

# The Whitehall Township Industrial and Commercial Development Authority (WTICDA)

## Fall NEWSLETTER 2019

The purpose of this Authority is to foster and promote the development of new, expanded and rehabilitated industrial, commercial, healthcare, manufacturing and research and development enterprises in Whitehall Township as well as its surrounding communities. The Authority has been meeting regularly and is active in achieving its top priorities of communication, collaboration and transparency.

Members of WTICDA attended the 2019 PEDDA Legislative and Advocacy Conference in Harrisburg. Updates to the Board, the EDC and Development Committees included the impact of economic development organizations in the Commonwealth and top legislative priorities for economic development programs in the state budget available through the PA DCED. Governor Tom Wolf proclaimed "Economic Development Week" in PA from April 28-May 4, 2019, and announced it at the conference.

PEDA featured best practices in co-working spaces and small business incubators in the state. In June, WTICDA Board members toured the PEDDA Economic development project of the year, the Stourbridge Project, Wayne County where staff briefed board members on the highly successful project in Honesdale, PA. The project includes co-working spaces for entrepreneurs, incubator space, as well as specialized prototyping equipment including a 3D printer.

The Board also recently discussed the Governor's proposed "Restore PA" initiative which requires legislative approval by the PA General Assembly. Restore PA contains funding for municipalities to clean up blighted properties, site remediation/development, transportation development, flood recovery, and green infrastructure and provides access to broadband in communities where it is lacking, among other items under discussion. The Governor has proposed to fund Restore PA through a severance tax on Marcellus Shale. Senator Lisa Boscola, Reps. Jeannie McNeil and Zach Mako represent the Township in Harrisburg, but a formal vote has not been put forth on the initiative.

Finally, the Township may have possible buyer for the Lehigh Valley Dairy site as announced publicly. The Board looks forward to working with the new owner and the Township, should the deal progress and move forward.

Questions? Email us at [wticda@gmail.com](mailto:wticda@gmail.com) or call us at 484-245-4098.

***DID YOU KNOW?*** Industrial and Commercial Development Authorities have been around in Pennsylvania since 1967, created by Act 102 of 1967. WTICDA was created in 1974!