

# LANCASTER Keeping Current

AN ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE HOURGLASS FOUNDATION

**Lancaster County Smart Growth Issues**      April 27, 2004

**FYI**

**PENNSYLVANIA'S CITIES AND TOWNS: PLACES IN DECLINE** - All indicators point to cities and towns that are less populated, less wealthy, and more fiscally unstable with every passing year. How will Pennsylvania's urban decline impact Pennsylvania's economic future? Pennsylvania's urbanized areas generally have been experiencing a slow but undeniably real decline. All indicators point to cities and towns that are less populated, less wealthy, and more fiscally unstable with every passing year. Read the [April 2004 IssuesPA](#) report. IssuesPA is a nonpartisan statewide awareness project of the [Pennsylvania Economy League](#) focused exclusively on raising the issues most critical to Pennsylvania's economic future.

**THE CALCULUS OF COALITIONS; CITIES AND STATES AND THE METROPOLITAN AGENDA** – Cities are creations of their states. Their boundaries, their powers, and their responsibilities are all substantially prescribed by state law. In this April 2004 [paper](#) by [The Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy](#), the authors examine the increased dependence of cities on states as a result of the federal government ceding more power to the states. As populations continue to shift, and if cities are to effectively influence their state governments, they need to forge coalitions with surrounding suburbs.

**WATER SUPPLY – GROWTH MANAGEMENT** – This [report](#) contains discussion of water supply planning and growth management methods and issues in Oregon, Florida, New Jersey and Maryland. It includes case study highlights, major findings, and the implication of those findings for Maryland's effort to improve water supply planning. The author considered two main questions in the research for this paper: 1) What is the state of the science in determining how much water is available to support additional growth in a given area? 2) What is the state of the planning practice in using the results of such water supply analyses, in making local growth management decisions? The author was particularly interested in the nature and degree of coordination between water supply planning and local land use planning, in states that have earned reputations for growth management.

**AGING AMERICANS: STRANDED WITHOUT OPTIONS** - This [report](#) from the [Surface Transportation Policy Project](#) presents new findings based on the National Household Transportation Survey of 2001 and places them in the context of other research on mobility in the aging population.

**Upcoming Events**  
**Thursday, April 29, 2004**  
 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – **Regional Economics: Planning for Community and Economic Development** –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. 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](mailto:rappg@co.lancaster.pa.us)

**Sunday, May 23, 2004, 4:00-7:00 p.m. – Gourmet Gala, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County.** This year's gala is being held in downtown Lancaster. For tickets call (717) 291-5460

**June 6-9, 2004 – Live, Work, Shop & Play Downtown – Pennsylvania's Premiere Downtown Revitalization Conference** – Pittsburgh, PA. Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Downtown Center. [For more information.](#)

**Interesting Websites/Reports:**

- [Paving Our Way to Water Shortages](#)
- [Aging and Smart Growth](#)
- [Pennsylvania Downtown Center](#)
- [Elm Street Program Guidelines](#)

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