

Borough of Olyphant

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Project Managers: Norbert Kosciuk and Bob Durkin

Grant Award: \$5,000

The Queen City Train Station Site Development project was undertaken through a community partnership with Olyphant Borough and the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority (LHVA). The work accomplished with forestry funds represents Phase II of the project. The first phase focused on building the train station in the heart of Olyphant’s Central Business District.

Forestry efforts concentrated on greening the small site with low, urban-tolerant plantings of flowering perennials, groundcovers, and shrubs. A small roadway triangle and borough building entrance planting was also completed.

The improvements resulted in an attractive park-like setting at a critical gateway into this small main street community that serves as a showcase of the benefits of urban forestry to thousands of residents and travelers. The site is maintained by the Borough as part of its municipal park system. The Olyphant Business Association is responsible for special cleanups and decorating the site in conjunction with community events.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$5,000
Cash Contributions	\$32,932
In-kind Contributions	\$13,502
Total Project Cost	\$51,434



Significant Revisions to Scope of Work

Due to the presence of underground utilities along the main street corridor, grant resources were redirected to greenspace improvements at Station Park and the Borough Hall. In addition, a local landscape firm offered in-kind site design but did not fulfill this obligation. As a result, the program provided technical assistance in site design and the development of bid documents.

Project Accomplishments

- Planted 44 shrubs, 113 perennials and 43 ground cover species.
- Planted 33 additional shrubs at two borough locations.
- Supported “*The Lackawanna Heritage Master Plan.*”
- Achieved a 1 to 9.29 cost share ratio for the grant.

Partners' Contributions

Acker Associates – Survey services

LHVA – Technical and financial services

National Park Service - \$13,016 for site work

Olyphant Borough Solicitor’s Office – Bid document review

Olyphant Business Association – Site care

Olyphant Maintenance Department – Labor and machinery

Springwood Group – Station site design

