

REGIONAL PLANNING AND INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION

A recurring point in this *Comprehensive Plan* is the need for regional planning and intermunicipal cooperation. Given the potential population and housing growth and associated commercial development anticipated in the Milfrod Planning Area and all of Pike County, and the potential negative effects on the area's small town and *gateway* character, the necessity of intermunicipal cooperation for regional planning is clear. The findings of this *Comprehensive Plan* clearly demonstrate that most issues facing Milford Township and Milford Borough are area wide issues. Each municipality alone cannot adequately address the multitude of issues facing the area. Highway network planning, water supply, sewage disposal, police protection, emergency services, housing, recreation and most other community issues transcend municipal boundaries and can best be addressed from a regional perspective. In order to improve and expand cooperation, it is vital that the two municipalities take a role in promoting regional cooperation.

For example, such cooperation has resulted in the formation of the preparation of this *NCWC Comprehensive Plan*. Continued cooperation with additional municipalities could lead to the formation of a formal planning organization to facilitate area wide planning and land use management. Another good example of intermunicipal cooperation is the Pike County Road Task Force which involves the thirteen local municipalities in the County and PennDOT and has improved state road maintenance.

Benefits of continued cooperation include . . .

- joint materials purchasing
- equipment sharing
- joint code enforcement
- sharing recreation facilities
- winter road maintenance agreements with adjoining townships to reduce travel time
- cooperative zoning