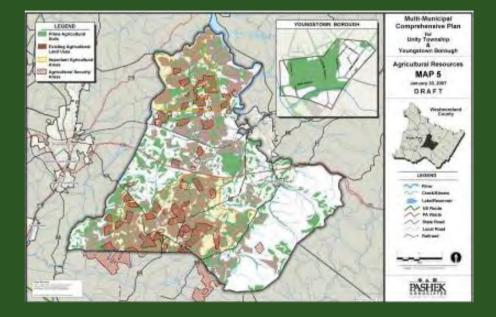
- Provide lots of shared green space
- Keep buildings small scale (no more than 3 stories or less)
- Maintain pedestrian-friendly approach
- Preserve views
- Include townhouses & apartments to appeal to seniors and young adults (such as students at St. Vincent's College)
- Reduce traffic lights on Route 30
- Include Hotel/Conference Center
- Promote airport-based employment



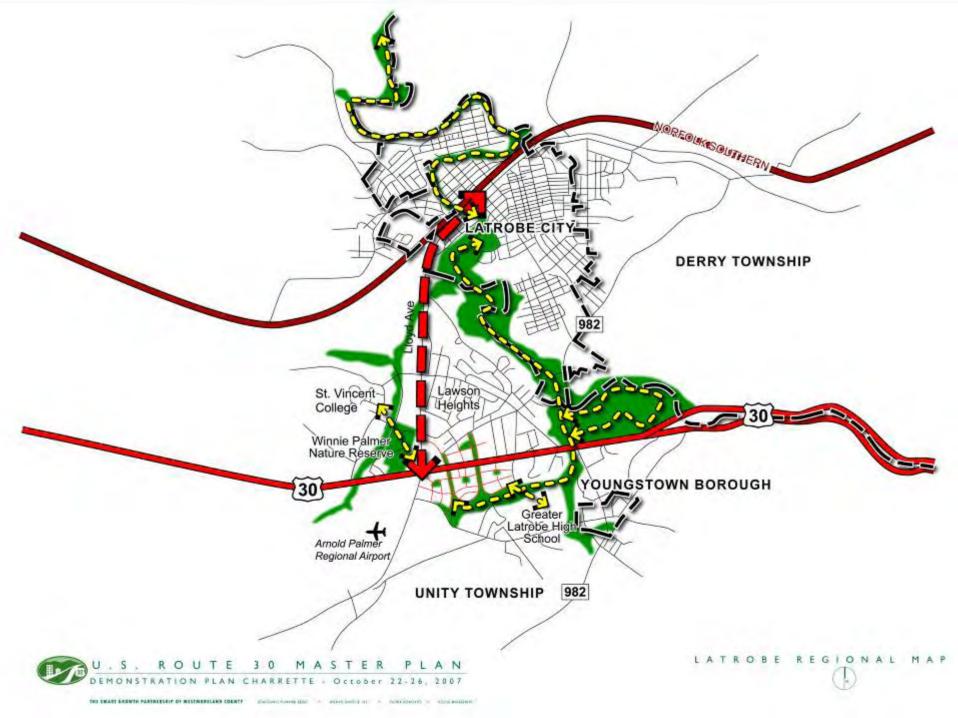
## CLARIFYING THE PLAN

#### WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY STAKEHOLDER REVIEWS + WEB COMMENTS

- Connect with local farms
- Use state-of-the-art sustainable design
- Create interpretive 'tour' that tells the story of Westmoreland County
- Connect with "green" developers
- ... and much more



## THE CHARRETTE PLAN



#### **TREND Mid Term**



### **TREND Long Term**



## TREND

- Big Box and strip retail
- Disconnected parking
- Curb cuts on Rt 30
- Franchise based architecture
- No sense of place or activity areas



## THE CHARRETTE PLAN

#### **BASIS:**

- Input from Monday

   Ideas, visions, mapping exercise
- Input from Wednesday
  - What you
     liked/didn't like –
     things to add
- Input from Stakeholders
- Technical Review



## **CHARRETTE PLAN - Overview**

- A "Complete Community" grow up, work, live, socialize & age-in-place
- A series of small neighborhoods centered around village squares (not always square)
- Civic uses located in the neighborhood
- Retail primary uses along Rt 30
- Mixed use and residential behind Rt 30
- Stream valleys protected connected to trail system
- Landscaped Gateway & Local/Regional Boulevard on Rt. 30

