

Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues May 10, 2005

FYI

URBAN REDEVELOPMENT SUCCESS STORIES - While America's very largest cities have been enjoying strong economic growth and new housing construction, many other older cities are experiencing continued job loss, population decline, and property abandonment. While this "second tier" of America's cities employs a range of economic development strategies, some have been particularly **successful in sponsoring catalytic development projects with housing** that have transformed urban areas once known for run-down buildings and high crime rates. In this [National Association of REALTORS® \(NAR\) study](#) seven case studies of successful urban redevelopment projects were prepared, and the tools used and lessons learned articulated. **One finding was the importance of financial incentives such as tax credits.**

A GREENER PA? THE QUESTION ON A BALLOT NEAR YOU – (*IssuesPA*) -After more than a year of debate, a Green Ribbon Commission, and the promotion of Green PA and Growing Greener II proposals, Pennsylvanians will decide whether the state moves forward with a \$625 million investment in programs to protect and restore our environment.

The ballot question will read as follows:

"Do you favor authorizing the Commonwealth to borrow up to \$625,000,000, for the maintenance and protection of the environment, open space and farmland preservation, watershed protection, /abandoned mine reclamation, acid mine drainage remediation and other environmental initiatives?"

Last month, the state legislature passed and the Governor signed House Bill 2, legislation that enables a \$625 million bond referendum to be placed on the spring ballot. On May 17, 2005, voters will have the chance to decide: should Pennsylvania go for the green? [IssuesPA](#) looks in to what would we get for our \$625 million?

The details of how the \$625 million would be allocated have not been decided yet - but will be hashed out between the legislature and the Governor after (if) the bond issue is approved on May 17.

WE MOVE PENNSYLVANIA - Pennsylvania faces severe consequences this Spring if General Assembly leaders cannot reach a long-term transit funding agreement with Gov. Rendell. No agreement will lead to diversion of an additional \$334 million in federal highway dollars to mass transit. A [new website](#) details these problems and how every area of the state will be affected by this possible action.

Upcoming Events

Cultivating A Greener Downtown – **Pennsylvania's Premier Conference for Downtown Revitalization**
June 5-8, 2005, State College
Sponsored by the Pennsylvania Downtown Center. For more information call (717) 233-4675 or write:
amy.lucas@padowntown.org

A Susquehanna Symposium: Riverfront Communities Flowing With Potential – June 8-10, 2005 – The [Susquehanna Greenway Partnership](#), along with other sponsors and partners from New York, Pennsylvania and Maryland, is hosting a symposium for and about riverfront communities in the Susquehanna River Basin. For more information, contact Susan Obleski, SRBC, at (717) 238-0423, ext. 316 or by e-mail sobleski@srbc.net.

Interesting Articles/Websites
[Traffic Calming and Emergency Response](#)

[Street Design and Emergency Response](#)

[Local tax collection: You get what you pay for – or do you?](#)

[Thirteen points of pedestrian oriented development](#)

[Restoring Neighborhoods, Rebuilding Markets - New Housing Directions For Struggling Cities](#)

[How Parks Add Economic Value to Cities](#)

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