



# NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 16, 2016**

## **Montco 2040 Implementation Grant Program Offers \$1 Million in 2017 Cycle**

**Norristown, PA (December 16, 2016)** – The Montgomery County Commissioners approved \$1 million for the second cycle of the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant Program. The program is intended to assist municipalities in making targeted physical improvements that achieve real progress toward the goals of the County’s comprehensive plan, *Montco 2040: A Shared Vision*.

“This grant program provides the opportunity for municipalities to advance and build projects, such as parks, sidewalks, public art projects, and green infrastructure, which improve our communities and raise Montgomery County’s quality of life,” said Jody L. Holton, AICP, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Planning Commission.

The program will be administered similarly to 2016, with another \$1,000,000 available on a competitive grant basis for municipalities and their partners, but with one important change in 2017. Applications will no longer be reviewed and awarded on a rolling basis. A deadline of March 1, 2017 is the important date to submit applications for projects that are ready to go for round one of funding. There will also be a second round opportunity to apply by July 1, 2017, but that round will be dependent on funding still remaining after the first round.

The program, initiated in 2016 with annual allocations expected over the next five years, successfully awarded 14 projects totaling \$1.24 million in 2016, with the final two projects awarded at yesterday’s Board of Commissioners meeting. The first was a \$42,500 grant to the Upper Perkiomen Region headed by East Greenville to implement a wayfinding and identity program that will install 65 signs across the region. The second was a \$200,000 grant to Lower Merion Township supporting Phase 2 of a multimillion dollar roadway and streetscape project that will improve pedestrian and vehicular travel across a 1.4-mile stretch of the busy corridor separating

Montgomery County and Philadelphia.

“The program focuses on supporting local projects that make Montgomery County a great place to live, work, and raise a family,” said Dr. Val Arkoosh, Chair of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners. “These projects specifically further the goals of *Montco 2040* and its themes of Connected Communities, Sustainable Places, and Vibrant Economy.” While the program is open to a wide array of projects fitting within the comprehensive plan, there are specific focus categories announced each year that highlight recent County planning initiatives.

In 2017, these focus categories will correspond to *Walk Montco and Bike Montco* (trails, paths, sidewalk connections, and bike facilities), Support of Downtowns and Community Destinations, and Revitalization of Office and Business Parks.

Visit [www.montcopa.org/Montco2040GrantProgram](http://www.montcopa.org/Montco2040GrantProgram) for program details, a brochure that provides information on eligible projects, complete guidelines for the 2017 cycle along with application forms and instructions, and to view the 2016 grant recipients.

For more information on the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant Program, please contact Scott France Scott France, AICP, Section Chief of County Planning, at 610-278- 3747 or via email [sfrance@montcopa.org](mailto:sfrance@montcopa.org).