#### **TREND Short Term**



### **CHARRETTE PLAN - Short Term**



### **CHARRETTE PLAN - Mid Term**



## **CHARRETTE PLAN - Long Term**



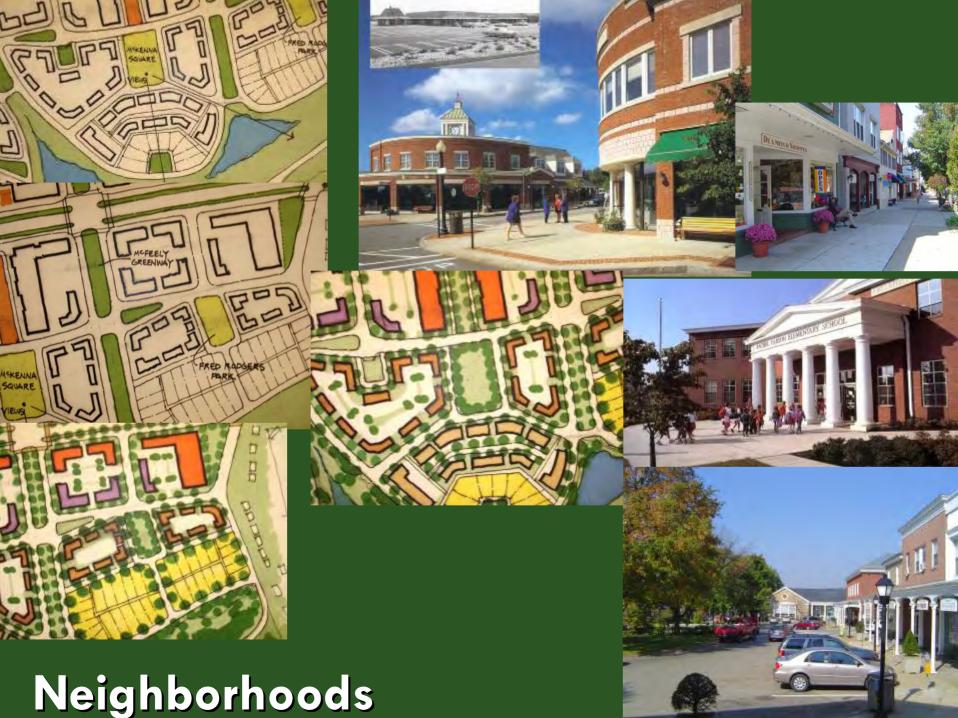






### Connections







### **McKenna Square**



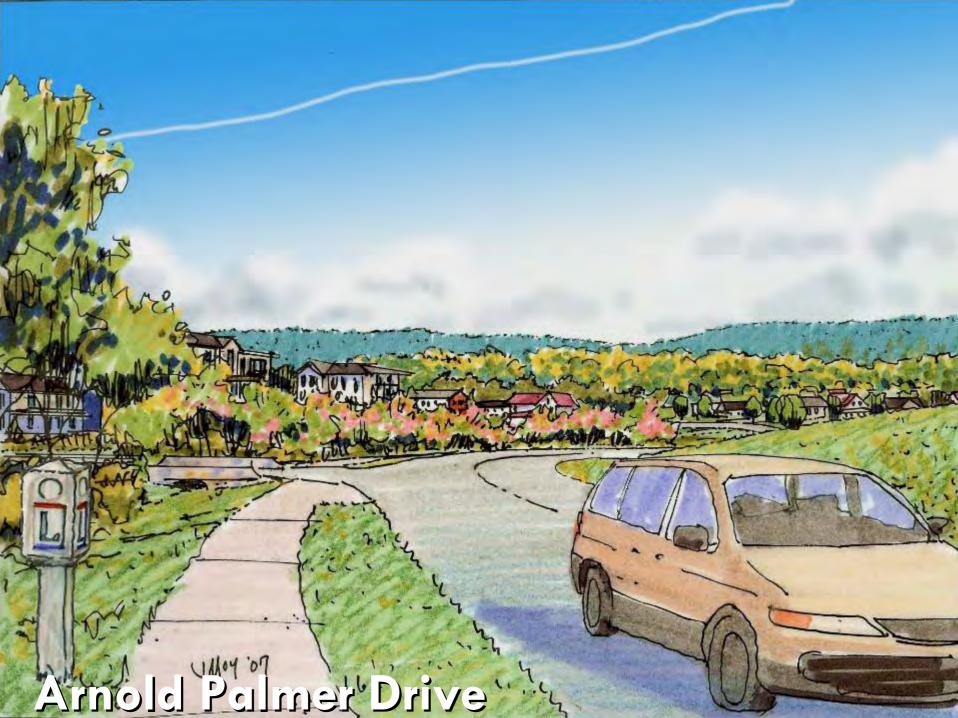






### **Sense of Place**

Arnold Palmer Drive



### MAKING IT HAPPEN!

### What we need to make it happen

- Continuous dialog with key ulletplayers (property owners, municipal officials, county, regional and state agencies, community stakeholders, etc.)
- Financial resources to support • desired development (infrastructure, site preparation)
- Developer incentives to offset ullettheir risk component
- Agreements to promote ulletconsistent design throughout Route 30 (municipal, PennDOT, etc)

#### FIGURE 5: DRAFT OVERLAY ZONE MAP



#### Investing in Our Future:

Addressing Pennsylvania's Transportation Funding Brisis

COMMISSION'S INITIAL FINDINGS AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INPUT









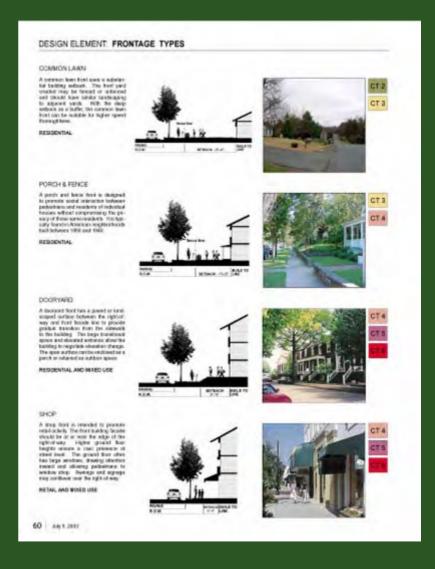


Funding and Reform Cos

August 2006

### POLICY FRAMEWORK

- Invent a new neighborhood and develop zoning and development codes to allow this UNIQUE place to happen
- Emphasize quality design standards and mixed use development
- Include the site plan and its objectives within the 2008 Unity Twp. Comprehensive Plan and use the specific plan process to provide for master plan approval
- Provide places to live, shop, work, recreate, worship and absorb the area's tantalizing natural environment
