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NEWS

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For Immediate Release

LANCASTER PROSPERS KICK-OFF

The Economic Development Company of Lancaster County and EDC Finance Corporation (collectively “EDC”) today announced the formation and kick-off of **Lancaster Prospers** (www.edclancaster.com/lancasterprospers), a community-wide economic development planning effort. The organizations also announced that the Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness had been retained to help facilitate this process.

Lancaster Prospers is an effort to pursue the creation of a County-wide economic development strategy that attempts to aim the many participants in the economic and community development arena toward some set of common goals. EDC’s own Strategic Planning Steering Committee spent much of 2002 reviewing economic development efforts throughout Lancaster County. It learned that economic and community development in Lancaster County have become fragmented as more and more organizations have ventured into the field.

EDC decided that during 2003, it would help to explore how the many local entities involved in economic development (from schools to boroughs to lending groups. . .) could better coordinate their efforts toward a set of common County-wide economic development goals. The Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC) at George Mason University was hired to facilitate this effort—helping to focus community and economic development thinking toward the key issues that must be addressed as a community. Ken Poole, president and CEO of CREC, will lead the consulting team that will work with local leaders to develop a vision for

the Lancaster economy. Mr. Poole recently participated in similar projects in Roanoke, VA and Hickory, NC.

LancasterProspers will include the following Steering Committee and Planning Committee members:

LancasterProspers Steering Committee:

Timothy W. Peters, co-chair	Chairman & CEO – Warfel Construction Company
Alexander Henderson III, co-chair	Partner – Hartman Underhill & Brubaker
Thomas T. Baldrige	President – The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry
John H. Rose	CFO – Horst Group
R. Scott Smith, Jr.	President and COO – Fulton Financial Corporation
Paul Thibault	Commissioner – County of Lancaster
David K. Nikoloff	Executive Director – EDC
John W. Biemiller	Assistant Director – EDC
Jean K. Carroll	Office & Systems Administrator – EDC

LancasterProspers Planning Committee:

Gibson E. Armstrong	Senator – Pennsylvania Senate
Ronald T. Bailey	Director – Lancaster County Planning Commission
Daniel Betancourt	Executive Director – Community First Fund
Michael W. Brubaker	President – The Brubaker Corporation
Frank Christoffel III	Executive Director – Lancaster County Association of Realtors
Nevin D. Cooley	President – High Real Estate Group

Dr. Michael Curley	Executive Director – Lancaster County Career and Technology Center
Thomas P. Dautrich	President – Bank of Lancaster County
James Deitch	President – American Home Bank
Julianne Dickson	President – State Farm Insurance
Ronald Ford	Commissioner – County of Lancaster
John A. Fry	President – Franklin & Marshall College
Lowell Fry	Vice President – Fulton Bank
Carlos Graupera	Executive Director – Spanish American Civic Association
Terry Kauffman	Manager – Mount Joy Borough
David R. Keller	Partner – Barley Snyder
Jessica H. May	President – National Bearings Company
Francine McNairy	President Designate – Millersville University
Wendy Nagle	President – Pennsylvania Dutch Convention and Visitors Bureau
G. William Ruhl	CEO – D&E Communications
Dr. Carol Saylor	Superintendent – Manheim Central School District
Scott Sheely	Executive Director – Lancaster County Workforce Investment Board
Charlie Smithgall	Mayor – City of Lancaster
Jim Smucker	President – Bird-In-Hand Corporation
Philip R. Wenger	President – Isaac’s Restaurants
Michael J. Winn	Senior Vice President – R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company
Michael A. Young	President – Lancaster General Hospital

Consultants/Facilitators:

Kenneth J. Poole	President – Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness
Erik R. Pages	President – Entrenworks
Yasmin T. Bordas	Project Manager – Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness

Following the Spring Primary, Lancaster Prospers will invite the four County Commissioner candidates to join the effort as Ex-Officio Members, as they will be part of the future implementation of the plan.

For more information contact EDC at (717) 397-4046.

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