

# Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

**Lancaster County Growth Management Issues** May 8, 2007

**FYI**

**NEW DVD HIGHLIGHTS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE** – The [U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's Local Government Advisory Committee](#) (LGAC) has developed a DVD that highlights **how local governments address aging sewer and water systems** to meet current and future challenges facing our communities. The LGAC is an officially chartered federal advisory that provides advice and recommendations to assist the EPA in developing a stronger partnership with local governments. [For more information.](#)

**THE HIDDEN CRISIS OF SUBURBAN POVERTY - Working-class families** priced out of urban areas and a **squeezed middle class** facing shrinking wages and unaffordable housing are among **those living in poverty** in the suburbs. America's suburbs evoke images of dream homes, plush lawns and neighborhood BBQs, not low-wage jobs and houses under foreclosure. Yet **for the first time ever, more poor Americans live in the suburbs than in all our cities combined.** [To read the full article.](#)

## **PennDOT LAUNCHES TRANSPORTATION FUNDING WEBSITE**

Jessica Bair of the [Central Penn Business Journal](#) reports that PennDOT (Pennsylvania Department of Transportation) launched a web site last week that will document the progress of solving the state's transportation-funding crisis. The site, [www.rideonpa.org](http://www.rideonpa.org), provides information on the condition of the state's roads and bridges and the funding deficit that could result in public transit cuts. Information on various funding proposals, including Gov. Ed Rendell's plan, is also posted. Interactive features will eventually be added so users can see which roads and bridges are in need of repair in their area.

## **GRANNY FLATS AN EASY FIX FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING - If communities are serious about creating more affordable housing, laws against accessory units should be changed.**

Unfortunately, these are illegal in most local jurisdictions...given demographic trends, accessory apartments and cottages could significantly increase the affordable-housing supply for America's aging population, as well as for others whose housing choices are limited. [To read the full article.](#)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**15th Annual Congress for the New Urbanism -- May 17-20, 2007** - In the lively neighborhoods, walkable streets, and centuries-old architecture of Old City Philadelphia, the 15th Annual Congress for the New Urbanism will convene. [For more information](#)

**Saturday, May 19, 2007, at 9-11 A.M. Government Study Commission Community Meeting** in New Holland at the Borough Office - 436 E. Main St. New Holland, PA

**Partnering for Regional Success: A Two-Way Street -- June 3-6, 2007, Bethlehem, PA** – [Pennsylvania Downtown Center](#) Annual Conference – [For more information](#)

## **INTERESTING ARTICLES**

[Renovate or Replace: The Case for Restoring and Reusing Older School Buildings](#) published by Save Our Land, Save Our Towns Inc. on behalf of The Pennsylvania Historic Schools Task Force, is a guidebook intended to help school boards and communities fully assess their options and to consider their decisions in the context of community revitalization efforts.

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

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