

## Regional Transportation Plan & Sober Ride Home Roll On

*From Executive Director Andrew Bomberger, AICP*

Development of the HATS 2050 Regional Transportation Plan continues!

Public participation through in-person events and an online survey was the focus last summer.

Then in the fall, municipal outreach focused on updating the transportation needs evaluated in the Project Pipeline process.

This past winter, HATS staff focused on developing the draft chapters and getting stakeholder input on the Focus Areas contained in the plan.

Throughout the entire process, Steering Committee meetings have been held to provide guidance on the broad structure and direction of the plan, including the development of the Vision and Goals and the scoring priorities of the Project Pipeline.

The draft Plan update will be finalized this spring, with the required public comment period anticipated to occur this summer.



Adoption of the HATS 2050 RTP is anticipated in September 2025.

This past September, HATS adopted a Regional Safety Action Plan, funded by the federal Safe Streets and Road For All (SS4A) program, that highlighted how impaired driving contributes to the region's traffic fatalities and serious injuries.

As part of the implementation of that plan, HATS staff, in cooperation with Commute PA and Uber, secured an SS4A discretionary demonstration grant for the Sober Ride Home program, which provides free rideshare vouchers to people who have consumed alcohol at bars and restaurants.

The Sober Ride Home program initially ran from December 23 to January 7, but due to overwhelming demand, was temporarily paused to ensure the parameters of the vouchers were meeting the intent of the program.

Once changes to voucher eligibility had been made, the program resumed for the St. Patrick's Day weekend, Friday, March 14 and Saturday, March 15.

Moving forward, HATS staff will monitor available funding and coordinate with Commute PA and Uber to make vouchers available for select holiday weekends.

More details can be found at [www.soberridehome.org](http://www.soberridehome.org).



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# REGISTER NOW

for the 2025 TCRPC

# ANNUAL LUNCHEON!



**THURSDAY, MAY 1**

**11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

at the

**SHERATON HARRISBURG  
HERSHEY HOTEL**

*4650 Lindle Road, Harrisburg*

With a Keynote Address on  
**AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

by **Morgan Boyd**

*Special Assistant to the Secretary,  
PA Department of Community &  
Economic Development*



**Just \$10 per person -- OR -- \$70 for a table of 8**

**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)**

# SusqueCycle's Record-Breaking Year!

By Karen Dixon, *Transportation & Community Planner*

SusqueCycle, Harrisburg's popular bike share program, just wrapped up an incredible 2024 with ridership skyrocketing by over 51 percent! This phenomenal growth showcases how cycling is becoming the go-to choice for convenient, affordable, and eco-friendly transportation across the city.

So, what is fueling this cycling revolution? A wave of exciting upgrades and community-focused enhancements! SusqueCycle rolled out a fleet of sleek, modern bikes equipped with cutting-edge GPS technology for a smoother, smarter ride. Plus, adding two brand-new docking stations made hopping on a bike easier than ever for residents and visitors.

And there's more! Affordable rental options have empowered riders to embrace biking for everything from daily commutes to venturous spins around town. Whether it's a quick errand or a cruise along the Greenbelt, SusqueCycle helps everyone discover the joy of two wheels.

Even during Harrisburg's chilly winter months, SusqueCycle kept rolling. Half of the fleet took a seasonal "hibernation," but don't worry—look for the return of the complete fleet in the next few weeks.

Looking ahead to 2025, SusqueCycle is gearing up for potential changes that can create even bigger ridership growth! With the city's enthusiastic embrace of sustainable urban transportation, the future promises healthier lifestyles, cleaner air, and more ways to explore Harrisburg on two wheels.

Stay tuned for potential expansion plans that will take your ride to the next level.

Ready to join the movement? Visit [www.susquecycle.org](http://www.susquecycle.org) and start pedaling into the future today!



## Coming Soon: Our 2024 Building Activity Report

TCRPC's 2024 Building Activity Report will offer a detailed report on residential, commercial and industrial development in Dauphin and Perry counties, with comparisons over previous years.

