East Lampeter Township

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East Lampeter Township launches another element in efforts to revitalize Lincoln Highway Public hearing to be held June 2

A more vibrant, attractive and successful business community is the goal of a new Business Improvement District (BID) being proposed along the Route 30 corridor by East Lampeter Township.

As part of the Lincoln Highway Streetscape plan, the proposed BID would engage local businesses with the township to invest in the appeal and functionality of the corridor through projects such as regional branding and streetscape enhancements. These investments would be part of efforts to transform Route 30 from an everyday commercial corridor to one that is more inviting and welcoming to residents and visitors.

"The Lincoln Highway is a gateway for all that Lancaster County has to offer, from shopping, to arts, to entertainment," said Ethan Demme, chair of the East Lampeter Township Board of Supervisors. "The proposed Business Improvement District will give business owners in this community the tools to work together to create a stronger sense of identity, boost economic success and enhance the quality of life."

Under the proposed plan, the BID would generally include commercial, for-profit entities along Route 30 from the Lincoln Highway/Route 30 juncture at its western end to Route 896 on its eastern end. Tax-exempt and residential properties are not included in the BID. A more detailed map of the proposed BID can be found at <u>lincolnhwylancaster.bid</u>.

The Township would establish an BID Authority to oversee the BID, including budgeting and implementation of services and projects. The BID Authority Board, composed of representatives from the businesses and property owners within the District, would be responsible for making all major decisions regarding the BID, including which projects to fund and how the budget is allocated. The BID Authority Board would also determine a special assessment on commercial properties within the district on an annual basis, with revenues generated funding the BID's work.

"Over the past five years, our local businesses have navigated an unprecedented wave of economic shifts," said East Lampeter Township Manager Ralph Hutchison. "In this everchanging landscape, the Township wants to engage our partners in the Lincoln Highway Lancaster corridor so that together, we can make sure they have the support they need to thrive and flourish today, tomorrow and into the future."

More information, including the preliminary plan for the BID, can be found at <u>www.eastlampetertownship.org</u> or <u>lincolnhwylancaster.bid</u>. East Lampeter Township will hold a public hearing on the preliminary plan on Monday, June 2, at 7 p.m. at the Township building at 2250 Old Philadelphia Pike, Lancaster.

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