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FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSIONER NAMED TO SPC LEADERSHIP

Uniontown, PA – Fayette County Commissioner Vince Vicites has been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC).

With more than 60 members, including an executive committee on which Vicites has served for 10 years, the SPC is a cooperative forum for regional collaboration, planning and public decision-making, focused on transportation; development; information systems and more.

Vicites, who was sworn in during a December meeting, has been part of the SPC for more than 15 years.

"It is a great honor to be selected by my fellow county commissioners in the 10-county region and the City of Pittsburgh to be in the leadership of a Metropolitan Planning Organization," Vicites said.

During his tenure, Vicites has worked successfully with his colleagues to secure funding for a myriad of local projects - most notably \$60 million for the new Masontown Bridge Construction in 2010, with discretionary funding from the Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation.

"I was also able to convince my commissioner colleagues to advance the Mon-Fayette Expressway project to completion in Pittsburgh, after it had been tabled at a prior SPC meeting in 2017," Vicites said.

According to the SPC's website, the commission operates with public involvement and trust to develop plans and programs for public investments; and fulfill federal and state requirements for transportation, economic development and local government assistance programs.

As the Southwestern Pennsylvania region's official MPO, SPC directs the use of state and federal transportation and economic development funds allocated to the region - approximately \$35 billion through 2045. In addition to Fayette County, membership includes the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Green, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

Vicites will spend the next two years as third in command of the commission, behind only the chairperson and vice-chair. He hopes the office will allow him to better position Fayette County for growth and opportunities.

"I'm most looking forward to getting involved in the planning of all transportation and infrastructure projects in Southwestern Pennsylvania and making sure Fayette County gets its fair share of the funding, in order to maximize our transportation and infrastructure projects locally," Vicites said.

For more information on the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, visit <u>www.spcregion.org</u>.

To learn more about Fayette County, visit www.FayetteCountyPA.org.

This communication is part of the Fayette County PR Initiative, which is funded through the Fayette County Local Share Account (LSA) and Hotel Tax Grants in cooperation with the Fayette County Board of Commissioners, Fayette Chamber of Commerce, The Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette, The Redstone Foundation and other partners. This funding has been designated for the continued promotion and marketing of Fayette County, PA.

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