Enumerating building permits submitted to local municipalities, the report's goal is to show the region's growth and to demonstrate how it fits in with trends occurring elsewhere.

Check the [TCRPC website](http://www.tcrpc.org) in the coming weeks!



**CLICK HERE TO EXPLORE  
TCRPC'S YOUTUBE  
CHANNEL!**



Click here for all the latest & archived meeting videos for TCRPC, HATS, the Dauphin and Perry County Planning Commissions and more!

**Follow Our Social Media for  
News & Updates About  
Future Events & Classes**





# WREP Continues 2025 Committee Meetings

By Alexa Korber, AICP, Planner

Dauphin County's Water Resource Enhancement Program (WREP) has jumped straight into 2025 with a new work program and lots of collaborative efforts.

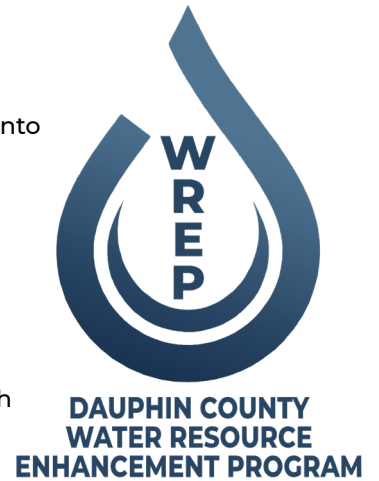
Over the past year, the WREP advisory committee engaged in discussions to identify stormwater projects within their partner communities. It also explored strategies to help municipalities address water-related challenges with a focus on supporting MS4 permit compliance and meeting Minimum Control Measure (MCM) requirements. It will also help participating municipalities obtain additional grant funding for flooding and water improvement projects.

A primary aim in 2025 will be to gain MS4 credit for partner communities' public outreach and education, public participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, and more.

The group will be a main sponsor of the Dauphin County Wetland Festival on April 19 at Wildwood Park. This will be in addition to the group's main goal, which is to find a large-scale project equivalent to our pilot project—the Conewago Creek Restoration that spanned across Londonderry, Conewago and Mt. Joy (Lancaster County) townships. However, it is still looking at smaller scale, localized projects that affect flooding and water quality.

To date, WREP has identified priority projects in Middletown and Royalton boroughs and East Hanover, Lower Paxton and Lower Swatara townships. Funding will be sought to implement these projects. Through our Countywide Action Plan (CAP) partner program we have identified two additional projects to be completed in East Hanover Township (the South Crawford Road stream restoration project) and in West Hanover Township (Stream Restoration of 630 feet along an unnamed tributary (UNT) of Manada Creek).

For more information on the WREP program, please visit our [webpage](#).



## 4 Central PA Counties Receive \$2.4 Million in DEP Grants for Clean Water, Stream Restoration Efforts

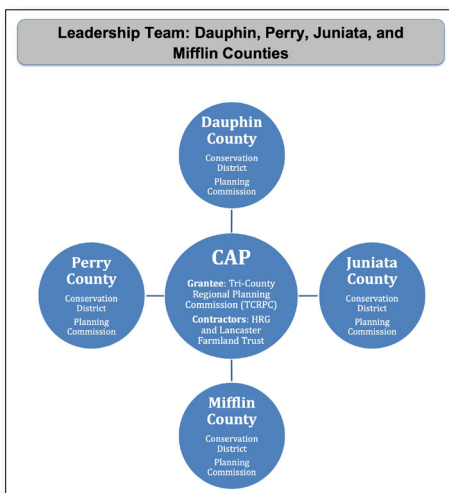
### Latest Funding Round Brings Total to Nearly \$6 Million Since 2022

Four Central PA counties recently received grants totaling nearly \$2.4 million from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

The funding, administered by Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC), was awarded to Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin and Perry counties through the Chesapeake Bay Community Clean Water Action Plan Coordinator and Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Implementation Grant program.

Since the initial CAP Implementation Block Grant Award in 2022, the counties have received nearly \$6 million in funding to implement clean water Best Management Practices (BMPs).

