

ORDINANCE NO. 2001 - 01

**ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CREATION OF A
POTTSTOWN AREA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

The Board of Supervisors of Douglass Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania hereby adopts an Ordinance establishing the Pottstown Area Regional Planning Commission as follows:

Section 1. Creation, Membership, and Terms

Douglass Township shall join with the municipalities of Pottstown Borough, West Pottsgrove Township, Upper Pottsgrove Township, Lower Pottsgrove Township, Upper Hanover Township, and North Coventry Township to create the Pottstown Area Regional Planning Commission as per the guidelines set forth under Article XI of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247 as amended August 2000. Each participating municipality shall appoint two members. The term of each member shall be two years. Qualification of members, the removal of members, the conduct of business, etc., shall be governed by Article II of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

Section 2. Purpose

The seven municipalities of the Pottstown area have come to recognize that the issues associated with growth and development, such as, but not limited to, traffic congestion, air and water pollution, and loss of open space, are too large for any one municipality to deal with. They further recognize that current growth, and anticipated growth, if not properly managed will lead to the dimmution of the region's quality of life. They are concerned that current zoning requirements which call for each and every municipality to provide for a full range of uses,

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regardless of historic development patterns, is inefficient and potentially destructive to the region's economic and social structure.

To this end, the seven municipalities of the Pottstown area hereby embark on a course of action to implement regional planning. Douglass Township empowers the Pottstown Area Regional Planning Commission to undertake the development of a Joint Municipal Comprehensive Plan that shall encompass the seven municipalities of the Pottstown Area.

Section 3. Powers and Duties

The Pottstown Area Regional Planning Commission shall have the responsibility to prepare a Joint Municipal Comprehensive Plan for the seven participating municipalities of the Pottstown Area. To this end, the powers and duties of the Commission are as follows:

- A. To prepare a Joint Municipal Comprehensive Plan pursuant to Article XI of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.
- B. That in the preparation of the Joint Municipalities Comprehensive Plan, the members of the Commission shall represent the interests of their respective municipalities, and shall cast one vote per municipality on all matters that require action.
- C. The recommendation of the Commission shall be advisory only.

Section 4. Withdrawal

Any participating municipality may withdraw from the Regional Planning Commission after six months formal notice. Upon receiving notice that a municipality wishes to withdraw from the Regional Planning Commission, the governing bodies of the remaining municipalities wish to continue with the Regional Planning Commission.

Section 5. Severability

The provisions of this Ordinance are severable and if any section, sentence, clause, part or provision hereof shall be held illegal invalid, or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision of the court shall not affect or impair the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, parts or provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of this Board that this Ordinance would have still been adopted even if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional section, sentence, clause, part or provision had not been included herein.

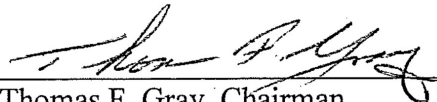
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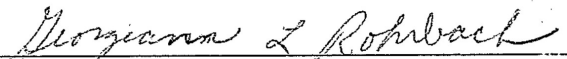
Section 6. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall be effective upon its enactment by all the participating municipalities.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Douglass Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, this 5th day of March, 2001.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP

By: 
Thomas F. Gray, Chairman

Attest: 
Georgeann L. Rohrbach, Secretary

Kenneth E. Picardi, Esquire, Solicitor