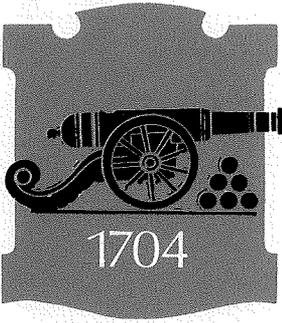


## **Appendix 6**

### ***Review Comments and Adoption***





*Whitemarsh* TOWNSHIP

616 GERMANTOWN PIKE - LAFAYETTE HILL, PA 19444-1821  
TEL: 610-825-3535 FAX: 610-825-9416

**BOARD of SUPERVISORS**

Joseph P. Corcoran III - Chairman  
Jean McLenigan - Vice Chairman  
Steven S. Brown  
Kelly C. Wall  
Jonathan D. Weiss

Christopher R. van de Velde  
Township Manager

June 1, 2007

TO: Francis J. Marabella, Conshohocken Borough Manager  
Karen B. Weiss, Plymouth Township Manager  
Phyllis C. Lieberman, Whitpain Township Manager  
Paul A. Leonard, Upper Dublin Township Manager  
Donald E. Berger, Jr., Springfield Township Manager  
Janice Woodcock, AIA, AICP, Philadelphia City Planning Commission Executive Director  
Douglas S. Cleland, Lower Merion Township Manager  
Vincent F. Cotter, Ed. D., Superintendent, Colonial School District  
Wesley Ratko, Montgomery County Planning Commission  
Whitemarsh Township Planning Commission

**SUBJECT: WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP GREENWAY PLAN COMMENT REQUEST**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Pursuant to Section 302 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, the enclosed CD contains an electronic copy the Public Review Draft of a proposed Greenway Plan dated May 24, 2007, that is offered for your review and comments. The plan is also available on the township's web site: [www.whitemarshtwp.org](http://www.whitemarshtwp.org)

The Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors will hold a Public Hearing to receive comments on and consider adoption of the plan at their regularly scheduled public meeting of Thursday, July 26, 2007.

Please provide any written comments no later than Friday, July 20, 2007; submitted to:

Bruce G. Horrocks  
Whitemarsh Township  
616 Germantown Pike  
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444-1821

Or emailed to: [bhorrocks@whitemarshtwp.org](mailto:bhorrocks@whitemarshtwp.org)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. G. Horrocks', is written over the word 'Sincerely'.

Bruce G. Horrocks  
Assistant Township Manager/Director of Planning & Zoning

cc: Christopher R. van de Velde, Township Manager  
Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors  
Neil A. Stein, Esquire, Solicitor

**PLYMOUTH**  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY



**TOWNSHIP**  
PENNSYLVANIA

**COUNCIL**

ALEXANDER J. FAZZINI, CHAIR  
JOSEPH PRESTIA, VICE CHAIR  
LENORE BRUNO  
VINCENT GILLEN  
NICHOLAS A. SALAMONE  
KAREN B. WEISS, MANAGER  
HERBERT F. RUBENSTEIN, SOLICITOR

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP BUILDING  
700 BELVOIR ROAD  
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462  
PHONE: (610) 277-4100  
FAX: (610) 277-4313  
EMAIL: plymouth@plymouthtownship.org

July 16, 2007

Whitemarsh Township  
Attn: Bruce Horrocks  
616 Germantown Pike  
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

**RE: WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP GREENWAY PLAN**

Dear Bruce:

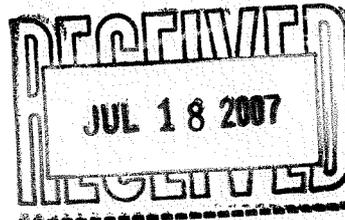
I reviewed the CD and don't have any comments except to say that it appears to be very well done and quite comprehensive.

We wish you the best with its implementation.

Very truly yours,

Karen B. Weiss  
Manager

KBW/II  
AD/whittwpgreen.ltr





## MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

box 311 ♦ norristown ♦ pennsylvania ♦ 19404-0311 ♦ 610-278-3722

office location: suite 201 ♦ one montgomery plaza ♦ swede & airy streets ♦ norristown pa

FAX 610-278-3941 ♦ Website [www.planning.montcopa.org](http://www.planning.montcopa.org)

July 24, 2007

Mr. Bruce G. Horrocks, Assistant Manager  
Whitemarsh Township  
616 Germantown Pike  
Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania 19444-0821

Re: MCPC #03-0397-002  
Comprehensive Plan Amendment:  
Greenway Plan  
Whitemarsh Township

Dear Mr. Horrocks:

We have reviewed the above-referenced comprehensive plan amendment in accordance with Section 302 of Act 247, "The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code," per you requested on May 22, 2007. We forward this letter as a report of our review and recommendations.