This year, Dauphin County Conservation District (DCCD) will use the funding for two stream restoration projects, including 630 feet along an unnamed tributary (UNT) of Manada Creek and 900 feet along a UNT of Manada Creek.



Last year, Juniata County Conservation District (JCCD) implemented two stream bank restoration projects using CAP funds, including 2,200 feet on Lost Creek and 300 feet along Delaware Creek. In a period of one year, JCCD will restore 0.8 miles of stream in Juniata County.

This year, Mifflin County Conservation District (MCCD) expects to complete five stream restoration projects totaling 6,550 feet. Between 2022-25, MCCD will have restored 3.4 miles of streams between 14 projects using CAP funding.

Between 2022-24, Perry County Conservation District's (PCCD) Cover Crop Program incentivized over 9,400 acres of land between 78 farms using CAP funding.

"The \$2.4 million in new funding from DEP will go a long way toward cleaning up water resources in the region, providing environmental as well as recreational benefits," said TCRPC Executive Director Andrew Bomberger. "TCRPC is very proud to administer the CAP program for these four counties."

# Picture Perry

## Perry County Planning Update

By Jason Finnerty, *Perry County Planning Coordinator*

The Perry County Planning Commission staff is revisiting the eight townships that have not passed resolutions adopting the Picture Perry comprehensive plan.

This annual effort will continue until all 30 Perry County municipalities sign on to the plan.

The first round of 2025 implementation workgroup sessions has concluded, and summary reports of the items discussed during these sessions are now posted to the PICTURE PERRY website hub. <https://picture-perry-dauphinco.hub.arcgis.com/pages/picture-in-motion>

Discussion from these sessions included:

- Improvements and maintenance as well as interest in submitting a project for the Duncannon Borough electric grid facilities;
- Floodgate options for Duncannon;
- A possible connecting trail running from the Appalachian Trail to Pine Hill Road;
- A possible boat launch and parking lot along Shermans Creek at the end of Watershed Drive;
- Challenges with the PennDOT Central Office in trying to implement the county's wayfinding sign project;
- Potential mixed housing development in Marysville Borough;
- Concern about stormwater models becoming obsolete in light of more frequent and intense storms;
- Potential floodplain mitigation projects for Duncannon Borough.

The project amendments being considered include:

- A cross-river feasibility study for a bridge over the Susquehanna River between Liverpool Borough in Perry County and Millersburg Borough in Dauphin County;
- The Meck's Corner intersection safety improvement project in Carroll and Wheatfield townships;
- Redesign of the Route 11/15 Market Street intersection near the border of Duncannon Borough and Penn Township;
- A partnership with the PA Area Agency on Aging to participate in the ECHO (Elder Cottage Housing Opportunity) program;
- A countywide EMS system;
- A Western Perry County Area Shelter;
- Design of a partial or full interchange at Route 11/15 and SR 849 in Penn Township;
- Realignment of the planned growth area along SR 0849 and relocating it to an area along SR 274 in Penn Township;
- Redesign of the 74/274 intersection safety improvement project in Spring Township;
- A road widening and rock slope project on the eastern end of Sugar Run Road (SR 4006) in Tuscarora Township;
- A low-income emergency housing project by Join Hands Ministry.



### Welcome Our New Planner!

**Rebecca Wenschhof** is our new Transportation Planner.

She received a Master of Science degree in Geoenvironmental Science and Sustainability from Shippensburg University in December.

She'll be working on GIS and mapping for the Regional Transportation Plan, as well as other transportation projects.

As an intern with us last year, she did traffic counts and GIS mapping. So we're very pleased that she decided to join us full-time!

## April 10 Public Meeting Scheduled for HATS Certification Review

The Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties, will hold a certification review public meeting on Thur., Apr. 10 from 9 to 10 AM.

The public meeting is a component of the mandatory review of the HATS planning process by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA Pennsylvania Division) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA Region III).

It will be held in Room 214 of the Dauphin County Administration Building, 2 South 2nd Street, Harrisburg.

