

“Safe Streets for All” Plan Requires Your Help

From Executive Director Steve Deck, AICP

As we get our **Safe Streets for All** (SS4A) plan underway, I'd like to address the importance of partnerships, education and responsible driving as we work toward the elimination of fatal and serious injury crashes. I believe everyone agrees this goal is worthwhile, but I doubt that everyone understands how important their own actions are if we are to make the goal a reality.

Our three counties have been averaging about 60 fatal crashes every year, or five fatalities per month! We also average roughly 240 serious injury crashes a year or 20 every month! In addition, our region has about 13 crashes per month that affect our most vulnerable road users, bicyclists and pedestrians.

While TCRPC will oversee the SS4A planning effort, it is clear that each of us must play a role in reaching our goal. It's important to look beyond the number of crashes and understand the *circumstances* behind them if we are to make a difference together.

Just over 40 percent of our fatal crashes and nearly 30 percent of our serious injury crashes involve someone under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol. Clearly there is a need for each of us to act more responsibly, but there's also a need to educate and convince our friends and neighbors to drive sober. Enforcement also plays a role, but we shouldn't have to rely on arresting people to reduce these crashes.

Nearly 60 percent of our fatalities and serious injury crashes involve speeding and/or aggressive driving. This issue may be partly addressed through better road design, but personal responsibility and education are at the core of the solution. Again, enforcement will play a role, but we should all respect speed limit signage, especially in denser or more urban settings where conflicts with slower moving vehicles, bicyclists and pedestrians are much more common.

Driver education will be a key as well, as about 30 percent of our fatalities and serious injury crashes involve “at risk” drivers or those under age 18 or over 65. TCRPC is proud to partner with AAA and other organizations to help provide educational materials and training. Taking advantage of these resources is important, especially when we have family members who fall into these age categories.

There's also a need to identify and address areas where road characteristics and conditions can be improved to prevent serious crashes. TCRPC will certainly work hard to identify and address these locations as part of the process. And our partners will help us to fully identify such areas and better understand the improvements needed to effectively tackle the problem.

Why go through all these statistics? TCRPC has a SS4A steering committee that includes first responders, public works directors, municipal engineers, AAA and others who will all be critical to the effort. However, effective implementation and a real reduction in our crash rates depends on each of us. TCRPC's motto, “Stronger When We Work Together,” couldn't be more true than it is in this case. Because if everyone does their part, we won't have to deal with these tragedies anymore.

Please join us in this effort and help make our region safer for all. Feel free to [contact me](#) or Transportation Planning Coordinator [Andrew Bomberger](#) if you have questions about what you can do to be part of the solution.



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SusqueCycle Bike Share Program Growing with New Locations



The SusqueCycle Bike Share program emerged from its winter hibernation earlier this year with its original six locations up and running in downtown and midtown Harrisburg.

In June, its planned expansion began with three new stations: next to Bethesda Mission and the new federal courthouse on Reily St.; by Tri-County Community Action at 1514 Derry St. on Allison Hill; and on the square in Hummelstown, where the bikes are now connected to the Hershey Bikes system, providing service between the two towns.

In all, SusqueCycle now includes 60 bikes with nine rack locations, and more are coming this year. Plans call for new racks at the Midtown State Office Complex, the TransitPark lot off Market Street, and Paxtang Borough at the Greenbelt.

Powered by Tandem Mobility, SusqueCycle uses the Movatic app. Pay-as-you-go pricing is available for \$1.50 per 30 minutes, plus there's a \$25 annual membership option for unlimited 30-minute trips. SusqueCycle memberships can also be used with the Hershey Bikes and Bike It Lancaster programs, and can soon be used in York when that program is launched.

Sponsorships are also available for organizations wishing to support the program.

Visit SusqueCycle.org for more information, and take a spin today!

Cameras Help Complete Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts

By Ben Warner, Planner

TCRPC and HATS staff have once again begun collecting bicycle and pedestrian counts at numerous intersections across the Tri-County region.

