

# LANCASTER Keeping Current

AN ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE HOURGLASS FOUNDATION

## Lancaster County Smart Growth Issues

July 6, 2004

## FYI

**GROWING BY CHOICE OR CHANCE** - Communities in South Carolina have an opportunity to “grow by choice, not by chance,” through more efficient land use that decreases the amount of land developed to accommodate population growth, and offers more variety in how people live, work and shop, according to a [report](#) recently issued by the [Urban Land Institute](#) (ULI) and the South Carolina Real Estate Center (SCREC) at the University of South Carolina’s Moore School of Business. Sponsored by ULI and the SCREC, the South Carolina Quality Growth Initiative is a program that brought diverse stakeholders together to evaluate land use patterns and trends, explore impediments to quality growth and identify potential quality growth solutions for the state. A statewide committee composed of 36 civic and environmental leaders, developers, other business representatives and public sector officials guided the initiative such as Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr., winner of the 2000 Urban Land Institute J.C. Nichols Prize for Visionary Urban Development. The [report](#) presents the statewide committee’s overall recommendations to enhance state, regional and local efforts to encourage quality growth:

**YORK COUNTY SMART GROWTH COALITION SEEKS MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING, POINTS TO SPRAWL BUILDING AS SOURCE OF INCREASED HOME COSTS** – From the [Smart Growth Network](#) an [article](#) on growth in York County. The Eastern York County Smart Growth Coalition "has always supported responsible planning for housing growth" -- but growth which ensures sufficient affordable housing for all income groups besides those that want large homes on rural fringes -- and any contrary claim "is just pure nonsense," writes coalition member Warren Evans in the *York Daily Record*, in response to an op-ed piece by Realtors Association of York and Adams Counties lobbyist Steve Snell, who implied that smart growth organizations are "threatening the ability of working families to own a home."

**ENERGY AND SMART GROWTH -It's about How and Where We Build** - This translation [paper](#) from [The Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities](#) contends there is much to be gained by expanding the smart growth movement to include greater attention on energy. It provides a brief background on current energy trends and programs, relevant to smart growth. It then presents a framework for understanding the connections between energy and land use which focuses on two primary issues: how to build, which involves neighborhood and building design, and where to build, meaning that location matters.

### Upcoming Events

#### National Issues, Local Impact –

A Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry Wake-up to the Issues breakfast presentation. Explore how national issues affect business in Lancaster County. Thursday, August 19, 2004, 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. - The Eden Resort Inn & Conference Center. [For more information.](#)

#### Strategy for Regional Prosperity

– A Fall Summit, sponsored by the South Central Assembly for Effective Governance, has been scheduled for Thursday, October 14, 2004 in the Wildwood Conference Center at Harrisburg Area Community College. The Summit will examine the prosperity of South Central Pennsylvania. [The Brookings Institution](#) report, [Back to Prosperity: A Competitive Agenda for Renewing Pennsylvania](#), will be a major focus of the day. [For more information.](#)

### Interesting

#### Websites/Reports/Books:

[American Lung Association – State of the Air 2004](#)

[Growing Greener II](#)

[Franklin & Marshall Department of Earth and Environment](#) web site – brings together real time and historic data, maps and satellite images from a variety of federal, state, county, municipal and academic websites. Visit [Lancaster County Environmental Resources – Promoting A Better Understanding Of Our Environment.](#)

*Enabling informed decision-making for Lancaster County*

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