

Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues May 24, 2005

FYI

Myth 1

Higher-density development **overburdens public schools** and other public services and **requires more infrastructure** support systems.

Fact

The nature of **who lives** in higher-density housing – **fewer families with children** – puts **less demand on schools and other public services** than low-density housing. The compact nature of higher-density development **requires less extensive infrastructure** to support it.

HIGHER DENSITY DEVELOPMENT – MYTH AND FACT – Planning for growth is a comprehensive and complicated process that requires leaders to employ a variety of tools to balance diverse community interest. No tool is more important than increasing the density of existing and new communities, which includes support for infill development, the rehabilitation and reuse of existing structures, and denser new development. This newly published [paper](#) by the [Urban Land Institute](#) (ULI) attempts to dispel the myths surrounding density and offers good examples on issues related to growth and land use.

SPRING ISSUESPA/PEW POLL RELEASED – [IssuesPA](#), of the Pennsylvania Economy League, released findings from the [Spring IssuesPA/Pew Poll](#) on values and government reform. A series of articles include a focus on Pennsylvanians' appetite for campaign finance reform and stricter lobbyist rules. Also included is a look at the top concerns on the minds of Pennsylvanians, their attitudes toward government and elected officials, and more. [The Pennsylvania Economy League](#) (PEL) is an independent, nonprofit public policy research organization. PEL is a force for positive change – the state's leading regionally based, statewide public policy organization. Working with Pennsylvania's public and private sectors, PEL provides independent research and insight on emerging issues to stimulate public and private action to make Pennsylvania a better place to live, work and do business.

43% of state residents **feel they can trust local government to do what's right** all or most of the time. Significantly fewer have the same level of trust in state government (32%) and federal government (27%). Feeling better about political leaders who are closer to home extends to one's local representatives in the state legislature. **70%** of Pennsylvanians say they **have a lot or some confidence in their own state senator and representative** to deal with the issues they consider most important.

CITY/COUNTY COLLABORATIONS ON BROWNFIELDS – From [The Joint Center for Sustainable Communities](#) and the [National Association of County Organizations](#) (NACo) offer *City/County Collaborations on Brownfields*, a [report](#) on how cities and counties have cooperated to reclaim brownfield properties. This collection of ten case studies from throughout the United States reviews how multi-jurisdictional approaches to brownfields redevelopment have been accomplished. The variety of techniques used by the different groups illustrates the myriad possibilities for cooperative brownfields development, and that no single solution will necessarily work for all localities.

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:
amylucas@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

[Saving a National Treasure: Financing the Cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay](#)

[The Center for Rural Pennsylvania Newsletter– May/June 2005](#)

[The Campaign for Affordable Housing](#)

[Pay As You Park](#)

*Enabling informed growth management
decision-making for Lancaster County*
Call our office (717) 295-0755, or visit <http://www.hourglassfoundation.org>

HOURGLASS

FOUNDATION