



American Planning Association  
**Pennsylvania Chapter**  
*Lehigh Valley-Berks Section*

## Monthly Newsletter

 June 2025

---

### New Month, New Look

Hello planners!

For those new to our emails, welcome! We are the Lehigh Valley/Berks Section of the American Planning Association, Pennsylvania Chapter. We are our region's professional organization dedicated to promoting planning at all levels, as well as being a resource for our local officials, planning commissioners, professional planners, and planning consultants. We are 100% volunteer led, comprised of planners around the three-county area, and we aim to provide a gathering place of information, networking, and education. We try to offer free resources to any community or planner in our area, such as our email blasts, but we encourage municipalities and planners to consider joining our [low-cost membership](#) if able to access even more resources and trainings.

For those who are regulars, you might have noticed some upgrades! We're working to streamline our communication efforts and make information more

accessible to our members and partners. Our regular news, meeting information, and partner updates will be delivered in this convenient newsletter style at the start of every month. We'll still send the occasional email for special announcements and events, but we'll try to keep it limited to just this monthly email blast.

We expect a few hiccups as we roll out the new format, so please bear with us if you receive a few extra emails. We hope it's ultimately worth it to help our members. If you have any thoughts or comments, please feel free to reach out as always.

Enjoy the beautiful June weather and the start of summer, and we hope to talk to you all soon!

Craig Beavers, AICP Candidate

### Section Chair



 News and Announcements

---

## June Meeting

Our next Section Council meeting will be held on Thursday, June 12th at noon at the Upper Macungie Township Building. The address is [8330 Schantz Road, Breinigsville, PA 18031.](#)

We will be joined by UMT's Recreation Manager, Ryan Griffiths, who will give a presentation on their [Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan](#). In addition to our exciting guest speaker, we will have our usual updates from our planning

partners and section initiatives, including our 2026 Conference Planning and other events. And bring your own lunch!

In addition, immediately following the meeting, we will host a Site Visit to the site of the future [Upper Macungie Township Community Lifestyle Center](#) and learn more about the planning behind this exciting project. We hope you can join!

[Click Here for Meeting Information](#)

## Section Volunteers Wanted!

We have several volunteer opportunities open for anyone in our section who is interested. These positions have a low-time commitment, allow for AICP credits, and are a fun way to connect with colleagues across the region! If any of these items interest you, please reach out to Craig or Samantha.

[We will hold a Summer Social / Info Session](#) this summer to get together for fun and networking, as well as to share more information about volunteer opportunities. [Fill out the form by June 6th](#) to help us plan the best date for everyone interested.

- 2026 Conference Planning Committee Members - This committee helps to plan and organize the upcoming conference in Bethlehem. Commitment involves a few meetings over the next year, and help in various subgroups like awards planning, social events planning, speaker selection, etc. Participants are also eligible for discounted registration rates to the conference.
- Election Nomination Committee Members - This committee consists of three people who collect the names of interested candidates for section office, and distribute the

candidates list and ballot. Commitment involves 1-3 meetings total, and about 30 minutes of data collection.

- Section Officers - Later this fall, we will be holding elections for all of our Section Council Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, 5 Council (2 planners/ 2 PC members). Positions have various levels of commitment and responsibilities, but are eligible for AICP credits and reimbursement to Section and Chapter events.

[Click Here to Volunteer](#)

## **Great Places in PA Nominations**

The APA Pennsylvania Chapter is seeking nominations for 2025 Great Places in PA. The categories are Great Greenways/Trails or Preservers, Great Public Spaces, and Great Transformations. The submission deadline is Monday, June 9th.

If you know a Greenway/Trail, Preserve, Public Space, or Transformation project that merits being designated a Great Place in PA, Nominate it!

[Learn More](#)

**Webinar Wednesday: Complete Streets**

In this session, we will explore the evolving concept of “Complete Streets”—a planning and design approach that prioritizes safety, accessibility, and mobility for all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation. While traditionally associated with roadway design, Complete Streets are far more than just traffic lanes and sidewalks. This session will delve into the broader urban design context, examining how streets interact with adjacent land uses and how the design of building frontages—especially first floors—can significantly influence the character and functionality of public spaces.

*CM credit is pending approval. You must attend the webinar live in order to earn CM credit.*

Speaker(s):

Peter Quintanilla; Justin Miller; and Kirsten Compitello

*\*\*The Pennsylvania Chapter is not responsible for the materials or opinions of the speaker(s) you will hear\*\**

Deadline to register is June 3

If you're interested in sponsoring a Webinar Wednesday session or have a session for Webinar Wednesday please contact us.

Send your request to [admin@planningpa.org](mailto:admin@planningpa.org).

Register Now

## Upcoming Events

Our Section provides a calendar of CM events, local initiatives, and major planning meetings. Here are a few upcoming events of note:

- [June 4 - Webinar Wednesday](#) (1 CM)
- [June 5 - Multi-Modal Transportation Impact Studies](#) (1.5 CM)
- [June 6 - Utility Scale Renewable Energy](#) (1.5 CM)
- [June 11 - Berks County Planning Commission](#)
- [June 26 - Lehigh Valley Planning Commission](#)

To view more events and CM webinars, click the button below.

[View More Events](#)

## Employment Opportunities

Our Section highlights a variety of planning and planning related jobs in our area. Here are a few open positions:

- [Transportation Planner - Lehigh Valley Planning Commission](#)
- [Community Planner – Hanover Engineering](#)
- [Planning Engineer – Lehigh County Authority](#)
- [Civil/Environmental Engineer – Lehigh Valley Planning Commission](#)

To view more job opportunities, click the button below.

[View More Jobs](#)

Liked this month's newsletter? Don't forget to spread it out!



**Lehigh Valley/Berks Section,  
APA PA**

Allentown, PA  
United States of America

You received this email because you signed up on our website or purchased an APA PA membership.

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update preferences](#)

