

**Turtle Creek Valley COG
Director’s Report**

TCVCOG Board Meeting
October 26, 2023

Upcoming Meetings

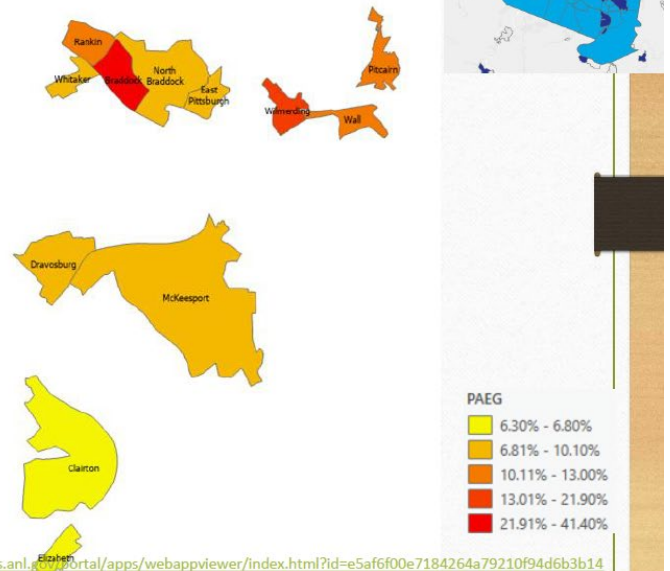
- 11/2: Manager’s Meeting, 2pm
- 11/3: CodeNforce BETA users in-person Demo/Meeting, 11am
- 11/8: Fire Meeting – East McKeesport, North Versailles, Wall, Wilmerding - 4:30pm
- 11/14: FREE Workforce Development Training

RECOMPETE Federal Grant Application

TCVCOG, in partnership with SRCOG, successfully submitted a RECOMPETE application. A small miracle, indeed. All feedback is indicating that we submitted a highly competitive application. This will be a request for planning dollars, as well as a request for implementation dollars.

Eligible Municipalities

Target Municipality	Prime Age Population	Prime Age Employment Population	Prime Age Employment Rate	PAEG
Elizabeth	461	330	71.6%	6.8%
Clairton	2041	1458	72.1%	6.3%
Dravosburg	632	439	69.5%	8.9%
McKeesport	6682	4550	68.5%	9.9%
Whitaker	486	339	69.8%	8.6%
Rankin	722	476	65.9%	12.5%
Braddock	751	311	41.4%	37.0%
North Braddock	1512	1033	68.3%	10.1%
East Pittsburgh	682	469	69.7%	8.7%
Wilmerding	681	385	56.5%	21.9%
Wall	261	173	66.3%	12.1%
Pitcairn	1120	732	65.4%	13.0%



Source: <https://disgeoportal.egs.anl.gov/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e5af6f00e7184264a79210f94d6b3b14>

Fire Forum: Wednesday, October 18th

Sixty-five people registered/attended for the Fire Forum held in Penn Hills Council Chambers. From what I understand, it has sparked ongoing conversations in the fire community, which is the first step in solving issues that we all know exist within many communities. The question to ask is: Does my fire department provide adequately staffed, well equipped service in an acceptable time frame? If the answer is no or sometimes, it is important to start having regular and ongoing communication with your department. It is the legal responsibility of the municipality to ensure the provision of quality emergency service.

Code Enforcement/CodeNforce

The development of the the application for phones and tablets that can be used in the field regardless of connectivity is still on schedule. We expect completion in January 2024. A Keystone Communities Planning Grant application has been submitted to DCED to fund a study on sustainable partnerships. The goal remains to make codeNforce a high quality, affordable solution for managing code enforcement work flows in any town that would benefit from its use. We will be hosting a working lunch for our BETA users on Friday November 3rd.

I provided Churchill Borough with budgetary information per their request. It is my understanding that they're debating hiring a person, or coming into the collaborative. Regardless of what they decide, I hope codeNforce will be part of their code enforcement efforts.

Annual Dinner

We have begun planning this event for a Friday evening in February. Options are: 2/3, 2/10, and 2/24.

Vactor Program

The Vactor is in good shape. Remember, the days you don't use are lost. We are currently booked into the first week in November. If you have days to use, please give us a call on Monday to schedule, and let's keep our fingers crossed the weather continues to cooperate.

Diversity Equity & Inclusion Follow-Up

In response to the discussion at our September Board meeting regarding training of municipal staff and elected officials, the Local Government Academy is able to help. As such you, your colleagues on your elected bodies and your municipal staff are all invited to a free breakfast training on November 14th. Registration is Required through the Local Government Academy.

- Topic: Developing & Managing a Municipal Workforce: Workforce Development Training for Local Governments
- When: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 / 8:30 – 10:30 AM
- Where: Doubletree by Hilton Monroeville Convention Center, 101 Mall Blvd. Monroeville, PA 15146

LGA Intern for Code Enforcement

TCVCOG will be piloting an code enforcement intern program through LGA. Bailee Hassan will be shadowing our code officers in November and December. The intent is to create a pipeline of certified people with some experience into this field.

TCVCOG Manager's Meeting: 10/5/ 2023 – Monroeville Community Park

In Person Attendance; Greg Bachy, Swissvale; Connie Rosenbayger, East McKeesport; Alex Graziani, Churchill; Amanda Settelmaier, Natalie Merola

New Business: Discussed the Pro & Cons of different animal control service providers. Keep in mind the importance of having a company that can file charges if needed. (Unless your PD can fill that need.) The managers all seemed satisfied with the services they are receiving. It may not be cost effective to have a joint program. Monroeville is not interested in a joint program.

Fire Forum: Still on target for Oct 18th please attend. There may be a venue change we will update if there is.

DEI Training: Nov 14th: Details will follow

Next Meeting: Nov 2 2023 – 2pm

Police Chief meeting 10/17/2023

Angela Kenbock, & Ashley _____, Hampton Township Social Services Coordinator, _____ Braddock Chief, Chief Williams, Forest Hills; Chief Cole, Monroeville; Chief Watson, Swissvale; Chief Conley, Plum Borough, Chief Lamb, Wilkins Township; Amanda Settelmaier, Natalie Merola, Alex Coyne, TCVCGOG

Angela & Ashley discussed the social services program in Hampton Township Police Department. The social workers work in collaboration with the police department, code enforcement, magistrate's office, ems, etc. They also assist with crisis intervention, many times accompanying patients through care centers and helping to make connections with long term care. Because of this follow-through, they've seen a reduction in repeat cases.

To have an effective program, you have to start with a Master's level Social Worker. Angela is willing to assist with training.

Angela discussed the use of interns through Slippery Rock University & University of Denver students, which are both approved curriculums. There is a waiting list. A couple of the internships have lead to job opportunities/ placement. The group discussed the pay ranges and the possibilities of grants. Sharpsburg and Scott Township are or are in the process of applying / receiving grants. Our own officers discussed the possibility of a shared employee however recognize that there would have to be much collaboration around the employees hours and how that would be sorted when working with multiple communities.

Some informal discussion followed – The Plum and North Versailles Police Test application is on our home page and social media.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Settelmaier