



Preparing for 145,000 new Lehigh Valley Residents

FEBRUARY 2014

UPCOMING EVENT:

March 24th Envision Consortium Panel Discussion

5:30—8 pm,

Buffett Dinner served

Where are we in the process?

- Hear directly from the consortium members.
- Learn about plans that are finalized and those that are still being developed.
- Veteran's Sanctuary, 24 S. 5th Street, Allentown, Parking on 5th or Hamilton Streets or City Hall Parking Deck. CCC Fowler Family Southside Center 511 East Third Street Bethlehem, PA 6:00 P.M.

Take the EnvisionLV 2014 Sustainability Challenge:

As the reports are being finalized, it's a good time for regular citizens to mobilize for action. Tell us what one thing you are going to do this year to be more sustainable. Let us know at:

smartgrowth@renewlv.org

Where Are We in the EnvisionLV Process?

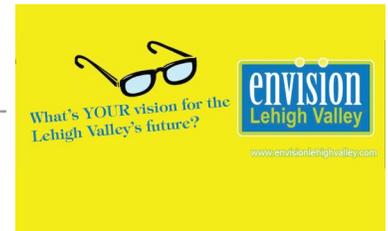
It's hard to believe that it was over two years ago that we began the HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant. We started with the premise: We have an excellent Comprehensive Plan for the Lehigh Valley that met almost every criteria of the HUD definition. With this understanding, the work plan was developed with some key regional partners at the table to further implement the plan and add a few items.

Our partners include:

- Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC)
- Buy Fresh Buy Local of the Lehigh Valley at Nurture Nature Center (BFBL-LVC)
- Lehigh and Northampton Transit Authority (LANta)
- Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges, Lehigh Valley Research Consortium (LVRC)
- City of Allentown
- City of Bethlehem
- City of Easton
- Renew Lehigh Valley
- Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley (CACLV)
- Community Action Development Corporation of Allentown
- Community Action Development Corporation of Bethlehem
- West Ward Neighborhood Partnership
- Lehigh County
- Northampton County

Stay up-to-date on the Envision Lehigh Valley process by going to : envisionlehighvalley.com.

"Like" us on Facebook



How do you Envision Home and Neighborhood?

From October through February LVPC reached out to residents throughout the Lehigh Valley, asking, "How do you envision home?" to develop their new housing plan and jobs/housing balance. Meetings throughout the region welcomed the public to come share their thoughts and ideas about all aspects of housing.

The LVPC Commission is undertaking a Regional Housing Analysis of the Lehigh Valley.

The LVPC plans to utilize this information and other information they collect to update the 2007 document, "An Affordable Housing Assessment of the Lehigh Valley." The LVPC hopes to provide information on the demand for

for residential housing based on household size, age of householder and income level as well as an analysis of demographic trends and projections as it relate to income level and household size.

If you missed the meetings and you still have something that you want to say about housing, you can send a message to ngo@lvpc.org

Check out upcoming events and
give feedback online!
www.envisionlehighvalley.com

Envision Lehigh Valley

Phone: 484-893-1060

E-mail: smartgrowth@renewlv.org

www.envisionlehighvalley.com

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What will the Lehigh Valley be like in 5 years... 10 years... 20 years? Determine the future by choice, not by chance.

Envision Lehigh Valley is a public outreach effort designed to engage the citizens of Northampton and Lehigh Counties to create a truly sustainable Lehigh Valley.

The overall goal of **Envision Lehigh Valley** is to support the existing *Comprehensive Plan... The Lehigh Valley 2030* by creating a sustainable communities plan. Throughout this project, five different plans will be developed that coordinate with our five areas of focus: jobs/housing balance, affordable housing, climate and energy efficiency, fresh food access, and regional economic development. Additionally, the grant supports implementation work through four projects: transit-friendly development by LANta, the Little Lehigh Industrial Corridor in Allentown, the Eastern Gateway in Bethlehem, and the 13th Street Corridor in Easton.

Envision Lehigh Valley welcomes your input. Call us at 484-843-1060 or send an email to smartgrowth@renewlv.org to find out how to get involved.

Engaging the Public in the Discussion of the Future of the Lehigh Valley



The Envision Consortium Partners have challenged the Lehigh Valley to take the "E2014 Envision Lehigh Valley Sustainability Challenge" and find one sustainable action to take this year. RenewLV has been interacting with citizens, updating them on the EnvisionLV process. On January 24th a citizen group calling themselves, Voices of the Valley held a Community Conversation

in Allentown that 30 citizens attended to discuss citizen-led sustainability in the Lehigh Valley.

Dr. Kristin Reihman facilitated the discussion. RenewLV was available to answer questions about the EnvisionLV process and discuss the status of the reports.

What is the next opportunity to get informed and get involved?

In partnership with Voices of the Valley, an EnvisionLV Panel Discussion/Community Conversation will take place 3/24 at 5:30 to 8 pm at the Veteran's Sanctuary at 24 S. 5th Street in Allentown. Find out directly from the consortium partners what the status is of the various plans and engage in the process.

We hope that interested citizens will come together at the panel discussion and be inspired to enact real, positive change for the Lehigh Valley.

RSVP by calling 484-893-1060 or sending an email to smartgrowth@renewlv.org as a buffet dinner will be provided before the panel discussion.

Before you come, review the reports of interest to you at: envisionlehighvalley.com/documents to read the reports

