

Turtle Creek Valley COG Director's Report

TCVCOG Board Meeting
September 22, 2022

Upcoming Meetings

10/6: Manager's Meeting, 2pm
10/18: Police Chief Meeting, 2pm
10/27: TCVCOG Board Meeting

Vactor

Thank you for a great season. We're currently booked through October.

Police Training

Training dates for the Fall round of police training are as follows. Please plan to send your officers. Registration information has been emailed to your police chief.

Basic: Oct 10 – 11
Advanced: Oct 17-18

CodeNforce/Code Enforcement

We are excited to give you a sneak peek at CodeNforce at tonight's meeting. The app featured in the video is truly just the tip of the iceberg in terms of functionality. For example, this system will support the work of code officers through the creation of checklists, follow-up reminders, and other built-in guidance. It will also create regional data sets that do not currently exist, which will help with a more efficient use of permit denial through Act 90 (think troublesome LLC's), as well as support regional planning efforts. Since the system is cloud based, you will have access to case information at your fingertips, and monthly reports will help elected leaders better understand the value of your code enforcement efforts. We're looking forward to building out analytic capacity with the LSA grant when it becomes available.

We are pleased to welcome JD Lombardi to our code enforcement staff. Unfortunately John Snelson has accepted a more lucrative position with the borough of White Oak. We wish John all the best and look forward to working with him in a training and support role.

LGA Intern Program

Sample of Work:

6/7: Urban Land Institute Interview for study including Braddock, Rankin, North Braddock and Swissvale.
6/8: Meeting with DCED to discuss support for Code Enforcement program
6/9: Presented at Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority Blight Workshop

6/9: TriCOG Land Bank Board meeting
6/13: Meeting with East Pittsburgh officials
6/16: CVB Board meeting
6/16: Blight Collaborative Meeting (TCVCOG, Tri-COG Land Bank, Rebuilding Together Pittsburgh, City of Bridges Land Trust)
6/21: Police Chief Meeting
6/22: Manager's Meeting
6/23: Allegheny County Southeast TCC Meeting
6/25: Blight Tools Presentation to Wilkinsburg Council
6/27: CODENFORCE Business Plan kick off Meeting
7/6: LGA Intern Meeting
7/14: Tri-COG Land Bank Board Meeting
7/19: EOS Energy Tour of Facility @ Keystone Commons
7/27: Webinar: The State of Human Services in Allegheny County
7/29: Lunch with Joe Mistick
7/29: CODENFORCE App Meeting
8/3: Media Strategy kick-off with Ceisler Media
8/4: LGA Intern Lunch
8/16: Virtual meeting with Cynthia Klosky – Allegheny County Health Department
8/16: Police Chief Meeting
8/17: Meeting w/ Rebecca Vargo
8/17: Manager's Meeting
8/25: Allegheny County Southeast TCC Meeting
8/25: Blight Collaborative Meeting
9/6 – 9/9: Reclaiming Vacant Property Conference
9/13: COG Director's Meeting
9/15: VM Board Meeting
9/20: Braddock Enterprise Zone Meeting

Managers Meeting: May 18, 2022:

Greg Bachy, Swissvale; Connie Rosenbayger, East McKeesport; Seth Abrams, East Pittsburgh; Selena Butler, Braddock; Debbie Brown, Cynthia Underwood, with Ambit Energy, Amanda & Natalie.

Debbie and Cynthia presented information to the group for Electric Supplier and provider options. Ambit Energy may be able to review current bills and possibly save money. Seth also saved for East Pittsburgh with a broker through PSAB. Open discussion – upcoming town events, Juneteenth North Braddock and Swissvale. Amanda suggested having a cog wide event committee, that can meet at the beginning of the year for towns to collaborate and support each other or work together for joint events. Also discussed information from May police chief meeting with DHS.

Police Chief Meeting: May 17, 2022:

Chief Jim Matrazzo, North Versailles, Chief Ellis Watson, Swissvale; Chief John McCaul, Turtle Creek; Chief Como, Penn Hills; Chief Doug Cole, Monroeville, Sgt. Det. Doug Yuhouse, Wilkinsburg; Annie Kainaroi, Allegheny County DHS, Kate Vander Weide, Allegheny County DHS, Natalie & Amanda

- Annie and Katie gave an introduction of DHS and their goal to improve crisis response.
- Discussed the 988 Suicide prevention line going live in July.
- Spoke about 302 & 201 transportation issues and solutions.
- Discussed if any towns have interest in pilot programs. They do have data from prior programs that demonstrated low police back up calls indicating that the programs have triaged calls well.
- Open discussion over warrants, transportation, citizens with repeated interactions, and long term follow up.
- Katie distributed a paper packet with resources. They also have a survey if any one would like to complete it. Katie can be reached at 412-350-5772 or katie.vanderwiede.alleghenycounty.us

In summary, the response to mental health needs better investment, from Resolve to local hospital capacity. The Chiefs are very open to working with social workers and other mental health professionals to meet the needs of our constituency. What we have now does not work well at all.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Settelmaier