

Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues

August 31, 2004

FYI

CHAMBER MEETING TO ADDRESS TAX PROPOSAL - The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry is holding a business community meeting to discuss a proposal to reform the state's tax system. On Sept. 7, members of the state House of Representatives and the **Commonwealth Caucus will discuss a proposal that would eliminate the property tax and state sales tax and replace the revenue with a business receipts education tax**, similar to a gross receipts tax. The proposal anticipates funding school districts through a new, centralized system. Republican Lancaster County legislators Gib Armstrong, Roy Baldwin, Tom Creighton and Gordon Denlinger will attend. Rep. Sam Rohrer (R-Berks), leader of the Commonwealth Caucus, also will be on hand. The event will be at Southern Market Center in downtown Lancaster. It begins at 7:30 a.m. Call 397-3531, ext. 172 or e-mail afritz@lcci.com to register.

A DECADE OF SMART GROWTH MANAGEMENT – Lancaster County Growth Tracking Report 1993-2003 – Read this Annual [Report](#) of the Lancaster County Planning Commission designed to track the progress over the last 10 years in guiding and accommodating growth inside Growth Areas to help meet the mutual goals of the MPC and the Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan of sustainability of urban centers and preservation of natural resources and farmland.

WANT UPDATED ENVIRONMENTAL CONTENT FOR YOUR WEB SITE? – The Local Government Environmental Assistance Network LGEAN has designed environmental liability Web pages that can be easily downloaded and included on your Web site. The environmental liability Web page template includes fact sheets, state and federal regulatory information, links, and other resources. The template also features environmental liability news that LGEAN keeps updated for you behind the scenes. [For more information.](#)

“RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN URBAN SPRAWL AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, OBESITY AND MORBIDITY” – A study funded by the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) and published in the [American Journal of Health Promotion](#). That journal, together with the [American Journal of Public Health](#), explores this problem -- otherwise known as sprawl. In a community where people are more likely to drive than to walk, residents are generally less physically active. And the less active residents of such spread-out or sprawling communities are, the more they weigh and the worse their health. Read details of the [study](#) and review the interactive features, including Designing for Activity and a Walkability Checklist.

Upcoming Events

Community Vision Summit – As part of the process for developing “Growing Together: A Comprehensive Plan for Central Lancaster County. September 30, 2004 – Four Seasons Restaurant, 949 Church St., Landisville. For more information, call John R. Ahlfeld, Executive Director of the Lancaster Inter-Municipal Committee, or via email limc@verizon.net.

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.](#)

Vacant Property in Pennsylvania Cities and Towns: Reinvestment Strategies, Successes, and Challenges will be Dec. 7 in Camp Hill, PA. Third annual conference organized by the Fels Institute of Government and the [Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania](#) to help share information about local vacant property revitalization successes and lessons among public officials, funders, and community development practitioners. For more information, contact LISC's Julie Seward at jseward@lisc.org

Interesting Websites/Reports/Books:
[Sustainable Building Resource Directory](#)
[Scenic America](#)

*Enabling informed growth management
decision-making for Lancaster County*

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