

FLASH



May 2026



Berks DES Radio Fleet Informational Meeting

Wednesday, May 20, 2026 | 6:00 PM
Albright College, Roessner Hall
1940 N 13th St • Reading

RSVP REQUIRED

Please verify how you will be attending the meeting, in person or by Teams and who will be attending. (Manager / Secretary / Municipal Officials)

Contact: Andrea Weist
aweist@albright.edu
(610) 929-6503



FREE (Virtual) Floodplain Ordinance Workshop

May 22, 2026 | 8:00 AM-12:00 PM
May 27, 2026 | 12:00 PM-4:00 PM

Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency and Tetra Tech are hosting two virtual workshops for floodplain managers, officials, and staff on floodplain ordinance updates, resilience standards, and CRS credit opportunities, with both morning and afternoon sessions available.

Register Here



PFAS in Pennsylvania: Regulations, Treatment Solutions, and PENNVEST Financing

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 | 10:00 AM-11:00 AM
VIRTUAL, VIA ZOOM

In partnership with the University of Maryland's Environmental Finance Center, The Water Center at University of Pennsylvania is hosting a webinar to help Pennsylvania water systems understand PFAS regulations, treatment solutions, and PENNVEST financing options.

Register Here



LTAP Courses

PIPE CULVERT INSTALLATION AND REPLACEMENT

Wednesday, June 10, 2026
8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Berks County Agricultural Center
1238 County Welfare Rd • Leesport

ASPHALT ROAD MAINTENANCE

Wednesday, June 24, 2026
8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Berks County Agricultural Center
1238 County Welfare Rd • Leesport

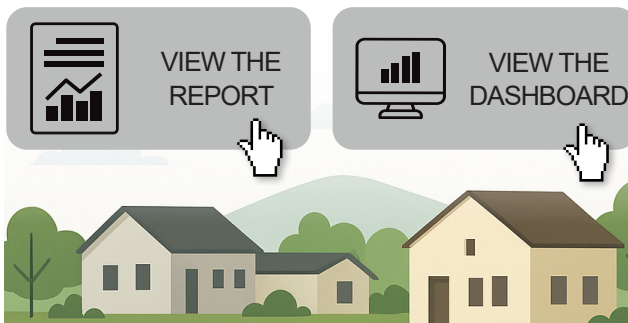
TO REGISTER:

gis.pennndot.gov/ltap/

Or Contact **Matt McGough** at the Berks County Planning Commission at **610 478-6300 Ext. 6306** or via email at mmcgough@berkspa.gov



This Month's Subdivision and Land Development Report



Planning in Action

Our monthly Planning in Action roundup highlights planning-related matters happening throughout Berks County, including projects, partnerships, plan implementation, and municipal planning reviews.

Explore the full list of articles



SRPRA Board Meeting

Leaders gathered at the Berks County Services Center On April 27th to discuss continued progress on restoring passenger rail service to Reading, with officials pointing to a newly received memorandum of understanding from Amtrak as a key step forward. The agreement allows for data sharing and will provide support to the project into the next phase of planning, including station locations, ridership projections, and cost estimates. While service is currently projected for the 2030–2031 timeframe, local leaders say the long-term benefits could be significant—boosting tourism, expanding access to jobs, and enhancing regional connectivity for residents and visitors alike.

To stay informed on the progress of passenger rail visit:

<https://gosprpa.com/>



The Residence at Boyertown

The Berks County Planning Commission was pleased to attend the grand opening of The Residence at Boyertown in Colebrookdale Township. Planner Shanice Ellison and Executive Director Ashley Showers joined community members to celebrate this new 125-unit senior living community, developed by Weathervane Capital Partners. The Residence offers three levels of care— independent living, assisted living, and memory care— providing flexible options to meet residents' evolving needs. The pet-friendly community is a welcome addition to the area, supporting quality housing and care for older adults.

To learn more, visit:

<https://weathervanecp.com/properties/residence-at-boyertown>



STATE SENATOR
JUDY SCHWANK
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS ADMINISTRATOR

Senate Approves Schwank's Resolution to Study Municipal Planning Code

Reading, PA — April 22, 2026 — The Pennsylvania Senate yesterday passed Senate Resolution 211, introduced by Sen. Judy Schwank (D-Berks), which directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a comprehensive study of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code.

Pennsylvania's Municipalities Planning Code was enacted in 1968 and serves as the framework for governing land use planning, zoning, subdivision, and development decisions for municipalities and counties. The study conducted by the LBFC, a bipartisan, bicameral legislative service agency, is tasked with evaluating how the code is performing and recommending improvements.

"Pennsylvania's communities have changed considerably in the nearly 60 years since we established the land use law that our communities are still relying on," said Schwank. "This study will give us an honest, independent look at how the code is performing and where the commonwealth can do better in supporting municipalities as they plan for growth, housing, and economic development. We need to modernize our municipal planning code to meet today's challenges."

The Berks County Planning Commission worked with Schwank on this effort and supported the resolution. Ashley Showers, the Executive Director of the Berks County Planning Commission, stressed the need to make improvements to the planning code.

"The approval of Senate Resolution 211 marks a pivotal opportunity to modernize the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code," said Showers. "The Planning Commission looks forward to this comprehensive review and the insight it will bring, as its findings will directly influence our daily work—guiding how we support municipalities, review development proposals, and implement effective, forward-looking planning practices that better serve our communities."

The final vote in the Pennsylvania Senate was 46-2.

Contact:

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Office of Sen. Judy Schwank

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