

League Link

A Newsletter of [The Pennsylvania Municipal League](#)



July 2023



Executive Director's Report



Advocacy Action

The League's Legislative Priorities Status Update

Many of the League's [legislative priorities](#) have seen movement in the first six months of the legislative session. Please see a status update for our priorities below:

Public Safety

Local Use of Radar – [Senate Bill 459](#) awaits further consideration in the Senate Appropriations Committee. We anticipated this bill to quickly pass the Senate due to its history of nearly unanimous Senate support, however, the bill is currently stalled as Senator Greg Rothman works on amendments. Representative Kyle Donahue, along with a few Democratic colleagues, has also introduced [House Bill 1368](#), which is very similar to its Senate companion. Please continue to express your support to your House and Senate members so local use of radar can get done in 2023.

Post-Traumatic Stress Injury – Without warning, the Senate Labor and Industry Committee brought up [Senate Bill 365](#) for consideration and unanimously passed it out of committee during the last week of June. The bill was amended to make obtaining a PTSI benefit even easier, having a worse and potentially more expensive impact on municipalities than the original bill. The League and other local government organizations will continue to strongly oppose the bill if a fair and fiscally responsible compromise is not negotiated.

Municipal Finance

Local Taxation Reform – Representative Ismail Smith-Wade-El introduced a [cosponsor memo](#) intending to allow cities, boroughs and townships to lift caps on the Earned Income Tax, increase the Local Services Tax to \$82 while indexing it to inflation and implement a Payroll Tax. The League continues to use the PA Economy League's [It's Not 1965 Report](#) to educate General Assembly Members about the need for local taxation reform. We also encourage you to review our [Local Taxation Advocacy Reform Toolkit](#) to highlight local revenue issues with your state House and Senate members.

Blight Remediation

The House has moved [several bills](#) over the last few months providing optional tools, such as: vacant and blighted property registries; the ability to deny permits to LLCs if an LLC or a principal has delinquent taxes on serious code violations; and the creation of three new optional programs to enhance code enforcement. The League supports legislation that provides municipalities with greater tools to combat blight in their communities. Please also review our [Blight Remediation in PA Communities](#) report.

League's Latest

Register Now for the Municipal Leadership Summit

Information on sponsorship, exclusive exhibiting and advertising is available. The League is looking forward to your company's participation! The Schuettler Center **donation portal for the silent auction is live** for any cash or gift certificate donations.

2023 ANNUAL MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT



OCTOBER 5-8, 2023

**WIND CREEK BETHLEHEM
77 WIND CREEK BLVD
BETHLEHEM, PA 18015**



KABOOM! Playground Build

Fairview Park
415-427 Fourth Street,
Bethlehem, PA 18015
Volunteer and Sponsorship
opportunity are still available



Sponsorship, Exhibitor, and Advertising Opportunities

Information on sponsorship, exclusive exhibiting and advertising is now available. The League is looking forward to your company's participation.



Hotel Reservations

Hotel Reservations are available until Monday, September 11, 2023, or the room block is sold out. Book your room today!



Agenda

- Funding from the Commonwealth
- Sustainable Pittsburgh
- Social Worker Working Hand and Hand with Police Force
- Table Top Session with Commonwealth, Grant Writers, and Finance Expert
- Social Services and Programs for your Community
- Managers and Elected Officials Working Together to Improve Your Community
- Talk with an Architect & Grant Writer/Finance Expert About Your Challenges Financing your Municipal Projects
- Hiring and Retaining Law Enforcement
- Affordable Housing For Your Community



Events

- Revitalizing Cities and Transforming Communities: Bethlehem's Story (including a walking tour of the Bethlehem Steel Stacks)
- Guided Historic Walking Tour
- PSATC Lounge with Live Entertainment by Elton John Tribute Band
- Summit Royale Reception with Silent Auction to benefit The Schuettler Center for Municipal Development

www.pml.org/municipal-leadership-summit





We Are Building A New Playground!

We need your help to bring a
new playground
to life at Fairview Park!

Date: October 2nd - October 3rd; 9am - 4pm
October 4th; 8am - 3pm

Location: Fairview Park
415-427 4th Ave, Bethlehem, PA 18018

- Volunteers must be legal working age or older.
- The Build Day will take place in sun or rain. Please come prepared for the weather in clothes that are comfortable and can get dirty or stained with paint. Only closed-toe shoes will be allowed.
- Water and snacks, gloves and masks will be provided.

Register here!



Scan the
code here!

Register through Eventbrite:
BuildFairviewPark.eventbrite.com
OR to Chibuzo Okoro (cokoro@kaboom.org)



The League's 2023 Sustainable PA Annual Conference is this
November 1-3 at the Wyndham Gettysburg!

Join us for the Sustainable PA Annual Conference on November 1-3, 2023 at the Wyndham Gettysburg. This year's conference will focus on promoting sustainable practices in Pennsylvania and exploring ways to reach local community energy emissions reduction goals, specifically by creating a Local Climate Action Plan.

