



DR. CHRISTOPHER R. AMATO  
Chair

CHRISTINA V. MORGAN  
Vice Chair

ARMANDO MORITZ-CHAPELLIQUEN  
Treasurer

BECKY A. BRADLEY, AICP  
Executive Director

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
Tuesday, September 23, 2025, 10:30 AM  
AGENDA

THE MEETING CAN BE ACCESSED AT <http://www.tinyurl.com/LVPC2025> OR VIA PHONE  
610-477-5793 Conf ID: 651 626 091#.

Roll Call

Courtesy of the Floor

Committee Business:

1. *ACTION ITEM*: Lehigh County Authority Preliminary Capital Plans – Allentown and Suburban Divisions 2026-2030 (CR)
2. *ACTION ITEM*: Pennsylvania Utility Commission Review - Comcast Underground Cable Installation at Lehigh Drive - City of Easton, Northampton County (CR)
3. *INFORMATION ITEM*: Regional Climate Action Plan for the Greater Lehigh Valley (CM)
4. *INFORMATION ITEM*: Lehigh Valley Trail Connection Strategy Progress Update (CM/EG)
5. *INFORMATION ITEM*: Lehigh Valley Watershed Conference (DK)
  - a. Date and Time: Tuesday, October 14 from 7:30 am – 4:30 pm
  - b. Location: Ben Franklin TechVentures at Lehigh University Mountaintop Campus – 116 Research Drive, Bethlehem, PA 18015
  - c. Information and Registration: <https://watershedcoalitionlv.org/lehigh-valley-watershed-conference/>

Next Environment Committee Meeting  
October 21, 2025, 10:30 AM

## Project Review Summary Sheet

Environment Committee

Date: September 2025

Project	Municipality	Statement of Purpose	LVPC Comment
Lehigh County Authority - Preliminary Capital Plan (2026-2030)	ALLENTOWN DIVISION	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Water</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Schantz Spring Water Treatment Upgrades:</b> Perform a study and design for the treatment of the raw water at Schantz Spring due to preliminary evaluations indicating the source may be groundwater under direct influence of surface water (GUDI). If source is designated as GUDI, treatment is required.</li> <li>• <b>City Leak Detection Program</b> Installation of leak loggers and pressure sensors in strategic locations throughout the City water system to improve leak detection monitoring capability. The data obtained through this effort will be used to target and prioritize system repairs and main replacements.</li> <li>• <b>City Annual Water Main Replacements:</b> Review of the lease agreement program was performed by LCA and the City in 2024, where approval was given by the City that allows for the continuation of annual replacement of one mile of water main starting in 2025 up to and including 2028. Replacement of 4 miles of water main to be replaced by 2028 (one mile per year).</li> <li>• <b>WFP Facility Electrical Upgrades:</b> Electrical upgrades at the City Water Filtration Plant such as a main switchgear, 480v zone house and substation, as existing equipment has reached the end of its useful life.</li> <li>• <b>WFP Little Lehigh Intake Modifications:</b> Replacement of the Little Lehigh 1953 intake structure as well as a new screening building and mechanical screen.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Wastewater</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>WWTP OCU #24 Building Replacement:</b> Replacement of Odor Control Unit #24 building due to the existing OCU building being in poor condition and requires replacement to protect odor control equipment and ensure regulatory compliance.</li> <li>• <b>WWTP Facility Electrical Upgrades:</b> Replacement of electrical equipment throughout the facility, specifically the aging Motor Control Centers (MCCs) as the equipment has reached the end of its service life.</li> <li>• <b>WWTP Effluent Pump Station Upgrades:</b> Replacement of the existing effluent pumps and electrical equipment at the effluent pump station to provide adequate capacity during peak wet weather events. With the proposed 100 MGD hydraulic capacity upgrades, the effluent pump station will require all five pumps to be in operation to convey high flows of 100 MGD. These upgrades are recommended to provide redundancy during high flow conditions.</li> </ul>	Evaluating/providing system improvements to provide safe, reliable and efficient service supports <i>FutureLV</i> : The Regional Plan actions to 'improve the utility and mobility infrastructure of the region' and 'integrate efficiency measures and emerging technologies' (of Policy 1.1) and 'protect the quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater' (of Policy 3.2).