### Background

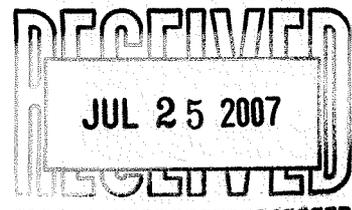
This submission is a Public Review Draft of the proposed Whitemarsh Township Greenway Plan (Plan). The Plan, intended to guide future land conservation efforts, may (if approved) become an amendment to the township's Comprehensive Plan.

### Review Comments

We commend the township for the thoroughness of its efforts in compiling such a comprehensive document. However, we offer several comments for the township's consideration.

The introductory section of the plan includes a bullet pointed list of the principles upon which the recommendations are based. These principles detail an understanding of the importance of where development "is" and "is not" appropriate, the inherent benefits that collaborative efforts between the public and private sectors can provide, and an awareness of the various amenity elements necessary for improving the quality of life for township residents.

We agree that these criteria are important components of a greenway plan. Missing from these, however, is any mention of interconnectivity or linkages between the many open space sites within the township. We believe that these connections between nodes of open space are what help distinguish a greenway plan from an open space plan or any other such initiative.



We suggest that language should be included that emphasizes the importance of a trail network, and specifies both existing and proposed connections between greenspace areas described and identified throughout the Plan. This, we believe, will distinguish the Greenway Plan from the township's Open Space Plan.

The Greenway Plan shares many elements with the township's Open Space Plan. We suggest including references in the Greenway Plan to the township's Open Space Plan and how these two plans will work together to achieve the township's open space goals.

Finally, we recommend that the Plan be restructured to place action items (such as Implementation Recommendations and Conservation Strategies) ahead of informational sections. Sections such as the inventory of natural resources could be omitted or placed in the back as an appendix. This information, already present in the township's Open Space Plan, could simply be referred to instead of being repeated.

### **Recommendation**

We believe that the policies contained in the Plan are reflective of the elected and appointed officials and are consistent with the desires of the community. The Plan was compared to the policies contained in the County's comprehensive plan and found to be consistent. We recommend adoption of this plan once all issues are resolved to the satisfaction of Whitemarsh Township.

Please note that the review comments and recommendations contained in this report are advisory to the municipality and final disposition for the approval of any proposal will be made by the municipality.

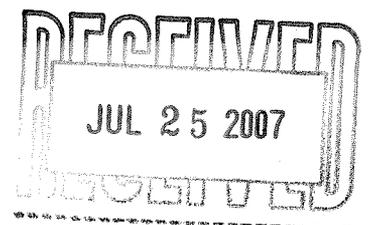
We ask that you forward a copy of the Whitemarsh Township Greenway Plan upon its final adoption.

Sincerely,



Wesley Ratko, Transportation Planner  
610.278.3734 – [wratko@montcopa.org](mailto:wratko@montcopa.org)

- c: Christopher VandeVelde, Township Manager
- Neil Stein, Esq., Twp. Solicitor
- James C. Sullivan, P.E., Twp. Engineer
- Elizabeth DeCordova, Zoning Officer



# PCPC

Philadelphia City Planning Commission

David Adelman

Vincent Jannetti

Marcia Moore Makadon

One Parkway  
1515 Arch Street

Janice Woodcock, AIA, AICP  
Executive Director

Lynette M. Brown-Sow

Loree D. Jones

Stephanie W. Naldoff

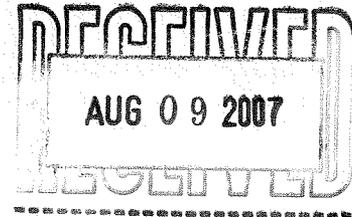
13th Floor  
Philadelphia Pennsylvania 19102

Patrick Eiding

Gloria Levin

215.683.4615 Telephone  
215.683.4630 Facsimile

Bruce J. Horrocks  
Assistant Township Manager/Director of Planning & Zoning  
Whitemarsh Township  
616 Germantown Pike  
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444-821



August 7, 2007

Dear Mr. Horrocks:

The Philadelphia City Planning Commission (PCPC) was pleased to review the Whitemarsh Township Greenway Plan and learn about its vision for advancing the Whitemarsh Open Space and Recreation Plan, protecting important natural resources, and creating a seamless greenway system for Whitemarsh Township. The PCPC recognizes greenways and green space in general as key contributors to quality of life, public health, economic vitality, ecological function, and environmental protection.

