

PLANNING INSIGHT

A Newsletter of the Bucks County Planning Commission



GRANTS INSIGHT

The National Endowment for the Arts offers the **Our Town** grant. Organizations may apply for creative place-making projects that contribute to the livability of communities through strategies that leverage arts, culture, and design toward achieving community goals. Part I of the program is due on **August 5, 2021**. More info: arts.gov/grants/our-town#:~:text=Our%20Town%20is%20the%20National,%2C%20and%20for%20social%20outcomes

The DCED offers the **Multimodal Transportation Fund** which provides grants to encourage economic development and ensure the availability of a safe and reliable transportation systems. Applications are accepted until **July 31, 2021**. More info: dced.pa.gov/programs/multimodal-transportation-fund/

Natural Lands offers the PECO Green Region Open Space Program. This grant recognizes that open space in our communities is a crucial element towards the quality of life. More info: natlands.org/what-we-do/growing-greener-communities/peco-green-region/

The Bucks County website has moved! Check out the new look at: www.buckscounty.gov

Get direct access to the BCPC at: www.buckscounty.gov/PC



Bucks County

BUCKS TRIVIA

Which historic building is home to the BCPC office?

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



Greetings. Normalcy. As we continue to emerge from the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, our routines are starting to return to what we once knew. While some routines may remain, others we will happily abandon. At the county, we have abandoned our old website, as well as our old domain, buckscounty.org. On June 15, 2021, the county happily launched its new website, as well as its new domain, www.buckscounty.gov. On the same day, we officially kicked off our *Bucks2040* county comprehensive plan update with two Key Partner Meetings with our municipal elected officials. While these meetings were virtual, we eagerly anticipate a return to in-person

meetings this fall when we engage with our residents. Likewise, the BCPC Board will hold its first hybrid public meeting on July 7, 2021, and will mark the first time that our board has met in person since March of 2020. We are excited to begin the update to the county's comprehensive plan and look forward to working with each and every one of you, in person. In the meantime, please visit our project website at www.Bucks2040.com for the latest news and updates on the *Bucks2040, Building Our Future Together*, comprehensive plan update.

As always, my door is open, and I may be reached via phone at 215.345.3401 or email estone@buckscounty.org. I look forward to hearing from you and welcome your feedback. Enjoy *Planning InSight*!

BUCKS 2040 PHOTO CONTEST

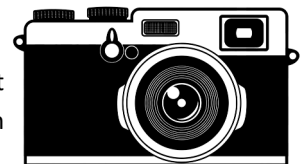
As part of the *Bucks2040, Building Our Future Together*, county comprehensive plan update, the BCPC is sponsoring an amateur *Bucks2040 Photo Contest*. The contest will feature seven different entry categories: Landscape/Nature, Architecture/Buildings/Barns, Scenic Vistas, Historic Places, Cool Stuff & Other Things, Drone Shots/Aerials, and My Neighborhood.

First, second, and third place winners will be selected in each category, with one grand prize winner selected from all winning photographs. Winning photographs will be showcased in the upcoming *Bucks2040* comprehensive plan.

Photographs* are to be emailed to Bucks2040@buckscounty.org utilizing the entry form found here:

<https://bucks2040-bucksgis.hub.arcgis.com/pages/bucks2040-photo-contest>

All images must be submitted in electronic format,



jpg file format, and a minimum 1000px wide or high. File size may not exceed 4MB per image. The contest is open to non-professional photographer residents of Bucks County. The contest will run until November 1, 2021. Winners will be announced at the December 15, 2021, Commissioners' meeting.