## Project Review Summary Sheet

Environment Committee

Date: September 2025

Project	Municipality	Statement of Purpose	LVPC Comment
Lehigh County Authority - Preliminary Capital Plan (2026-2030)	SUBURBAN DIVISION	<p><u>Water</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SD Water Small Systems Generator Replacement:</b> A multi-year project that focuses on LCA owned small water systems that presently have an existing generator that has reached the end of its service life or that do not have backup power.</li> <li>• <b>Suburban Leak Detection Program:</b> Installation of leak loggers and pressure sensors in strategic locations throughout LCA Suburban water system to improve leak detection monitoring capability. The data obtained through this effort will be used to target and prioritize system repairs and main replacements.</li> <li>• <b>Suburban Lead Service Inventory Program:</b> Investigation of water service materials in LCA Suburban water system to identify and inventory lead pipe on the public and private sides.</li> </ul> <p><u>Wastewater</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pretreatment Plant Long Term Upgrade/Replacement:</b> This project assumes only 3 major industries are participating in the pretreatment replacement (Keurig/Dr.Pepper, Sunopta and Coca-Cola). Boston Beer and Ocean Spray will treat their wastewater on-site with their own facilities and bypass the PTP via existing sewer interceptors to Kline's Island WWTP. A portion or all of the domestic water from Upper Macungie Township will also bypass the PTP via existing sewer interceptors. The upgraded or new plant will continue to treat hauled-in waste; however, overall loadings will be greatly reduced. The replacement/upgraded treatment plant alternatives assume the abandonment of the existing cryogenic (pure oxygen) plant. Upgraded processes include: new hauled waste receiving station, new solids dewatering and conveyance equipment, new solids load-out equipment and aeration basin conversion from pure oxygen to ambient air.</li> <li>• <b>Spring Creek Pump Station Upgrades:</b> Upgrades consist of an in-kind replacement of the three 230 HP submersible pumps which have reached the end of their useful service life.</li> </ul>	<p>Evaluating/providing system improvements to provide safe, reliable and efficient service supports <i>FutureLV</i> actions to 'improve the utility and mobility infrastructure of the region' and 'integrate efficiency measures and emerging technologies' (of Policy 1.1) and 'protect the quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater' (of Policy 3.2).</p>

## Project Review Summary Sheet

Environment Committee

Date: September 2025

Project	Municipality	Statement of Purpose	LVPC Comment
Lehigh County Authority - Preliminary Capital Plan (2026-2030)	SUBURBAN DIVISION	<p><b>Wastewater Continued</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Signatory I&amp;I Investigation &amp; Remediation Program:</b> Project efforts in 2026 include the planning for a new LCA Meter Station 4, continued temporary flow metering and manhole rehab as needed and finalizing plans for the existing Western Lehigh Interceptor (WLI) rehab from Spring Creek Pump Station to Park Pump Station. Preliminary work on the proposed parallel WLI is anticipated to start. Ongoing lateral tap grouting Phase 2 project work for Upper Macungie and Upper Milford Townships are also included in this effort.</li> <li>• <b>Lynn Township WWTP Improvements:</b> In 2025, a second final clarifier was constructed to provide redundancy and improve plant performance. Future projects include aeration tank rehabilitation, chlorine contact tank relocation, operations performance optimization and asset management driven upgrades.</li> <li>• <b>SD Wastewater Small Systems Generator Replacement:</b> A multi-year project that is focused on LCA owned small systems that presently have an existing generator that is at the end of its service life or do not have back up power.</li> </ul>	<p>Evaluating/providing system improvements to provide safe, reliable and efficient service supports <i>FutureLV</i> actions to 'improve the utility and mobility infrastructure of the region' and 'integrate efficiency measures and emerging technologies' (of Policy 1.1) and 'protect the quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater' (of Policy 3.2).</p>



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September xx, 2025

**VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Michael B. Scheib, CBSI  
Rail Safety Division-Engineering Section  
Bureau of Technical Utility Services  
Email: [micscheib@pa.gov](mailto:micscheib@pa.gov)

