



NEWS

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RELEASE: October 30, 2015

Montco Receives Two Awards that Exemplify the Best and Brightest in Pennsylvania Planning in 2015

Norristown, PA (October 30, 2015) – The Montgomery County Planning Commission (MCPC) received two prestigious awards from the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA PA) at an October 20, 2015 awards ceremony. According to the APA PA, the awards exemplify the best and brightest in Pennsylvania planning in 2015. Montgomery County’s new comprehensive plan, *Montco 2040: A Shared Vision*, received the 2015 Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan, and the Turnpike Corridor Reinvestment Project received a 2015 Planning Excellence Award-Best Practice. Over 300 people attended the ceremony, which was part of the APA PA annual conference in Pittsburgh.

“These two plans are the result of a dynamic and collaborative planning commission with a focus on plans that make Montgomery County’s economy even more vibrant and lead to creating the best places to live, work, and play for our residents,” said Jody L. Holton, AICP, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Planning Commission.

In awarding *Montco 2040*, the APA PA cited the dynamic two-year community visioning process involved in the plan process as well as all of the research, outreach, marketing, and plan preparation work done by MCPC. The APA PA described the plan as creatively designed and easy to read with an attractive executive summary and marketing literature that introduce the plan to a broader audience.

According to the APA PA, the Daniel Burnham Award is given to a comprehensive plan that advances the science and art of planning and honors America’s most famous planner, Daniel Burnham, for his contributions to the planning profession and to a greater awareness of the benefits of good planning. In addition to this state award, *Montco 2040: A Shared Vision* has received a national award from the

American Planning Association (APA) as well as awards from the Greater Valley Forge Transportation Management Association (GVF) and The Partnership TMA (PTMA).

The Turnpike Corridor Reinvestment Project received an award in recognition of the holistic combination of transportation design with economic development and land use planning to promote the revitalization of seven older suburban business parks located along the Pennsylvania Turnpike that lack access. This project created a new land use vision for each business park, reflecting emerging business opportunities and needs, and a design for new turnpike interchange ramps at all seven business parks. The project made a persuasive business case, including cost and revenue projections, for the turnpike to invest in the new access areas. The award cites that the project's plan document provides clear and compelling maps, design concepts, and talking points supporting the proposals.

Montco 2040 is available at www.montcopa.org/Montco2040, and information on the Turnpike Corridor Reinvestment Project, including the corresponding study, is available at www.montcopa.org/TurnpikeCorridorProject. For more information, please contact Rita McKelvey at 610-278-3753 or via email at rmckelve@montcopa.org.