**All images submitted will become the property of the County of Bucks and the Bucks County Planning Commission and may be used for promotional purposes on social media and elsewhere as applicable.*

Grand Prize "Contributor" Membership to the Michener Museum (value \$125.00):
www.michenerartmuseum.org/join-support/members/membership/

- 1st Place** \$50 Wawa Gift Card
- 2nd Place** \$25 Wawa Gift Card
- 3rd Place** \$10 Wawa Gift Card



Bucks2040 Key Partner Meeting

The Bucks County Planning Commission has begun the process of developing a new county comprehensive plan, dubbed *Bucks2040*. In a departure from the more traditional process of comprehensive plan development, *Bucks2040* will be developed from the bottom-up, led by our partnerships with municipal officials, community leaders, and the residents of Bucks County. By identifying solutions to local and regional problems through a community-based planning process, a plan can be developed that bases its structure around the issues most important to the community, rather than traditional plan elements. Thus, *Bucks2040* will be an “implementable” comprehensive plan, whose end goal is to develop countywide consensus on actions and planning tools that will help the county and our municipalities meet the future desires and needs of all Bucks County residents.

On June 15, 2021, the Bucks County Planning Commission hosted a pair of key partner meetings with municipal officials via Zoom, which kicked off the conversation on which issues are at the forefront of local concern. Meeting attendees were divided into breakout rooms where they were given the opportunity to share what makes their communities great places to live, while also discussing some of their most pressing land use and planning priorities. Through this process, shared aims were

identified that set the table for deeper discussion on big-picture issues that make sense to address on a countywide planning level.

This set of key partner meetings was just one in a series of efforts aimed at gathering public input in the early stages of *Bucks2040*’s development. Already, a random sampling of Bucks County households received a *Bucks2040* resident survey. This survey is another tool aimed at helping understand what residents like about Bucks County, what they would like to see improved, what they value most in terms of quality of life, and what most concerns them about the future. In the months ahead, we plan to hold public open houses to help further assess the issues and vision for *Bucks2040*. Additionally, we plan to host a second municipal partner meeting, where the focus will be detailing policies and solutions to some of the issues and visions identified in the earlier stages of the public outreach process.

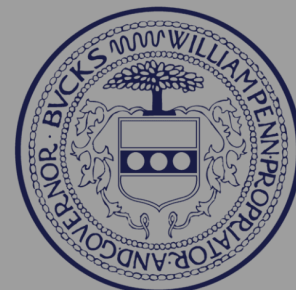
More information on *Bucks2040*, *Building Our Future Together*, can be found on the newly launched website, www.Bucks2040.com, where you can also register for updates on the process. In the meantime, if you have questions or comments about the plan, please email us at Bucks2040@buckscounty.org.



Planning Commission Board

- Tom Tosti, *Chairman*
- Richard Donovan, *Vice Chairman*
- Thomas J. Jennings, Esq., *Secretary*
- Craig E. Bryson, P.L.A.
- James J. Keenan
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- Edward J. Tokmajian
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- Evan J. Stone,
Executive Director



Bucks County Commissioners

- Diane M. Ellis-Marseglia, LCSW, *Chair*
- Robert J. Harvie Jr., *Vice Chair*
- Gene DiGirolamo

www.buckscounty.gov

www.buckscounty.gov/PC

www.dataportal-bucksgis.opendata.arcgis.com

Bucks County Planning Commission

1260 Almshouse Road
Doylestown, PA 18901
P: 215-345-3400
F: 215-345-3886

Trivia Answer:
The Bucks County Almshouse
www.theintell.com/news/20190304/lavo-story-behind-bucks-countys-almshouse-road

OWL LINK

With the completion of the I-95/PA-276 Interchange, more businesses with warehouse operations are opening in lower Bucks County, creating and expanding job opportunities. SEPTA’s Owl Link is a new, on-demand transit service that links late night bus routes to late night job destinations.

Owl Link will operate 7 days a week, 356 days a year, from 10:30 PM until 6:00 AM. This is a connecting service that will be shared with other riders and offers drop-offs and pick-ups to the closest stop to work destinations. Owl Link trips are FREE with a SEPTA Key.



Connections can be made from SEPTA bus routes 14, 56, and 66 for travel to stops near businesses located in the shaded service area on the map. www.septa.org/owllink/

