

An aerial photograph of a city street intersection. In the foreground, a multi-lane road with cars and a bus is visible. To the left is a modern building with horizontal black and white stripes. In the background, several multi-story buildings are visible, including one with a 'Citizens Bank' sign and another with a 'PNC BANK' sign. The scene is set against a backdrop of hazy hills under a clear sky.

Attracting High-Impact Development to Smaller Cities and Towns

**Mayor Thomas M. Leighton
City of Wilkes-Barre**

Wilkes-Barre: Then and Now



Achieving Success in downtown Wilkes-Barre

We concentrated on:

- 1. Improving basic, quality of life issues**
- 2. Creating lasting relationships with invested partners**
- 3. Strategically planning for our future**



1. Improving the Quality of Life

- **Strengthening the city's finances**
- **Increasing public safety**
- **Improving our downtown's appearance and accessibility**
- **Repairing and maintaining our infrastructure**
- **Enhancing the quality of our neighborhoods**



Wilkes-Barre Police Department

2. Creating Lasting Partnerships

- One entity cannot do it all – must coordinate with:
 - Multiple levels of government
 - Private business community
 - Non-profits
 - Local colleges and universities
 - Residents



3. Strategic Planning

- **Focus on:**
 - **Realistic project goals**
 - **Reasonable timelines**
 - **Gaining site control**
 - **Securing funding**



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