



Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

# newsletter

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## Annual traffic count & highway segment inventory conducted by LVPC

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The LVPC annually conducts approximately 100 traffic counts throughout Lehigh and Northampton counties under a contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). Statewide, approximately 8,000 traffic counts are performed annually. These counts are useful in monitoring traffic flows, determining traffic background growth rates, calibrating the regional travel demand forecasting model, projecting future traffic volumes, determining road design, allocating federal funds, determining priorities for improvement projects, assessing air quality impacts, and maintaining congestion management systems. In addition, commercial realtors and developers utilize the data for marketing properties.

In 2014, the LVPC conducted traffic counts at 46 locations in Lehigh County and 49 locations in Northampton County. Of those regional traffic counts, the U.S. 22 cor-

ridor between MacArthur Road and 5<sup>th</sup> Street recorded the largest annual average daily traffic (AADT) of 79,070.

In addition, staff inventoried 182 highway segments under the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) program, compiling data on physical roadway characteristics throughout the region. This annual data reporting helps support the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in providing information to Congress for the development of national highway programs and policies. At the state level, this data informs the allocation of highway funds and updates highway data resources used by PennDOT, state Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), engineers and the general public to more effectively plan and execute transportation infrastructure improvements.