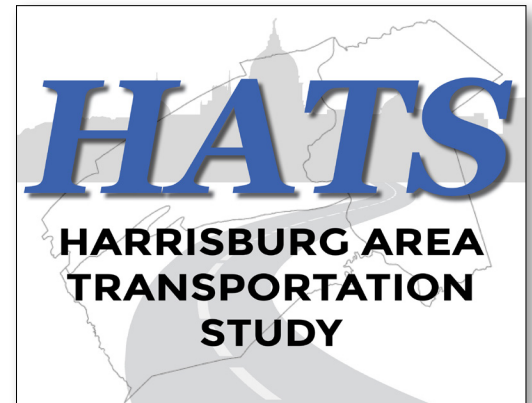
To participate on Zoom, [register here](#).

To participate by phone, call the TCRPC office at 717-234-2639 or email [planning@tcrpc-pa.org](mailto:planning@tcrpc-pa.org) at least two days prior to the meeting and leave a message on how to contact you with meeting access information.

In addition, the public is invited to submit comments by April 25 to:

Federal Transit Administration, Region III  
c/o Mark Wolanski  
1835 Market Street, Suite 1910  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2932  
[mark.wolanski@dot.gov](mailto:mark.wolanski@dot.gov)

Federal Highway Administration, Pennsylvania Division  
c/o Gene Porochniak  
30 North Third Street, Suite 700  
Harrisburg, PA 17101  
[eugene.porochniak@dot.gov](mailto:eugene.porochniak@dot.gov)



# 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.

**VISIT THE  
TOOLKIT  
SOON!**

A green rectangular graphic with the title "PLANNING TOOLKIT" in white, bold, sans-serif font at the top. Below the title, a small line of text reads: "TCRPC launched this online planning toolkit in 2022 as a service to Central Pennsylvania's municipalities, as well as citizens and local governments around the commonwealth." Below this text are three small images: a farm with silos, an electric vehicle charging station, and a house. At the bottom, there are three columns of text, each with a heading and a bulleted list of topics.

**ENVIRONMENTAL FACT SHEETS**

- Agricultural & Natural Resource Protection
- Brownfield Redevelopment
- Community Gardens
- Conservation Easements
- Green Building Standards
- Historic Resource Protection
- Solar Facilities
- Stormwater Management

**TRANSPORTATION FACT SHEETS**

- Access Management
- Complete Streets
- Connectivity
- Electric Vehicles & Charging Stations
- E-Scooters & E-Bikes
- Impact Fees
- Off-Street Parking Management
- Signal Management

**ZONING FACT SHEETS**

- Accessory Dwelling Units
- Affordable & Attainable Housing
- Agricultural & Natural Resource Protection
- Commercial & Office Redevelopment
- Farm Animals & Non-Traditional Pets
- Forestry
- Form Based Codes



## 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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## Read the TCRPC 2024 Annual Report

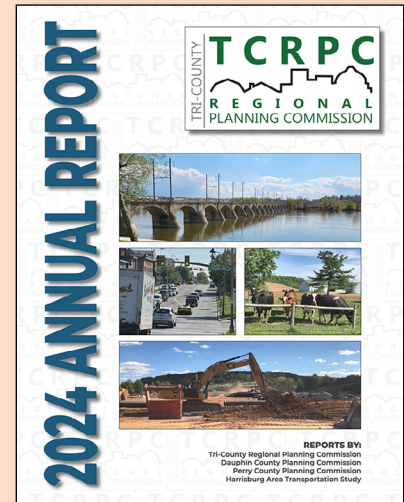
Our 2024 Annual Report covers the accomplishments of our regional, county and transportation programs over the past year, including:

**The Regional Growth Management Plan**, which promotes economic growth and revitalization in our communities while protecting natural resources, optimizing transportation options and recognizing important quality-of-life issues;

**The Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS)**, the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the three-county region;

Staff support for the **Dauphin County Planning Commission**; and staff support for the **Perry County Planning Commission**.

[Click here to read it!](#)



## Tri-County Regional Planning Commission

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(717) 234-2639 / [www.tcrpc-pa.org](http://www.tcrpc-pa.org)

### 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).



*Strawberry Square,  
New Home of TCRPC*

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