- Assure that the development mix is consistent with the market demographics and trends for the area for the next 30 years



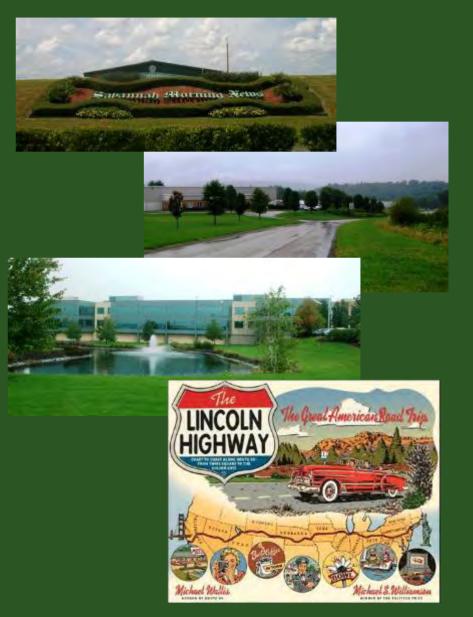
### **REGIONAL LINKAGES**

- Laurel Highlands
  - Latrobe and Possible
     Commuter Rail
  - Historic Coal Patch Town and Youngstown Borough
  - Arnold Palmer Airport
  - Saint Vincent College
  - Westmoreland County Industrial Park
- Greater Latrobe
  - This site will become a neighborhood of Latrobe
  - Lloyd Avenue serves as the connector from this neighborhood to the Latrobe Central Core,
  - Latrobe's central core serves as a valuable pedestrian-oriented area with adaptive re-use, entrepreneurial development and transit center opportunities



### ECONOMIC POLICIES

- Create sustainable quality job opportunities and growth of the tax base
- Encourage quality spin-off development on adjoining sites and the Westmoreland County Industrial Park
- Tourism Expansion The area's unique assets including Natural and Historic Heritage
- Creating a unique and distinctive place that does not compete with other centers within the region



### PHYSICAL POLICIES

- Create a walkable plan
- Provide multi-modal connections to Latrobe and other regional assets (WCTA)
- Promote environmental sustainability on the site including innovative stormwater management and energy efficiency
- Optimize the hills, valleys, viewsheds natural areas and manmade green areas
- Utilize distinctive themed squares, plazas and natural reserves to create "places"
- Utilize well-designed parking areas that are well-integrated into the site



