

## Transportation Updates

*From Executive Director Andrew Bomberger, AICP*

Through the USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads For All (SS4A) Program, TCRPC has received a \$400,000 supplemental planning grant which will be used to progress priority project locations identified in the [HATS Regional Safety Action Plan](#).

The five priority project locations were determined by reviewing PennDOT's latest Highway Safety Network Screening list and eliminating locations where improvements are either planned or were recently constructed.

The priority project locations are as follows:

- US 11 and PA 17 – Liverpool Borough (Perry County)
- Hersheypark Drive and Laudermilch Road – Derry Township (Dauphin County)
- Walnut Street and 28th Street and Penbrook Avenue – Penbrook Borough (Dauphin County)
- Park Drive and Petersburg Road – South Middleton Township (Cumberland County)
- Newville Road and Kerrsville Road – West Pennsboro Township (Cumberland County)

Work for each location will include additional safety and traffic engineering analysis, public outreach, development and evaluation of conceptual alternatives, and establishment of cost estimates.

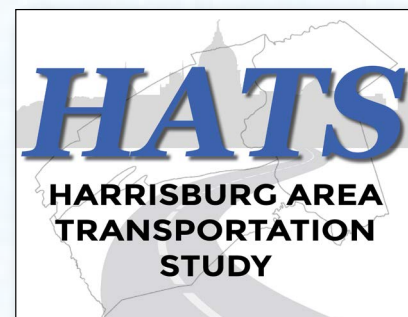
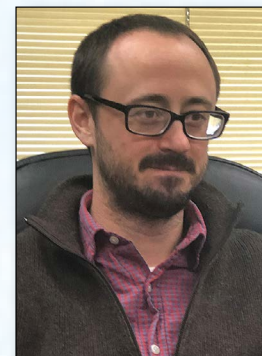
The final deliverable of these activities will be a set of safety countermeasure recommendations that can seamlessly move into design/implementation/construction.

In other transportation planning updates:

Development of the FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is underway. An RTP Implementation Work Session was held in October to review the preliminary draft, which was then presented to the HATS Technical and Coordinating Committees in December. The required public comment period is anticipated to be held in May 2026, with adoption occurring at the following HATS meetings in June.

Also, after a desk review and site visit in Spring 2025, HATS received their formal recertification from the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through September 8, 2029.

Within the Final Report, HATS received 4 commendations and 6 recommendations, which staff will address moving forward.



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# SAVE THE DATE!



## ***DETAILS COMING SOON..***

Interested in sponsoring this special event?  
**[Click here](#)** to find out how!

## Dauphin County Planning Commission Asks for Public's Help Creating 10-Year Comprehensive Plan, Starting With Online Survey

Dauphin County has begun working on its next long-range Comprehensive Plan, which will help guide land use planning in all 40 of its municipalities over the next decade.

The Comprehensive Plan is created every 10 years to keep Dauphin County's communities on the same page with regard to growth, development and resource management.

To start the process, the Dauphin County Planning Commission has created a brief, 10-question public survey to determine what matters most to the people who live in, work in, or visit the county and care about its future.

The survey is available [here](#) or by clicking or scanning the code at right. The deadline to complete it is May 31.

In addition to the survey, the DCPC will hold public listening sessions and meetings with local officials and stakeholders in the first half of 2026. Interested folks should keep an eye on the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission's website and social media for announcements about these events.

The input gathered from these resources will help to set priorities and identify key issues such as housing, transportation, economic development, land use, and environmental sustainability.

It will also ensure that as the Comprehensive Plan is shaped, it will reflect the community's values and guide decisions that affect growth and quality of life.

The county is encouraging wide public participation in the process so when the plan is completed in 2027, it will align the community's goals with action that is implementable and equitable to all, and that ensures economic vitality.



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## PICTURE PERRY Implementation Progress & What's Ahead

By Jason Finnerty, *Perry County Planning Coordinator*

The implementation workgroups for PICTURE PERRY, the Perry County comprehensive plan, recently held their first sessions for 2026, bringing together municipal leaders and community partners to coordinate planning efforts.

Summary reports from the sessions -- which emphasized collaboration, sustainability, infrastructure investment and economic development -- will be posted to the [PICTURE PERRY website](#).

The workgroups will meet again in May and September. They include: Community Facilities & Utilities; Economic Development; Housing; Natural Resources and Recreation; and Transportation. A PDF of the schedule is available [available here](#).

Northeast Madison Township recently adopted the PICTURE PERRY plan, making it the municipality's first-ever comprehensive plan. The county Planning Commission commended the township for its decision, saying it demonstrated strong leadership and a commitment to cooperative planning across the county.

Planning staff will continue outreach to the seven remaining townships that have not yet adopted the plan, with the goal of achieving full participation among all 30 Perry County municipalities.

Staff will also continue assembling project sheets for potential inclusion in the 2026 amendment cycle. The project submission form is available on the [PICTURE PERRY homepage](#).

All action items and project submissions received in 2026 will be considered for the 2027 plan amendment cycle.