Philadelphia's recent open-space planning efforts make our review of the Whitemarsh Township Greenway Plan quite timely. In early 2006, the City of Philadelphia launched a collaboration of fourteen city agencies and eleven partner organizations to prepare *GreenPlan Philadelphia* ("GreenPlan"), the City's first comprehensive plan for open space. GreenPlan will guide decision-making about the use, acquisition, development, funding, and management of open space. The plan envisions a vibrant Philadelphia interconnected with grand and intimate green parks and open spaces to promote healthy living, economic growth, and a sustainable natural environment.

One of GreenPlan's aims is to improve the connectivity between open space and neighborhoods, both within Philadelphia and across municipal boundaries. The Whitemarsh Township Greenway Plan is an example of the visioning and planning required in order to establish green connections between the Township's Miquon/Riverfront district and Philadelphia's Andorra-Roxborough section. This border area offers itself as natural ground for exploring opportunities to coordinate or collaborate on greenspace planning and projects and to advance open-space or environmental goals held in common.

In light of the potential for connections across the county line (particularly, the Whitemarsh Township Greenway Plan's recommendation to connect the Township with Fairmount Park's Manatawna Farm lands), you might consider expanding the recommendation to "work with adjacent

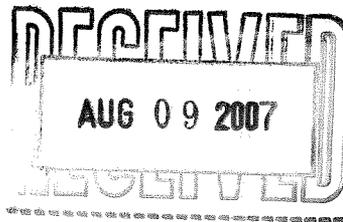
Townships” to include the City of Philadelphia and various organizations and institutions in the city’s northwest. In this regard, you may find it helpful to contact the Manayunk Development Corporation for information on the Schuylkill Project, which includes improved riverfront access among its aims, and also the Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, which owns 340 acres of naturally preserved land and trails in the city’s northwest.

We invite you to stay in touch with us and other Philadelphia agencies as both the Whitemarsh Greenway Plan and GreenPlan Philadelphia progress toward implementation. GreenPlan is comprehensive and citywide in its scope, but its recommendations will also focus on meeting the specific open-space needs of different areas of the city. The preliminary recommendations, including those for northwest Philadelphia, will be drafted by the coming fall. We would be pleased to share them with you as the plan evolves. Should you have any questions about GreenPlan Philadelphia, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Alan Urek, AICP  
Director, Strategic Planning & Policy Division



**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**RESOLUTION # 2007-31**

**WHEREAS**, on May 2, 2005, the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors ("**Supervisors**") was awarded a grant from the Pennsylvania Department Conservation and Natural Resources, Community Conservation Partnerships Program for the preparation of a Municipal Greenway & Open Space Network Plan (the "**Plan**") for Whitemarsh Township; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 9, 2006, the Supervisors executed a contract with Stell Environmental Enterprises, Inc. of Elverson, PA ("**Stell**") to prepare the Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Supervisors appointed an ad hoc committee known as the "Greenway Plan Steering Committee" ("**Committee**"), with its membership comprised of representatives from the Supervisors, Planning Commission, Open Space Committee, Shade Tree Commission, Park & Recreation Board and the Environmental Advisory Board. The Committee assisted Stell in the preparation of the Plan; and

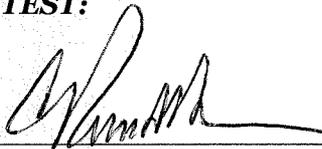
**WHEREAS**, a draft of the Plan, dated May 24, 2007, was the subject of public meetings conducted by the Committee, for the purpose of soliciting public comment; and

**WHEREAS**, to conform to applicable provisions of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, copies of the Plan were made available to the public, contiguous municipalities, the Montgomery County Planning Commission and the Colonial School District for comment, and all such comments have been considered prior to any action by the Supervisors.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, and it is hereby resolved by the Whitemarsh Township Board of Supervisors that the Plan, as prepared by the Committee and initially dated May 24, 2007, is hereby adopted as the Whitemarsh Township Greenway Plan and shall be dated August 16, 2007.

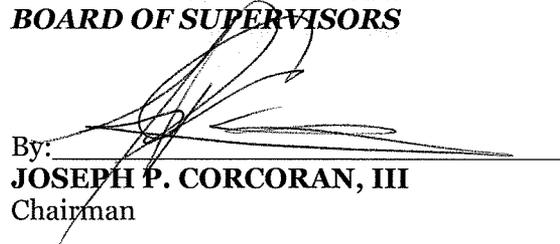
**RESOLVED**, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 2007.

**ATTEST:**



\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHRISTOPHER R. van de VELDE**  
Secretary

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP**  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**



By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**JOSEPH P. CORCORAN, III**  
Chairman