## PHYSICAL POLICIES

#### **ROUTE 30**

- Minimize curb cuts and traffic lights along Route 30.
- Develop a series of interior frontage roads for access to developments and for local traffic.
- Create a landscaped boulevard design for Route 30 with safe pedestrian crossings that provide critical north-south connections and safe crossings
- Develop a gateway at the Route 30/981 intersection



## TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

Short & Medium Term – Access Management

- Shared driveways
- Landscaped median / left turn lanes at intersections
- Pedestrian facilities (sidewalks & crosswalks)
- Cross-access between parking lots





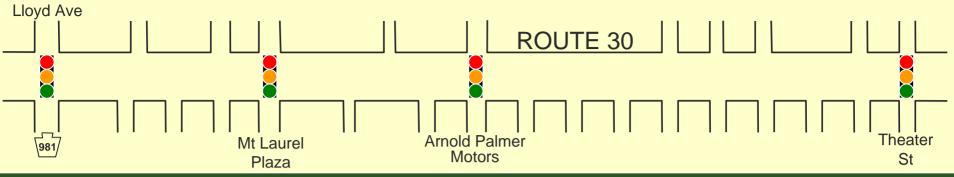
## TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

Long Term - Network

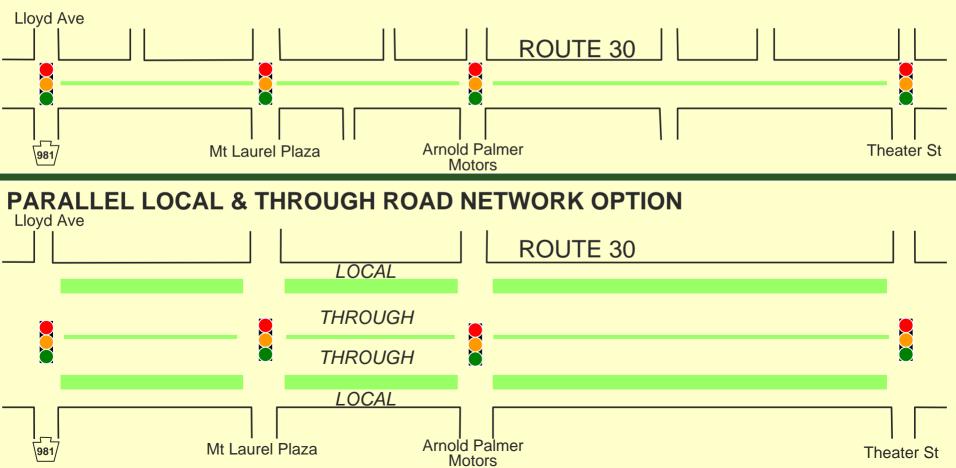
- System of local + through roads
- Connector roads between developments
- Green buffers
- Widening along Route 30 (already in long range preliminary plan)



### EXISTING



### **ACCESS MANAGEMENT OPTION**



### **ROADWAY TREATMENTS**

- Roundabouts
- Pedestrian & bicycle accommodations
- Traffic calming elements







### EVALUATION + FEEDBACK

- What do you like most about the plan? How could it be improved?
- What key issues + opportunities should we focus on as we advance the plan?
- What can YOU do to make this happen?

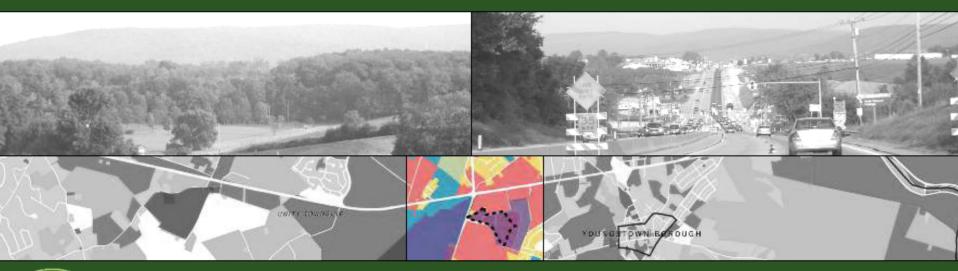


### Next Steps

- Implementation
- Evaluation Form
- Meeting December 13

## ROUTE 30 DEMONSTRATION PLAN DESIGN CHARRETTE

# **THANK YOU!**





The Smart Growth Partnership of Westmoreland County

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