

LANCASTER Keeping Current

AN ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE HOURGLASS FOUNDATION

Lancaster County Smart Growth Issues April 20, 2004

FYI

PENNSYLVANIA STATE DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES WEB SITE TO ASSIST, EDUCATE PENNSYLVANIA VOTERS – (4/12/04) Voting in Pennsylvania" (www.pavotes.state.pa.us) was created in response to the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002, which requires all states to upgrade existing voter education initiatives and promote new voter education platforms. The purpose of this website is to inform voters and election officials across the Commonwealth on a wide array of matters that strictly relate to the electoral process. Pennsylvanians can access election related information ranging from voter registration to voting procedures on Election Day. Likewise, state election officials may obtain information on the latest developments of the law pertaining to elections. Site visitors can also obtain county specific step-by-step instructions on how to cast their ballots. Directions on how to vote with each system are available for lever voting machines, optical scan systems, punch card systems, direct recording electronic machines and paper ballots. Voting methods and types of voting systems particular to each county are available on the site.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT... HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DESIGN OPTIONS – An important conference for elected officials and planners scheduled for June. Sponsors and Co-Sponsors of the conference are: [Governor's Center for Local Government Services](#), [Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs](#) and the [Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors](#). Building healthy and sustainable communities provides numerous personal, community and municipal benefits. For example, healthy land-use choices could help to decrease the burden of many health concerns of residents such as heart disease, cancer, diabetes, asthma, pedestrian injuries, and health disparities. Such planning would also produce a number of benefits to municipalities, including increases in economic vitality, natural resource protection, recreation, advanced public safety, and reduced municipal expenditures in the areas of road construction and maintenance, storm water management, police and ambulance services. [For conference details.](#)

GREENFIELD DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT SPRAWL: THE ROLE OF PLANNED COMMUNITIES – The second in a series of papers from the [Urban Land Institute](#) by noted authors on land use policy and practice issues of pressing concern to the broader real estate and land use community. (The Urban Land Institute is recognized as the leading real estate and land use research and education organization in the United States.) This [paper](#) provides a model for applying smart growth principles in suburban greenfields, and the role of planned communities in a regional greenfield strategy. While it is often lumped with sprawl, greenfield development offers the most practical, affordable, and achievable chance to build without sprawl, given its potential to create large-scale, conserved open lands and sustainable modern infrastructure.

Upcoming Events
April 26-28, 2004 – Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Seminar by Timothy Crowe – Sponsored by the [Lancaster Community Safety Coalition](#). The Woods Room, Alumni Sports & Fitness Center, Franklin & Marshall College – Cost \$190 – For more contact Dale Witmer (717)397-3137 or via email: Dale.Witmer@LancasterCSC.org

Thursday, April 29, 2004
8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – Regional Economics: Planning for Community and Economic Development – This course will provide the participant with an understanding of the increasingly important relationship between regional economic development and local community revitalization. Sponsored by the [Lancaster County Planning Commission](#) and the [Workforce Investment Board of Lancaster County](#). Four Seasons Golf Course. For more information contact Toby Vargas, Lancaster County Planning Commission (717) 299-8333.

Friday, April 30, 2004
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Planning Beyond Boundaries II, Capital Improvements Planning – This Envision workshop will examine policies, approaches and practices for effective planning and financing of capital projects in smaller communities. Ephrata Public Library, 550 South Reading Road, Ephrata. Sponsored by the Lancaster County Planning Commission in conjunction with ICMA. For more information, contact Gael Rapp (717)299-8333 or rappg@co.lancaster.pa.us

Interesting Websites/Reports:
[Housing: 2004 Facts, Figures & Trends](#)
[Trails & Greenways: Advancing the Smart Growth Agenda](#)
[Local Government Commission](#)

Enabling informed decision-making for Lancaster County
 Call our office at (717) 295-0755 or write to hourglass.foundation@verizon.net
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