Conference Highlights

- Keynote speakers from the sustainable host community of Gettysburg
- Interactive workshops and sessions focused on creating a Local Climate Action Plan for energy emissions reduction
- Networking opportunities with professionals and advocates in the municipal sector
- Exhibits featuring sustainable products and services
- Delicious meals included: 2 breakfasts, 2 receptions, and lunch
- Rain Barrel workshop with Gettysburg Borough

Conference Details

Location: Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325

Date: November 1-3, 2023

Cost: \$175 per person

This conference will bring together professionals and advocates in the sustainability sector to share ideas, strategies, and best practices for creating a Local Climate Action Plan and reaching local community energy emissions reduction goals. A Local Climate Action Plan is a minimum requirement for many of the available grants, so attendees will learn about the best practices to complete one. By attending, you'll have the opportunity to learn from experts in the field, connect with like-minded individuals, and contribute to a more sustainable future for Pennsylvania. The goal of the conference is for attendees to walk away with a Local Climate Action Plan started and connections made to make the completion easier to accomplish.

PATH and PCCA looking for Instructors — PA Training Hub for Municipal Learning (PATH) and PA Construction Codes Academy (PCCA) are Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) programs designed to keep municipal officials current on new laws and legislative requirements and enhance their ability to govern more effectively. Individuals are contracted on a case-by-case basis depending on background and experience in the subject matter to create training material and instruct courses. Opportunities are provided to “sit in” or “audit” programs with existing instructors to help develop a comfort level for what would be expected of them.

- **PATH Instructors** — Administration; Auditors; Community & Economic Development; Finance and Budgeting; Local Government; Planning/Zoning; Public Safety; Public Works and Tax Collector (Act 32 & Act 48). If interested in becoming a PATH instructor [please fill out this form](#).
- **PCCA Instructors** — Building code administration and enforcement; Permit administration; Accessibility plan review and inspection; Building - Residential and commercial plan review; Energy - Residential and commercial plan review; Plumbing - Residential and commercial plan review; Mechanical - Residential and commercial plan review; Electrical - Residential and commercial plan review; Building - Residential and commercial inspection; Energy - Residential and commercial inspection; Plumbing - Residential and commercial inspection; Mechanical - Residential and commercial inspection; Electrical - Residential and commercial inspection; Fire/Life Safety Codes; Existing Building Code; Property

maintenance; Rental inspection; Solar energy and Flood plain enforcement and flood-resistant construction. If interested in becoming a PCCA instructor [please fill out this form](#).

Be sure to fill out our [ARPA Investment Tracker](#) so we can share the great ways you are using your ARPA dollars with all members. Thank you!

We have compiled a list of articles for [League member actions regarding ARPA funding](#). We will continue to update this list as more information becomes available.

For more information, see our [News & Announcements and newsfeed](#) on our homepage.

Resource Roundup

[FEMA Extreme Heat Webinar](#) – In support of FEMA’s first ever [#SummerReady campaign](#), the agency will host a webinar this summer, August 16, for state, local, tribal and territorial officials to help stakeholders promote preparedness and resilience against extreme heat events.

[Governor Shapiro, Department of Agriculture Announce Increased Investment in Urban Agriculture in Partnership With The GIANT Company](#) – Governor Josh Shapiro, Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding and Dave Lessard, The GIANT Company’s vice president, omni-channel merchandising, fresh, toured York Fresh Food Farms to announce the GIANT Company’s commitment of \$200,000 to support 2023-24 [PA Farm Bill Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Grants](#).

[ICYMI: Recompete Pilot Program Funding Opportunity to Bring Focused Investments to Distressed Communities](#) – EDA is now accepting applications for the new \$200 million [Recompete Pilot Program](#), which is designed to make focused investments in communities most in need of economic resources and options to ensure that all communities have a path to economic prosperity.

[Pennsylvania House Passes Bipartisan Budget That Delivers on Governor Shapiro’s Key Priorities, Makes Historic, Commonsense Investments to Create a Stronger Economy, Safer and Healthier Communities, and Better Schools](#) – The bipartisan budget delivers on many of Governor Shapiro’s key proposals, including the largest increase in Basic Education Funding in Pennsylvania history, state funding for indigent defense for the first time, and significant investments in public safety, workforce & economic development, and agriculture.

[Grant Writing Workshop in Pittsburgh – September 21-22](#) – Allegheny County Police Training Academy and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grant writing workshop in Allison Park, PA – September 21-22, 2023. This training is for grant seekers across all disciplines. Attend this class and you’ll learn how to find the funding sources and write winning grant proposals.

Remember, you can access all archived editions of The League Link as well as other member publications, forms and resources in your [Member Dashboard](#).

Pennsylvania Municipal League

414 N. 2nd St, Harrisburg
Pennsylvania 17101 United States
[PML.org](#)

You received this newsletter as a benefit of your membership in
The Pennsylvania Municipal League.

[Unsubscribe](#)

If you or anyone in your municipality/organization are having trouble receiving the League Link, there is an easy fix, simply **whitelist the Mailerlite domain- mlsend.com** and you will be able to receive communications from us as part of your member benefits.

