

Turtle Creek Valley COG Director's Report

TCVCOG Board Meeting
January 27, 2022

Upcoming Meetings

2/16: Manager's Meeting - 2:00pm

2/25: Annual Dinner – 5:30pm

Annual Dinner – February 25, 2022

Our Annual Dinner event is slated for February 25, 2022 at Edgewood Country Club. RSVPs and payment are due Feb. 16th.

Application for 501(c)(3)

Under Review. I've asked Congressman Doyle's office for assistance in expediting this request.

Vector

The snow is flying, but we're thinking about the 2022 Vector season. Please remember to complete and submit your opt-in agreement. No price increase.

Police Training

Training dates for the Spring round of police training will be discussed at the next Police Chief meeting. Please plan to send your officers.

CodeNforce/Code Enforcement

We continue to have regular ongoing weekly meetings as the development of this software progresses. The Heinz foundation will be approached for support of software development. There have been discussions with the Department of Economic Development around CDBG support for the TCVCOG Code Enforcement Collaborative. There are also preliminary conversations happening regarding the creation of a workforce development program around code enforcement work.

UCC Appeals Board Hearing

A UCC Appeals Board Hearing took place on Monday, January 25th at 6pm in Monroeville Council Chambers regarding Concept Art Gallery in Edgewood Borough. The variance request was approved with the following conditions:

1. Provide photo documentation showing a distinct separation of both walls along the entire length of the buildings.
2. Placement of permanent "No Exit" signs located at the proposed doors (at the 2-hour fire walls) that will connect the two buildings.
3. The proposed doors (at the 2-hour fire walls) must have a keyed lock.
4. The proposed doors and frames (at the 2-hour fire walls) must have a two-hour fire rating.
5. An additional 3' wide man door into the lobby area must be installed, with exit sign.

UCC Board members presiding were Chuck Yaskanich, David Gilliland, and Erik Fritzberg.

Other

TCVCOG has partnered with SRCOG on a successful grant application to the Allegheny County Health Department's Air Quality Ambassador program. We are developing content for community outreach (fliers, social media, website, etc.) that our members can use. The purpose of this program is to increase participation in Allegheny Alerts, which notifies participants with a variety of different information in the format of choice. Funded applicants met virtually on 10/18 as the County explained the program and anticipated outcomes. They also educated us on air quality, and why these alerts matter – especially in places that historically have poorer air quality. Through the COGs developing content, we hope to standardize messaging, and make it easier for our towns to communicate with constituents.

The blight mitigation collaboration consisting of TCVCOG, SRCOG, City of Bridges Land Trust and Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh has been funded by the Forbes fund. The purpose of the funding is to determine the efficacy of these four organizations working together to more holistically eliminate blight.

The Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County recently launched a "Site Development Fund" and is accepting applications through Feb. 18, 2022. This funding is for shovel-ready infrastructure projects taking place in Allegheny County. Under this new program, eligible non-profits, municipalities, businesses, and private developers will be able to apply for grants up to \$3 million (minimum is \$1million). Grant funds are intended to assist in developing high-impact employment centers with an emphasis on job creation and the revitalization of previously dormant and underutilized sites.

The Commonwealth Finance Authority (CFA) approved the guidelines for a new statewide local share assessment (LSA) program that is going to be a great opportunity for municipalities to apply for public improvement projects. Non-profits are also eligible if they apply through a local government sponsor.

The funding for the program comes through taxes imposed under Act 42 of 2017, which expanded gaming to new facilities and to online games. The application window will only be open through March 15th. More information: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/local-share-account-lsa-statewide/>

Manager's Meeting: January 19, 2022 - Virtual

In Attendance: Greg Bachy, Swissvale; Connie Rosenbayger, East McKeesport; Seth Abrams, East Pittsburgh; Tim Little, Monroeville

The group talked about a wide variety of topics, including ARPA funding.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Settelmaier