# **Energy Management:**How Can Municipalities Lead the Way?

Liz Compitello, DVRPC

## Sustain the Environment Expand the Economy

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Develop a more energy-efficient economy



#### Why do Municipalities Plan for Energy?

- Manage Operational Costs
- Lead by Example
- Enhance Public Safety
- Economic Development
  - (Regulations guide private development)



### Barriers to Energy Planning

- Where do I start?
- Who do I trust?
- What solutions are right for me?
- How do I pay for it?
- How do I convince my elected officials this is a good idea?
- Are there any low- or no-cost measures that we can implement now?
- How do I track the progress of implementing these measures?













#### The value of regional cooperation

- Helps decision making process
  - Peer learning
  - Confidence building
  - Standardization of projects
- Helps lower cost
  - Pooled procurement
  - Pooled finance
  - Share technical resources
  - Leverage power
- Helps improve the outcome
  - Pooled technical expertise

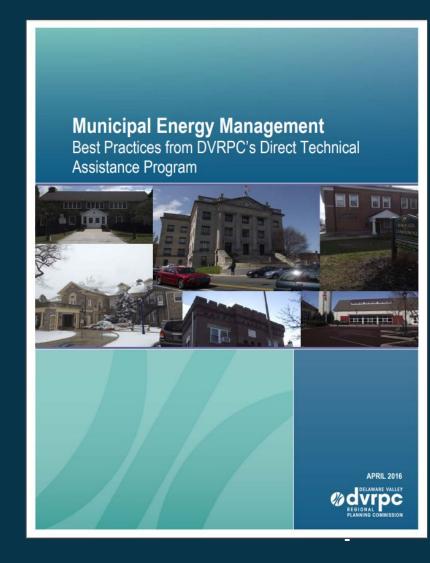


Source: DVRPC



#### **DVRPC Circuit Rider Prorgam**

- Seminar Series
  - Outdoor Lighting
  - Indoor Lighting
  - Water/Wastewater
  - Buildings
- Direct Technical Assistance
  - Hands on Energy Assessments
  - Peer Learning
  - Implementation Guidance



#### **Solar Work**

- Regional Guidance on
  - Zoning for Solar
  - Permitting for Solar
  - Engaging the Utility
- SolSmart Designation Program
  - Designation means you are "open for business"
  - 8 communities in SEPA
  - Free TA available through DOE





#### Regional Streetlight Procurement Program

35 municipalities in southeastern PA pooled their decision making and purchasing power to access energy performance contracting, finance, and technical assistance to convert their entire street lighting systems to LED.



>26,000 streetlights, etc, converted to LED



\$16 million net savings over 20 years



10.6 million kWh saved annually



5,500 metric tons of CO2e reduced annually

#### **Future Project Ideas**

- More Pooled Procurement
- More regional ordinance guidance
  - Municipal lighting ordinances (TCDI?)
  - Large scale solar



#### **Today's Energy Panelists**

- Phoenixville Borough (Chester County, PA)
  - Jean Krack, Borough Manager
    - RSLPP
    - Circuit Rider participant
    - On their own solar ordinance
- Media Borough (Delaware County, PA)
  - Karen Taussig Lux, Grants Administrator
    - RSLPP
    - Delaware County Energy Smart Program
    - Designated as a SolSmart community



