



### **WCIDC Acquires 206 acres in Sewickley Township**

GREENSBURG, PA, April 24, 2018 - The Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation (WCIDC) Board of Directors, Gina Cerilli, Ted Kopas, and Charles W. Anderson, announced today the acquisition of 206 acres in Sewickley Township from Westinghouse Electric Company.

The property will be developed into the county's newest industrial park, Commerce Crossing at Westmoreland. The park will consist of five parcels, each ranging in size from 20 to 40 acres. Commerce Crossing at Westmoreland will accommodate the need companies have for pad-ready sites with direct access to active rail and the interstate highway system.

"There is great demand right now for large pad-ready sites," said WCIDC Chairman Gina Cerilli. "Commerce Crossing at Westmoreland will not only address this need, but it will also cater to the petrochemical, manufacturing, and logistics industries that demand access to interstate and rail service infrastructure."

Currently, Westmoreland County's park system consists of 18 strategically located industrial/business parks, including a state-of-the-art rail freight terminal.

"Investment in our park system continues to be vital to the success of the county," said WCIDC Vice Chairman Ted Kopas. "Our parks house 145 companies who employ well over 8,000 workers and bring in over \$5.8 million in tax revenue annually. This site offers tremendous opportunity for development, and with a thousand jobs expected, I am excited to see the economic benefits Commerce Crossing at Westmoreland brings to Westmoreland County."

Originally envisioned in 2012, the project faced the significant challenge of extending required infrastructure and specifically public sewage to the site to serve both the Westinghouse-Waltz Mill site and the Commerce Crossing site. Nearly \$3 million in improvements was supported by a \$2.2 million PennWorks grant through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) and the Department of Community and Economic Development. The WCIDC made the remaining investment.

"We have to acknowledge that none of this would be possible without Governor Wolf's immense support," said WCIDC Secretary Charles W. Anderson. "Projects of this magnitude need strong partnerships, and we need to particularly thank the Department of Community and Economic Development, state Sen. Kim Ward, and state Rep. Justin Walsh for supporting this project and helping to secure funding."

The next phase of the project is finalizing permitting, followed by infrastructure work and land site development. The WCIDC received a \$1 million grant from Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program, in addition to a \$3.8 million grant and \$5.8 million loan through the Business in Our Sites program to support the work. This phase will include road widening and reconstruction, pad development and related costs to improve the site.

“This unique project shows Westmoreland County is at the forefront helping bring new business to the area,” said Sen. Kim Ward. “It will not only bring new opportunities to Westmoreland County but also the region.”

“This industrial park is another sign Westmoreland County is open for business and positioned for growth and development,” said Rep. Justin Walsh. “I’m pleased I was able to assist with securing state grants and loans to help with this important project, which will bring more family-sustaining jobs to our community. By growing the economy of not just Westmoreland County, but the region, we are investing in our future and letting our young people know opportunities exist here at home once they complete school.”

The WCIDC has been working closely with Sewickley Township on finishing the permitting process. During the final phase of the development, WCIDC will make improvements to Tomajko Road and install site utilities.

“There isn’t a downside to this project,” said Sewickley Township Supervisors Chairman Joe Kerber. “From partnering with the county to help bring new employment opportunities, to working with the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County on the public sewage plan; Sewickley Township will benefit greatly from this project.”

**About:**

Founded in 1983 by the Westmoreland County Board of Commissioners, the **Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation** implements a comprehensive economic development strategy to promote growth in terms of job creation, economic output and a stable tax base for Westmoreland County. Through the development of a county-wide industrial park system, a responsive Business Calling Program and involvement in public/private partnerships, WCIDC strives to foster business growth, resulting in job opportunities for the citizens of Westmoreland County.

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