

Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues January 31, 2006

FYI

CHRISTOPHER LEINBERGER – REVITALIZING DOWNTOWNS – For those of our readers that attended Mr. Leinberger’s presentation on January 23rd, you will remember his reference to Paul Levy. As founding director of [Philadelphia's Center City District](#) Paul Levy is the man at the helm of the revitalization of what USA Today recently called "America's next great city".

Smart City™ is a weekly, hour-long public radio talk show that takes an in-depth look at urban life, the people, places, ideas and trends shaping cities. Host Carol Coletta talks with national and international public policy experts, elected officials, economists, business leaders, artists, developers, planners and others for a penetrating discussion of urban issues.

The [Center City District](#) (CCD) is a business improvement, or special services district, supported by mandatory assessments on real property and governed by a private-sector board. The district encompasses 120 blocks and more than 2,100 properties.

Recently, [Smart City Radio](#) spoke with Paul Levy. You can listen to the broadcast and hear how Philadelphia’s downtown was turned around. [Click here for the broadcast.](#)

PROTECTING WATER RESOURCES WITH HIGHER DENSITY DEVELOPMENT - A new [study](#) released by the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#). Growth and development expand communities’ opportunities by bringing in new residents, businesses, and investments. Growth can give a community the resources to revitalize a downtown, refurbish a main street, build new schools, and develop vibrant places to live, work, shop, and play. However, with the benefits come challenges. The environmental impacts of development can make it more difficult for communities to protect their natural resources. Where and how communities accommodate growth has a profound impact on the quality of their streams, rivers, lakes, and beaches. Development that uses land efficiently and protects undisturbed natural lands allows a community to grow and still protect its water resources.

The [U.S. Census Bureau](#) projects that the U.S. population will grow by 50 million people, or approximately 18 percent, between 2000 and 2020. Many communities are asking where and how they can accommodate this growth while maintaining and improving their water resources. Some communities have interpreted water-quality research to mean that low-density development will best protect water resources. However, some water-quality experts argue that this strategy can backfire and actually harm water resources. Higher-density development, they believe, may be a better way to protect water resources. This [study](#) intends to help guide communities through this debate to better understand the impacts of high- and low-density development on water resources.

Upcoming Events

Eminent Domain in Pennsylvania
March 29, 2006- Holiday Inn – 521 Greenfield Road, Lancaster
[For more information.](#)

Reinventing Older Communities – People, Places, Markets
April 5-7, 2006, Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn’s Landing - [The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia](#) alerts you to an upcoming national conference that will highlight the latest strategies and successes in revitalizing older cities and towns. [For more information](#)

Interesting Articles/Websites

[DEP Simplifies Water Use Registration Process](#)

[Growing Toward More Efficient Water Use: Linking Development, Infrastructure, and Drinking Water Policies](#)

[Loving the City Life](#)

[Parking Spaces / Community Places: Finding the Balance Through Smart Growth Solutions](#)

[Smart Growth Tools](#)

[Housing & Transportation Affordability Index](#)

[Vacant Properties – The True Cost to Communities](#)

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