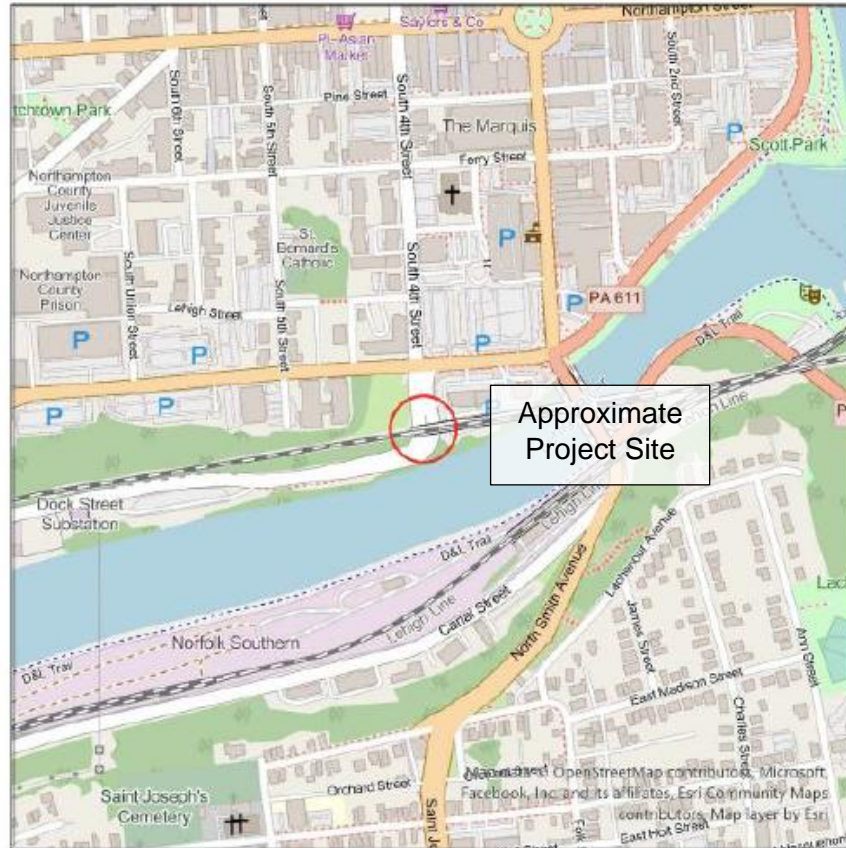
**Re: *Application of Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC to Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission for approval to alter the public crossing (DOT 943 781 N) by the installation of an underground coaxial cable within a 2-inch HDPE conduit where State Route 2026 (Lehigh Drive) crosses, below grade, the tracks of Belvidere & Delaware River Railway located in the City of Easton, Northampton County***

Dear Mr. Scheib,

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) Environment Committee and Full Commission reviewed the subject application to the Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission (PUC) at its meetings of September 23, 2025 and September 25, 2025. The application proposes installation new underground communications facilities located at Lehigh Drive in the City of Easton at the road's crossing under a railroad bridge of the Belvidere & Delaware River Railway Company as shown in the image below.

Comcast proposes to place one (1) 3' x 3' entry/receiving pit and one (1) 2" HDPE Conduit holding one (1) .625 coaxial cable. Comcast proposes to trench 14', tunneling beneath the curb on Lehigh Drive to prevent damage on the north side of the railroad bridge and trench 8', tunneling beneath the curb on Lehigh Drive, south of the railroad bridge. Railroad facilities will not be disturbed during construction of the coaxial cable and entry/receiving pits. Construction is anticipated to take one (1) day to complete. The installation of the new facility will be used to boost and extend Comcast Cable's service in the immediate and surrounding area.





The project is located in an area identified for Development in the General Land Use Plan of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* and aligns with *FutureLV* by advancing the expansion of broadband internet infrastructure in an urban area (of Policy 2.5). The proposal helps improve the utility infrastructure of the region and minimizes impacts of development (of Policies 1.1 and 3.2).

Please feel free to contact me with any questions about this review.

Sincerely,

Susan Myerov, AICP  
Director of Environmental Planning

cc: Peter Koorie, City of Easton  
Tabatha Smith, Americomm, LLC