Throughout this process, staff has been setting up cameras at intersections to determine the bike/ped activity that occurs at various times throughout the day.

HATS staff has also been assisting municipalities who are in the process of completing bicycle, pedestrian and greenway plans by setting up cameras to get accurate counts.

If your municipality is interested in getting a better understanding of how bicyclists and pedestrians move through your municipality, email [Ben Warner](mailto:Ben.Warner@tcrpc.org) or call 717-234-2639.



Pedestrians at the intersection of High & College streets in Carlisle

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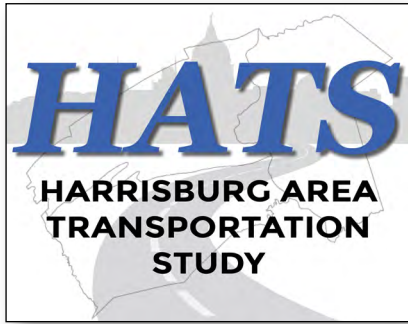


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HATS Regional Active Transportation Plan Underway

By Andrew Bomberger, *Transportation Planning Coordinator*



HATS staff, with support from Gibson Thomas Engineering and Simone Collins Landscape Architecture, has focused on municipal outreach and collecting as many local bicycle/pedestrian, active transportation, trail or greenway plans as possible.

Once collected, these plans will be combined into a single map providing insights and recommendations that have been analyzed, identified and vetted through many local planning efforts. These connections will be examined further and incorporated into a regional trails feasibility analysis to produce the most important on-road routes and off-road trails for connecting communities with places to live, work and play.

Public outreach for the plan will continue through the summer and fall, with staff attending events around the region like Camp Hill StormFest, BrewFest in Harrisburg, and the Hummelstown Criterium.

We're also seeking public input through our [Public Opinion Survey](#) and [Wikimapping Tool](#).

More information, including links to outreach materials, recordings of previous meetings, and a continually updated list of outreach events can be found at our [HATS Regional Active Transportation Plan webpage](#).

Safety Analysis of Tri-County Region's Intersections Continuing

By Tanner Stroup, *Transportation & Community Planner*

Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS) staff has been conducting a safety analysis on our region's intersections to improve areas of concern. Many factors are being taken into consideration such as intersection type (for example stop sign or signal), crash types, and bicycle and pedestrian use. PennDOT crash data has been a key resource in completing this analysis.

The analysis will coincide with other work HATS staff will be conducting with Kittelson & Associates, Inc. to develop a Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Action Plan. The plan is made possible through grants received from the Federal Highway Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation's Safe Streets and Roads for All program.

The purpose of the SS4A program is to provide funding to eliminate serious injuries and deaths on our nation's roadways. Upon completion of this analysis, HATS staff will be eligible to apply for SS4A implementation funds in the future.

If you have questions or comments regarding the SS4A Action Plan or our safety analysis, please email [Ben Warner](#) or [Tanner Stroup](#), or call 717-234-2639.

Updated Regional Crash App Will Soon Include New PennDOT Data

By Ben Warner, *Planner*

Over the past few months, HATS staff has been continuing work on the [regional crash app](#).

One of the most recent upgrades includes the addition of a toggle to allow local officials to select their municipality and only show the last five years of crashes that have occurred there.

The 2022 PennDOT crash data is set to be released in the next few weeks. Once it is available, staff will update the crash app to include 2018-2022 crash data.

If you have a question about the app, email [Ben Warner](#) or call 717-234-2639.



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HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR ANNUAL LUNCHEON

THANKS to everyone who attended on May 11!

Here are some moments from this special event:

Thursday, May 11, 2023



Over 140 guests enjoyed a fine meal at the **Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel** in Swatara Twp. and had plenty of opportunity for socializing and networking. Special thanks to our annual sponsors for helping to make it happen. You can [see the full list here](#).



Our panelists spoke about active transportation plans in the region, including, clockwise from top left: **Sara Gibson**, Camp Hill Borough; **Trish Meek**, PennDOT; **Mike Hartley**, KCI Technologies; **Betsy Logan**, Susquehanna Twp.; **Andrew Bomberger**, TCRPC; and our moderator, TCRPC Executive Director **Steve Deck**.



