



## Planning Commission reviews industrial park data



The Amity Township Planning Commission have gotten a glimpse at what a township industrial park on Limekiln Road might look like.

The township is studying the feasibility of and developing ordinances for Western Industrial Park, which is proposed for a 311-acre site north of Amity Park Road.

Planning architect Ray Ott of West Chester showed commission members site maps, statistics and the types of industries that might be drawn to the location. The latter included restaurants, clothing retailers, offices, emergency services providers, mills and textile companies.

Ott, who was hired by the supervisors in August, noted a lack of sites ready for light industry in Berks County.

"When the economy comes back, we need to be ready with sufficient infrastructure to attract these businesses," Ott said.

According to estimates, the industrial park might cost more than \$308 million to build but could create as many as 4,000 jobs and bring more than \$6 million in annual revenue for the school district alone.

That has been the idea all along, township Supervisor Robert R. Yanos said later.

"The township might only stand to break even with this, but the schools will benefit and that's the important thing," he said.

Ott said the next steps would be working with Exeter Township and St. Lawrence to get the regional comprehensive plan changed and rezoning the area to allowed mixed uses.

- By Keith Smoker