For assistance, email [Jason Finnerty](#).



## The Lasting Legacy of Land Preservation: How Conservation Easements Can Be the Gift That Keeps on Giving

By Alexa Korber, *Planner*

"Acquire, Preserve, Protect Land, Forever."

This is the motto of the [Central Pennsylvania Conservancy](#), a non-profit charitable land trust organization that has preserved over 7,000 acres of the region's land in the form of conservation easements.

Dauphin County locals hearing the words "land trust" or "easement" may also think of [Manada Conservancy](#), a Hummelstown-based organization of the same nature that has preserved over 4,000 acres in Dauphin County.

The benefits of conservation easements are many. For example, landowners can preserve their property for future generations while maintaining rights of ownership and the ability to negotiate maintenance uses and rights of access.

Depending on the type of land and the specific nature of the easement, landowners may also be able to take advantage of federal income tax deductions and other tax breaks.

Some of the priority preservation areas in Dauphin County are properties around the Swatara Creek and those within the [Kittatinny Ridge Sentinel Landscape](#).

While conservancies may be interested in certain farming properties for their historic value, those who wish to preserve crop-yielding farmland may want to consider contacting the [Dauphin County Conservation District](#) for more information on the farm preservation program.



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Planning News & Updates



# EV CHARGING STATIONS SURVEY ENDING SOON!



## *Cumberland, Dauphin & Perry County Residents:*

This is your chance to tell us where you'd like to see  
charging stations in your community:  
Downtown areas? Shopping plazas? Event venues?

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## Help Shape Your Ride: Take Our Human Services Transportation Survey



By Karen Dixon, *Transportation & Community Planner*

The Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS) is updating its Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP), and your voice can make a difference.

By taking our [survey](#), you can help make transportation safer, easier and more accessible for seniors, individuals with disabilities and other vulnerable populations in our region.

The HSTP also addresses gaps in service between transit, healthcare and social services so these folks can reach essential destinations like jobs, medical care and groceries.

Your feedback -- whether you're a rider, caregiver, advocate or service provider -- directly influences how local priorities are identified and how state and federal funding is invested.

The HSTP accesses funding through the Federal Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program, which supports projects that remove barriers to mobility.

The anonymous responses gathered through this survey will shape the plan and help determine future transportation improvements across the HATS region.

You can link to the survey [here](#) through the end of February.

## Don't Let SusqueCycle's Partial Wintertime "Hybernation" Stop You From Biking!

By Karen Dixon, *Transportation & Community Planner*

Like many bikeshare systems, SusqueCycle places about half of its fleet into seasonal hibernation during the winter months to accommodate lower demand and ensure proactive maintenance.

While this pause is a practical necessity, it also creates an opportunity to shift the conversation to winter mobility since cold weather doesn't have to mean *inactivity*.

With the right preparation, education and mindset, cycling can remain a safe, reliable and energizing transportation option throughout the winter season. It supports physical and mental health, reduces reliance on short vehicle trips, and keeps our community connected year-round.

Here are a few tips for wintertime cycling:

- Dress in layers, wear insulated and wind-resistant outerwear, and choose gloves and footwear that provide warmth and traction.
- Using front and rear lights and reflective gear is especially important during shorter daylight hours.
- Riding at reduced speeds and braking sooner helps account for wet, snowy or icy conditions.
- Riders should also remain alert for seasonal roadway hazards such as slush, snow buildup and faded pavement markings.

Looking ahead to spring, SusqueCycle's riders can expect station changes, system updates and continued growth.

As the days get longer and temperatures begin to rise, these improvements will further support safe, convenient, year-round biking in Harrisburg while advancing a healthier, more resilient and more inclusive transportation network.

For more information, visit [www.susquecycle.org](http://www.susquecycle.org) and start pedaling into the future today!



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## REQUEST A PLANNING CONSISTENCY LETTER

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](mailto:planning@tcrpc-pa.org).



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### Meet Our New Transportation Planner

Brian Snyder, our new transportation planner, comes from Pike County, where he worked as an assistant mapping director and community planner, and was involved in all aspects of countywide land use and transportation planning.

He holds a Surveying Technology degree from the PA College of Technology in Williamsport, and we know he'll make an excellent addition to the TCRPC staff.

Welcome, Brian!



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### PUBLIC INFORMATION & PARTICIPATION

This newsletter is a primary means, other than such items as may be published on the TCRPC website or broadcast by the general media, by which information concerning the Regional and Transportation Planning programs is made available to the citizens and public of the Tri-County Region. It is distributed four times a year and has a circulation of over 2,000. The meetings of the Regional Planning Commission and the Harrisburg Area Transportation Study are open to the public. Persons who wish to receive issues of this newsletter, obtain other information or comment about the planning programs should email [planning@tcrpc-pa.org](mailto:planning@tcrpc-pa.org).



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Home of TCRPC

*The preparation and distribution of the TCRPC Newsletter is financed in part by grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and Dauphin and Perry counties.*