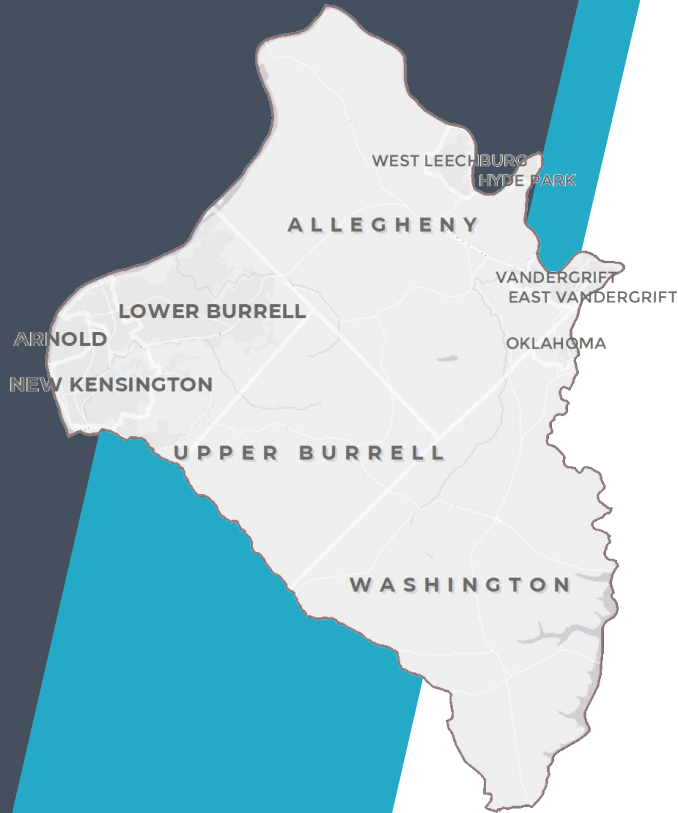


# Reimagining Our Westmoreland Alle-Kiski Planning District

IGC Working Group  
February 12, 2020



# Reimagining Our Westmoreland



## **Purpose**

To address an aging and declining population

## **Goal**

To attract, develop, and retain a diverse and stable workforce that will sustain a healthy economy

# Planning District Approach



## Shared Services & Regional Decision Making

Regional problems deserve regional solutions.



## Bridge Divide Between Need & Resources

A lack of capacity keeps local municipalities distant from resources.



## Information Sharing Among Municipalities

Best practices and new approaches can be shared, when a platform is prepared.



## Informed Decision Making

Good decisions depend on good information.



## Efficient Public Service Delivery

Thinking regionally recognizes economies of scale.



## Transparency with Public & Developers

Communication of regional needs is simpler than dozens of identical, individual needs.

# Priorities from Discussions



- Providing development-ready sites
- Utilizing planning best practices
- Eliminating blight
- Investment in beautification

# Purpose of this Intergovernmental Cooperation Working Group



- Expand group's understanding intergovernmental organizations and COGs
  - Examples of COGs
- Form Recommendations
  - Means of administration
  - Drafting by-laws and formation documents
  - Initial programming
  - Resolution for participation

# Examples of IGC

Centre Region COG: <https://www.crcog.net/>

Erie Area COG: <https://www.erieareacog.org/>

French Creek COG: <https://www.frenchcreekcog.org/> (sample agenda/minutes on [ROW website](#))

Mercer County Regional COG: <http://www.mcrcog.com/>

Quaker Valley COG: <https://www.qvcog.org/>

Warren County Intergovernmental Co-Op ([Sample Agenda](#))

[PACOG COG Directory](#)

[DCED Intergovernmental Cooperation Handbook](#)

[DCED COG Directors Handbook](#)

# Draft Resolution

**DRAFT RESOLUTION**  
**for**  
**Intergovernmental Cooperation Organization**

*February 11, 2020*

WHEREAS, the municipalities of the Alle-Kiski area of Westmoreland County are participating in the Reimagining Our Westmoreland facilitated process.

WHEREAS, a principal objective through that process is to seriously conduct intergovernmental activities with intergovernmental cooperation and the sharing of services.

WHEREAS, the municipalities of the Alle-Kiski area are committed to establishing an ongoing intergovernmental cooperation organization in order to achieve ongoing intergovernmental activities with cooperation and the sharing of services.

WHEREAS, the municipalities of the Alle-Kiski area of Westmoreland County intend to formally establish an intergovernmental cooperation organization for the purpose of conducting joint consideration, planning and implementation of intergovernmental services.

THEREFORE,           (municipality)           will collaborate with the other municipalities to envision the structure of the intergovernmental cooperation organization, to include the name, means of administration and financing, and the drafting of the bylaws and establishing ordinance under the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Law (53 Pa. C.S.A. § 2301), and direction for initial functions and programming.

THEREFORE, upon completion of these tasks,           (municipality)           will formally and officially consider adoption of the establishing ordinance.

# Program: Development Process Review for Consistency



- Westmoreland County PD Staff to attend 4 meetings per year to work with a consistent team of AK municipalities to assure accurate and consistent application of zoning and development processes in all participating municipalities.
- Requires:
  - Commitment & Responsibility
  - Workplan
  - Work to be done between meetings



# Program: Shared Code Enforcement



- Develop a specification or a position description for a shared code enforcement officer, recruit and hire, commit adequate financial resources, comply with program rules
- Requires:
  - Commitment & responsibility to meet to develop program design
  - Funding
  - Agreement to participate for fixed period of time
  - Administrative Support

# Homework



Review *Draft Resolution*

Ordinance: DCED COG Director's Handbook, [Appendix B, pg. 46](#)

Sample Bylaws:

- French Creek COG:  
<https://www.frenchcreekcog.org/documents/french-creek-cog-bylaws-09-20-2010/>
- Quaker Valley COG:  
[https://www.qvcog.org/uploads/7/4/0/4/74046139/amended\\_bylaws\\_20180815.pdf](https://www.qvcog.org/uploads/7/4/0/4/74046139/amended_bylaws_20180815.pdf)

Next Call: **February 19, 2020 3 PM** on Zoom: <https://duq.zoom.us/j/587124350>