As usual, TCRPC Executive Director Steve Deck was our master of ceremonies, delivering a message of progress for the region in a spirit of cooperation.



Some of our TCRPC staff enjoyed the chance to have a meal together and mix and mingle with planning leaders from around the Tri-County region.

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Meet Our New Staff & Welcome Back Our Summer Intern



Karen Dixon, a Transportation & Community Planner from Franklin County, is a graduate of Shippensburg University and a U.S. Air Force veteran.

Her experience includes conservation and GIS, and she's currently working on a master's in Geoenvironmental Science and Sustainability.



Tanner Stroup, a Transportation & Community Planner from Juniata County, is a graduate of Millersville University. He's a former GIS technician for Gannett Fleming and traffic counter for the York County Planning Commission.



Alexander Elliott, our returning summer intern, is a recent graduate of Harrisburg University with a degree in Geospatial Technology. This summer he's working on traffic counts, bike/ped video processing, GIS layers and much more.



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PICTURE PERRY: Projects Soon to Be Considered for Amendments

By Jason Finnerty, Perry County Planning Coordinator

Maintaining a comprehensive plan like [PICTURE PERRY](#) takes continuous work on many fronts. Thanks in large part to the municipal cooperation we've received, we can see the benefits of everyone's labor taking shape around us.

As of today, 20 municipalities -- two-thirds of the local governments in Perry County -- have adopted the plan. To illustrate our progress this time around, the table below shows the change in our partnership level from the 2007, 2015 and 2023 plans.

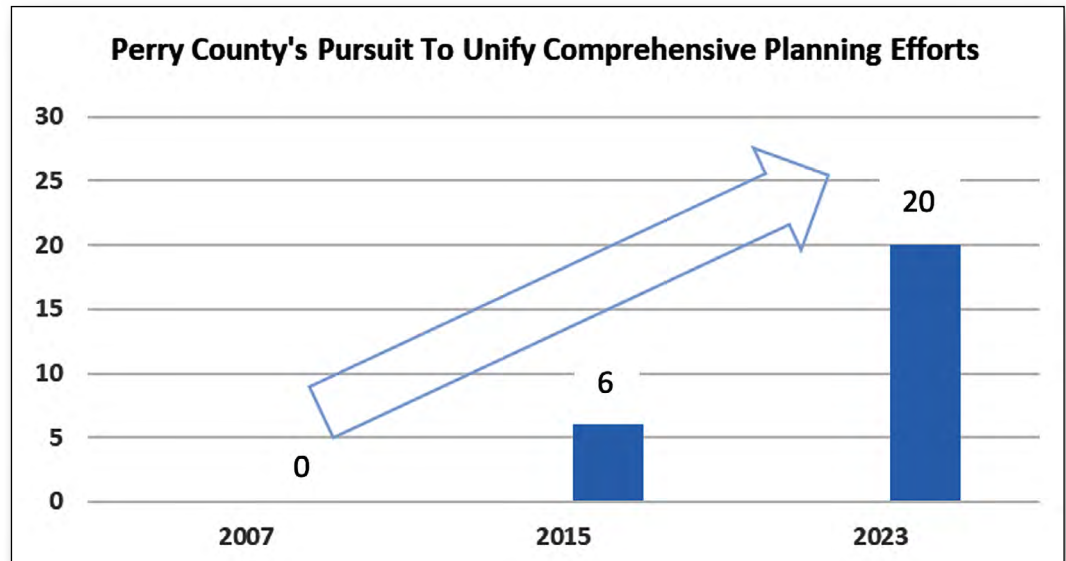
As for the 10 remaining municipalities, seven of their local comprehensive plans are well over the required 10-year review obligation. For those out of compliance, draft resolutions are still available to sign onto PICTURE PERRY and join the unified approach.

