

# LANCASTER Keeping Current

AN ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE HOURGLASS FOUNDATION

## Lancaster County Smart Growth Issues

December 04, 2003

**FYI**

**PAYING THE PRICE FOR INADEQUATE ROADS** - the cost to Pennsylvania motorists in reduced safety, lost time and increased vehicle wear is discussed in the new report by The Road Information Program (TRIP) was sponsored by PHIA. An online version is available at [www.tripnet.org](http://www.tripnet.org).

**SCHOOL CHOICE – DOING IT RIGHT MAKES A DIFFERENCE** - The National Working Commission on Choice in K-12 Education released its findings on the effectiveness of school choice at the Brookings Institution. The commission spent two years examining how school choice works and what it takes to make it effective. Nonresident Senior Fellow Paul Hill of the University of Washington presented the findings and recommendations in the report during a press briefing. Event summary: <http://www.brookings.edu/comm/op-ed/20031117k12.htm> Event transcript: <http://www.brookings.edu/comm/events/20031117.htm>

**CENTER FOR LIVABLE COMMUNITIES** - is a catalyst, convener, and source of information that helps American Institute of Architects (AIA) members to enable citizens and other stakeholders to envision and create more livable communities. The Center shares information, advises on policy development, and provides resources to architects seeking to become more involved in improving communities. With the great diversity of communities across the country, no one-size-fits-all solution can address local livability concerns. Instead, the Center seeks to catalogue and disseminate innovative and successful solutions to local problems. For more information- <http://www.aia.org/livable/about.asp>

### **“SPRAWL KILLS” - Author Describes Power of the Sprawl Lobby**

It is time "to recognize the politics of suburban sprawl" and "the power of the sprawl lobby," because with the population "lunging toward 400 million" by mid-century, "it will be too late to save so much of what so many Americans value, including public green spaces, rural lifestyles, farmland and social capital," warns former National Governors' Association official, independent consultant Joel Hirschorn on the [commondreams.org](http://www.commondreams.org) web page, outlining the main message of his forthcoming book "Sprawl Kills -- Better Living in Healthy Places."

<http://www.smartgrowth.org/news/article.asp?art=3737&state=52>

**RETHINKING LOCAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGIES: LESSONS FROM 70 YEARS OF POLICY AND PRACTICE** - This joint effort by the Brookings Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy and the Urban Institute examines the efficacy of major affordable housing approaches over seven decades in promoting healthy communities and families. The report includes an extensive literature review on the evolution and effectiveness of rental assistance programs, homeownership programs, and land use and regulatory policies and an "action agenda" for local and regional leaders interested in crafting informed affordable housing strategies.

<http://www.brookings.edu/es/urban/housingreview.htm>

### **Upcoming Events**

**January 14-16, 2004**

#### **Reinventing America's Older Communities**

Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing. Conference exploring the opportunities and obstacles to vibrant urban communities. Speakers from around the country will explain their solutions to a wide range of obstacles. For more information contact [yvetter.cooper@phil.frb.org](mailto:yvetter.cooper@phil.frb.org).

### **Interesting Websites**

#### **EPA's Smart Growth Site**

<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/>

The federal government's EPA took interest in the smart growth movement under the Clinton administration -- and has continued in the Bush administration.

#### **Urban Land Institute**

<http://www.uli.org>

Top developer organization in the USA, now taking much more interest in the futures of cities and more rational land use.

#### **Smart Communities Network**

<http://www.sustainable.doe.gov>

The Department of Energy's site on sustainable development, including numerous citations on land use planning, transportation, municipal energy, sustainable business and the like.

*Enabling informed decision-making for Lancaster County*

Call our office at (717) 295-0755 or write to [hourglass.foundation@verizon.net](mailto:hourglass.foundation@verizon.net)

Or visit our website [www.hourglassfoundation.org](http://www.hourglassfoundation.org)

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