

Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues

January 27, 2009

FYI

PLACEMAKING IN A DOWN ECONOMY - is the topic of this [newsletter](#) from [Project for Public Spaces \(PPS\)](#). In the cover story, PPS President [Fred Kent](#) discusses how a **Placemaking approach to development is emerging as a cost-effective way to revive prosperity in communities** across the U.S. and the world, and marks a fresh alternative to the way economic and urban growth have been pursued over recent decades. Placemaking is based on **two simple principles**. First, **with the right tools and guidance, community members can initiate and implement changes on their own**. Second, Placemaking **draws on the unique assets inherent in each and every community**. It recognizes citizens' deep knowledge about the place they call home, **ushering in a sense of collective pride and ownership**. Using these strengths to work toward common goals involves everyone in the process and results in high quality projects that succeed both commercially and socially.

Mark Your Calendars
June 4, 2009 - 6:30 p.m.

Hourglass Public Forum

Speaker: Mr. Fred Kent,
President - Project for Public
Spaces.

Location – Marriott Lancaster
at Penn Square

THE SUBURBAN CHALLENGE –
(*Newsweek, magazine issue dated Jan. 26, 2009*) Washington needs to recognize that **many of the country's biggest problems – and biggest opportunities – have moved beyond the city limits to the burbs**. Article authored by Bruce Katz and Jennifer Bradley of the Brookings Institution. Katz is Director of its [Metropolitan Policy Program](#) and Bradley is a Senior Research Associate there. [To read the full article.](#)

RETHINKING THE INTERSTATE - What if we used our 46,000 miles of highway as the backbone of a new 21st-century infrastructure? (*Metropolis Magazine, January, 2009*) We've lived with superhighways for more than 50 years and don't even see them anymore. We certainly don't think of them as aesthetic objects. In fact, **we don't think about the interstate system** at all, except when a significant chunk of it plunges into a river. But the Dwight D. Eisenhower National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, created when Ike signed the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, was a symbol of everything that was both right and wrong about this country. That we were able to plan and execute something so ambitious—more than 46,000 miles of highway—seems, at this juncture, wondrous. Of course, **the system undermined our cities, encouraged suburbanization and sprawl, and solidified our dependence on the automobile**. This tends to undercut the glory of the achievement. [To read the full article.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 3, 2009 – Spring 2009 Master Planner Program - presented by the [Lancaster County Planning Commission](#) begins – this program assists municipal officials, planning and zoning commission members, business leaders and others **enhance their knowledge of good planning principles, techniques and “best practices”**. [For more program information.](#)

March 12, 2009 – Finding Hidden Opportunities: Understanding Infill, Redevelopment and Replacement – Millersville University, Bolger Conference Center – 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Presented by the [PA Local Government Training Partnership](#). This intensive six (6) hour course will provide an **interactive and practical approach to understanding and applying the principles** and relevant information needed to begin (or continue) discussions of updating community development codes; making certain that building styles, types and development patterns are appropriate and compatible with surrounding buildings. [For more information.](#)

INTERESTING REPORTS

[FYI Newsletter](#) – January 2009 publication of the [Lancaster County Planning Commission](#)

Fed Creates Foreclosure Toolkit for Communities -The Federal Reserve has created a toolkit to help communities assess the foreclosures in their area, reach troubled homeowners, and provide support for displaced homeowners. **The goal is to provide resources that will help address and minimize foreclosures' impact on neighborhoods.** <http://www.philadelphiafed.org/foreclosure/toolkit/>

**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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