

## **SHARON, HERMITAGE**

### **Cities agree to apply for State, Irvine study grant**

*Sharon Herald – Friday, August 20, 2010*

*Herald Staff*

Officials from two Shenango Valley cities hope grant funding to study the area's main business corridor could help secure more money down the road.

The officials want Shenango Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization to apply for a \$200,000 Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative grant from PennDOT on behalf of Hermitage and Sharon.

Sharon council members Thursday approved their participation in the grant application. Hermitage commissioners will vote Wednesday. If accepted, the joint study would examine the characteristics and traffic patterns on East and West State Street from Keel Ridge Road in Hermitage to South Irvine Avenue, and Irvine to the Ohio line.

The study will look at intersections, pavement, sidewalks, crosswalks and other factors, said Hermitage City Manager Gary P. Hinkson. There will be no cost to the cities to participate. "There will be nothing binding on the communities," Hinkson said of the outcome of the grant.

Sharon City Manager Tom Lavorini said the resulting report would help the cities when applying for other grants based on recommendations made in the study.