

A public hearing on the 1989-1993 Lehigh County Capital Plan was held on this date in the Commissioners' Hearing Room #711, Lehigh County Courthouse.

Members present: Commissioners Mohr (Chair), Baker, Newman and Miller.

Also present: Commissioner Eisenhard; James P. Creedon, Director of Planning & Development; Robert Leibv. Director of Lehigh County Agricultural Extension office; Thomas Tilly, Vice-President, Lehigh County Agricultural Extension Board; Jim Morris, citizen and the Press.


Commissioner Mohr noted that this second public hearing on the Lehigh County Capital Plan is to provide a public review of the plan as it is proposed for adoption by the Board of Commissioners. He then requested public input on any projects of specific interest.

Jim Morris, citizen, indicated that the plan, as originally submitted, was an excellent document and that in his opinion the changes recommended by the Planning Committee were improvements to the plan as related to the issues which were of importance to himself. Commissioner Mohr thanked Jim Morris for being in regular attendance at Commissioner meetings and for providing his input.

Tom Tilly, expressing the opinion of the Agricultural Extension Board, noted the Board's interest in having an agricultural office area that would co-locate the various agricultural services provided by governmental agencies within the County. He noted that this would provide more efficient operations as well as better access to the public. Commissioner Mohr responded by noting that the Board of Commissioners agrees with a centralized office concept but remains uncertain if a one story addition to the Cedar Eatery building, as proposed by the Administration, is the most viable and economic concept. He added that by changing the project title to Agricultural Center Alternative Office Space, it would encourage the Administration to seek the best alternatives. He noted that the Administration's original proposal would cost the County, after revenues, approximately \$66,000/year. Mr. Tilly offered his services to the Board, if needed, as a liaison between the Board and the agricultural associations.

Mr. Craig Bartholomew, from the Lehigh County Conservation District, echoed Mr. Tilly's sentiments and urged the Board of Commissioners to keep the project active. Commissioner Mohr stated that the project, as revised, remains in the plan.

On a motion by Commissioner Baker and a second by Commissioner Miller, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.


H. GORDON ROBERTS, Legislative Aide