



*A Pennsylvania Local Development District*

## PRESS RELEASE

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**For Immediate Release**

### **Ellwood City Borough Receives Municipal Technology Assistance Grant**

Ellwood City received a \$1,000 grant from the Northwest Commission's Municipal Technology Assistance Program (MTAP) at a check presentation held at the Ellwood City Borough Office on Friday May 23. The grant will be used for internet access and website development. These grants help the local governments develop effective user friendly websites. The funds can also be used to help the local governments attain broadband connectivity to better serve the residents in the region.

Dom Viccari, Borough Manager for Ellwood City was presented with a check from the Northwest Commission's Executive Director Denise McCloskey. Other attendees of the event included Representative Jaret Gibbons, Lawrence County Commissioner Richard DeBlasio, and Randy Rice the Director of Community Development for the Northwest Commission.

The Municipal Technology Assistance Program works with local governments in the eight-county region to offer specialized technology training on a variety of Microsoft programs such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and QuickBooks applications. In addition, the MTAP offers grants annually to help with the technology upgrades for local governments. This year the MTAP awarded eight grants to local governments in six counties including Ellwood City Borough in Lawrence County.

Denise McCloskey, Executive Director for the Northwest Commission, said, "It brings the Northwest Commission great pleasure in granting \$1,000 to further develop technology resources in Ellwood City." She continued by saying that the MTAP's specialized training and grant program helps to improve the quality of life in the region because it brings faster more reliable service to the residents in the area.

For more information on the Municipal Technology Assistance Program, please contact Thomas Sanchez at 814.677.4800 x109, or at thomass@nwcommission.org.

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Established in 1967, the Northwest Commission is a regional resource for business and economic development as well as community development and planning. The non-profit agency is composed of a team of skilled professionals dedicated to sustaining economic vitality and growth in the northwest Pennsylvania region by fostering local, state, and federal partnerships across public and private sector lines. The Northwest Commission provides programs such as business financing, government contracting, international marketing, grants, transportation, and technology assistance to eight counties in northwest Pennsylvania including: Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, and Warren.

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