Since PICTURE PERRY is a fluid plan, new projects have been arriving for what will be the first bi-annual consideration of amendments. Deliberation will take place this August or September. Two projects currently up for

consideration include: a small bridge on Pine Hill Road in Spring Township that needs to be replaced but does not qualify for federal transportation funding; and a not-for-profit effort that would bring a new athletic and community complex to the county.

Since PICTURE PERRY's implementation, planning staff has initiated steps to complete work on Phase 1 of the county's stormwater management plan. Also, we've initiated an effort to inventory municipal equipment.

The county's non-partnering municipalities can still become part of the growing consortium that is choosing to work together on this unified planning approach rather than plan independently. Staff is available to visit with them to provide information and address concerns.



Our ultimate goal is to have 100 percent participation in the county's comprehensive plan and to have it work for everyone.

A link to PICTURE PERRY's adopted resolution can be viewed [here](#).

Congressman John Joyce, M.D., left, of Pennsylvania's 13th District, recently paid a visit to the office of Perry County Planning Coordinator Jason Finnerty, right, where they spoke at length about the recently adopted PICTURE PERRY comprehensive plan. An Altoona native, Joyce represents all or part of 12 counties in south-central PA, including all of Perry County.



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Get Your Submissions Ready: Dauphin County Premier Project Awards Coming Back in 2024!

After a one-year hiatus, the [Dauphin County Premier Project Awards](#) will return in early 2024.

We'll start accepting submissions for the new and improved program this fall, so be sure to watch our website and social media for news.

Although we've made some slight modifications to our judging system and award categories, the PPAs will, as always, recognize planning excellence in projects that meet the county's community, environmental and economic goals.

Like before, Individuals, organizations, municipalities, public authorities, developers and public/private partnerships will be eligible to submit applications for plans, studies and projects in which they were principally involved in design, development or implementation.

Examples include, but are not limited to: comprehensive plans, development projects, ordinance revisions, infrastructure improvement, renewal projects, downtown development, neighborhood revitalization, transit, bike-ped, etc.

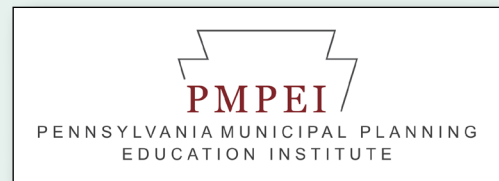
Also, keep an eye out for news about the awards ceremony which will take place in the new year.



Educational Opportunities Coming This Fall





Watch for classes on planning and community topics this fall from our partners at the **Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute** and **Pennsylvania Downtown Center**.

Visit our [Education & Training page](#) and watch for news and updates on our social media!



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Many grant/funding programs require applicants to submit a letter from their local, county or regional planning agency to confirm that a project is consistent with local plans. [Click here](#) to request a planning consistency letter, or call the TCRPC office at 717-234-2639 for more information. You may also email us at planning@tcrpc-pa.org.

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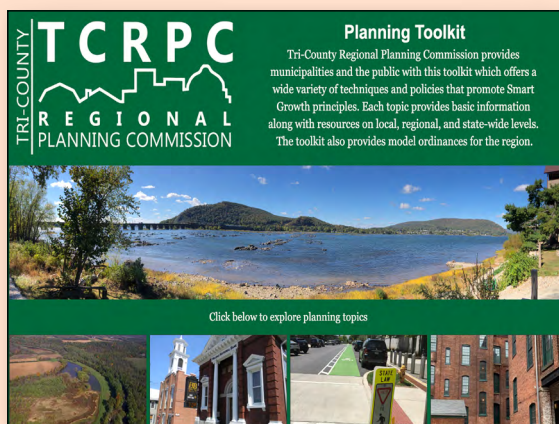
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THE TCRPC PLANNING TOOLKIT: *A Valuable Resource for Municipalities Around the Region & State*

TCRPC's online [Planning Toolkit](#) provides local governments and the public about a wide variety of techniques and policies that promote up-to-date Smart Growth principles.

The site features fact sheets and model ordinances on numerous topics that you can download to help your community address planning-level issues in consistent and effective ways.



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PUBLIC INFORMATION & PARTICIPATION

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