

Keeping LANCASTER Current

AN HOURGLASS PUBLICATION

Lancaster County Growth Management Issues

December 06, 2010

FYI

INFOGRAPHIC OF THE DAY: QUALITY OF LIFE VARIES WILDLY

ACROSS AMERICA – (*Fast Company*) If you call Connecticut home, your standard of living and economic opportunities are almost two times better than that of someone in West Virginia. That basic inequality shouldn't be news to any American who's spent a day outside. But rarely has it been put in such a stark visual form. **The images here are screenshots from a sweeping interactive data visualization** by [Rosten Woo](#) and [Zachary Watson](#) for the [American Human Development Project](#). The infographic maps something called the **American Human Development Index -- a rough, one-stop measurement of quality of life across America** based on things like education, life expectancy, and income -- and lets you compare it to a raft of other factors, from political activity to local homicide rates. Think of it as a medical chart from the nation's annual physical -- one that reveals some serious health problems. [To read the full report.](#)

After two of the most challenging years for state budgets, **fiscal 2011 will present a slight improvement over fiscal 2010.** However, even an improvement over one of the worst time periods in state fiscal conditions since the Great Depression **states still forecast considerable fiscal stress.**

Additionally, **in fiscal 2012 a significant amount of state funding made available by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will no longer be available.** The significant wind down of this support **will result in a continuation of extremely tight fiscal conditions for states and could lead to further state spending cuts.**

The Fiscal Survey of States

THE FISCAL SURVEY OF STATES –

This [survey](#) is published jointly by the National Governors Association and the national Association of State Budget Officers twice a year in the spring and fall. The series was started in 1979. The survey presents aggregate and individual data on the states' general fund receipts, expenditures, and balances. Although not the totality of state spending, these funds are used to finance most broad-based state services and they are the most important elements in determining the fiscal health of the states.

THE ANTI-ROBERT MOSES - (*Esquire*) By comparing her work to the history of development in the city, Janette Sadik-Khan, Urban Reengineer is positioned as the anti-Robert Moses.

"[F]or the next half century, the building stopped as the city licked its concrete wounds. The roads went cold and quiet. No asphalt was poured, no tunnels dug, no streets re-imagined. Instead, the thrum of panicked building was replaced by a system of smug gridlock. Bureaucracy as far as the eye could see, red tape longer than purgatory. The city awoke every morning grappling out of quicksand, dead set, it seemed, on maintaining past inconveniences.

Until one day about five decades after Robert Moses was dethroned, another prophet was anointed. One who wore silk dresses. She looked nicer than Moses, and she had a new way of doing things — using facts and numbers the way he had used will and force. She seemed gentler, too, but she imposed her way almost as much. And whether or not the new officials and the new villagers agreed with her, the intestines of New York City began to quickly unravel once again." [To read this truly inspiring article.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

DESIGN MATTERS – CIVIC ENGAGEMENT REQUIRED – Wednesday, December 15, 2010
– 6:30-9:00 p.m. Millersville University – Lancaster, 42 N. Prince St. - Hear [Harris Steinberg](#), FAIA of the University of Pennsylvania share the success story of the public planning process, [A Civic Vision for the Central Delaware](#), for six miles of the Delaware Riverfront in Philadelphia. [Penn Praxis](#) designed and implemented a **citizen-driven planning process that engaged over 6,000 people in shaping the future** of the waterfront. To register call (717)299-8333 or email - <mailto:hahn@co.lancaster.pa.us>

INTERESTING ARTICLES / REPORTS

[Project for Pennsylvania Transportation & Heritage \(ProjectPATH\)](#)- Preservation Pennsylvania in partnership with PennDOT announces the launch of the new Project for Pennsylvania Transportation & Heritage (ProjectPATH). This new program, formerly known as the Transportation Public Involvement Clearinghouse, **will provide you with almost immediate access to Section 106 documents for active PennDOT projects** programmed on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Enabling Informed Growth Management
Decision Making for Lancaster County

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