



League Members and Partners win 2026 Governor's Excellence Awards

The Pennsylvania Municipal League proudly recognizes the exemplary work of its member municipalities in projects that benefit their communities. League members and our partners won 11 Governor's Excellence Awards during Local Government Day Recognition in Harrisburg on April 22nd, 2026.

"Local government leaders roll up their sleeves and work diligently every day to make their communities better," said John Brenner, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Municipal League. "They solve real problems and make a difference in the lives of community residents. The League is honored to help amplify their recent outstanding accomplishments as the Commonwealth recognizes and awards their innovation, creativity, and resilience."

The **Centre Region Council of Governments (COG)** is a voluntary association consisting of six member municipalities in Centre County: the **State College Borough** and the townships of **College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton**. The COG won the Governor's Fiscal Accountability and Best Management Practices Award for creating a Strategic Guide to Services and Investments. Their report is transparent and easily understandable, improving clarity, coordination, and financial planning across the organization.

City of DuBois, in Clearfield County, won the Governor's Responding to Adversity Award for their consolidation with Sandy Township. This consolidation was the largest of its kind in Pennsylvania, and local leaders showed exceptional leadership in guiding their communities through this demanding transition.

City of Pittston and the Northeast Pennsylvania (NEPA) Land Bank won the Governor's Award for Innovative Community/Governmental Initiatives. This collaboration is an innovative approach to affordable housing. The project is an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the City of Pittston, Pittston Housing Authority, the NEPA Land Bank, and Cornerstone Building Solutions.

Tarentum Borough won the Governor's Award for Information Technology. Leaders created a smart utility monitoring system to track real-time usage for water and electricity use, delivering big-city utility capabilities in a small-borough setting. This unified digital platform improves reliability, speeds emergency response, and reduces water losses.

Doylestown Township won the Governor's Health and Wellness Initiatives Award. The township partnered with Doylestown Health to spearhead a Health and Wellness Initiative focused on community education through a video series addressing a variety of health topics. The videos are produced in the township building and are available on their YouTube channel, providing accessible, reliable information to foster a healthier, more informed community.

Lower Merion Township won the Governor's Award for Innovative Planning and Sound Land Use Practices Award. It is recognized for its effort in affordable senior housing. The Ardmore House II project redeveloped an underutilized public parking lot into affordable housing for seniors. The project integrates walkability and transit services to encourage social equity and sustainable land use.

Career Recognition Award Winners

J. William Reynolds is our current League President and the Mayor of Bethlehem. He has served the city in that capacity for 20 years. He is passionate about climate change and sustainability. He focuses his energy on housing and economic recovery and development. He is also president of the Pennsylvania Municipal League.

Todd Miller is a Crescent Township Commissioner and serves as president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners (PSATC), which is a partner organization with The League. He has served more than 35 years in local government and law enforcement. Before becoming an elected official, he served the township as a police officer and chief of police. He is a strong advocate for public safety and community outreach.

Dan Santoro is the Manager for Cranberry Township and serves as president of the Association for Pennsylvania Municipal Management (APMM). He began his public service career in 1991 and has worked tirelessly in planning and zoning.



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Mark Romito is the former Finance Director for Upper St. Clair Township. He has more than 25 years' experience in public service and local government finance. He previously served as president of the Government Finance Officers Association of Pennsylvania (GFOA) and served as national vice chair of GFOA's Treasury and Investment Management Committee. He has spent numerous hours volunteering, advising, educating, and mentoring in financial reporting.

Terri Hauser is the Latrobe Municipal Authority Manager. Her environmental engineering background has made her invaluable in overseeing major water and wastewater improvement projects. She has served as president of the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association and advocates for education, workforce development, and innovative thinking.

The Pennsylvania Municipal League has a long history of advocacy, education, and support for local municipalities. The League currently has 164 member municipalities representing Pennsylvania cities, boroughs, townships, and home rule communities that all share their municipal policy interests. 2026 Legislative Priorities include municipal financing, community development & infrastructure, and public safety. The Board of Directors oversees the administration of a wide array of municipal services including legislative advocacy (on both the state and federal levels), publications designed to educate and inform, inquiry and research, education and training certification programs, consulting-based programs, and group insurance trusts.

Media organizations and Members can find fact sheets and pre-recorded statements and explanations of legislative priority issues from The League Executive Staff in our Media Center on our website

<https://www.pml.org/media-center/>

