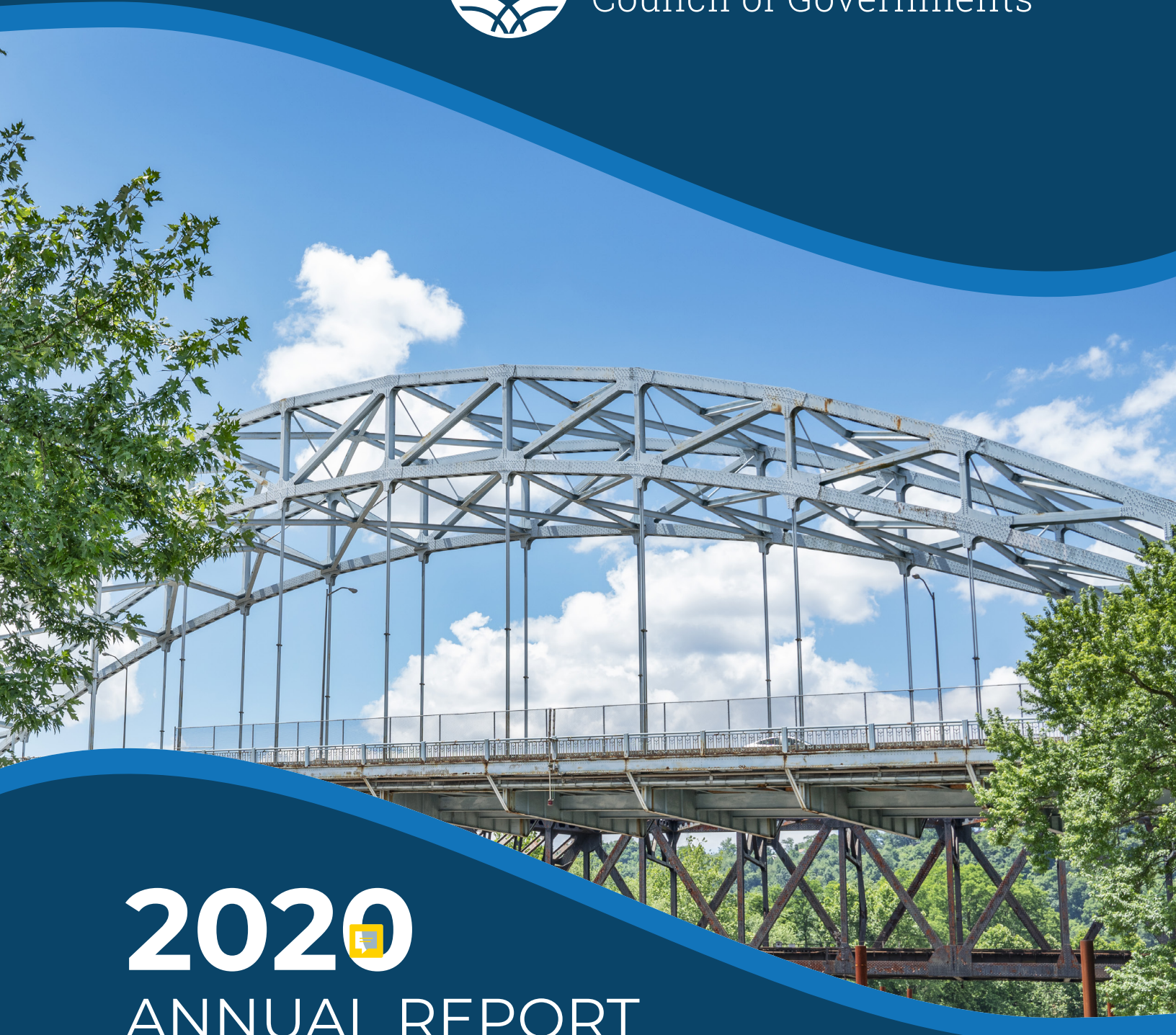




STEEL RIVERS
Council of Governments



2020 


ANNUAL REPORT

**COLLABORATION LEADS TO
STRONGER COMMUNITIES**


ABOUT THE STEEL RIVERS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Steel Rivers Council of Governments (SRCOG) is a non-profit organization supporting 19 municipalities in the Mon Valley region of Allegheny County. We offer numerous services to help our members maintain and improve their communities in the short-term, while collaboratively developing dynamic strategies to tackle regional problems for the long-term.

What is a COG


 A council of governments (COG) is an organization of local governments that work cooperatively to maintain and improve their communities. COGs provide structured support for municipalities to collaborate on projects that create shared regional benefit. COG members can access shared equipment, facilities, and programs that a single municipality may not be able to obtain on its own.


SRCOG PROPERTY STEWARDSHIP

 **TRI-COG LAND BANK**
Land banks are a powerful tool to help recover abandoned structures and land with clear, insurable title. Established by SRCOG and Turtle Creek Valley COG in 2017, Tri-COG Land Bank revitalizes neighborhoods by transitioning blighted properties to beneficial reuse. As of July 29, 2021, TCLB has acquired 56 properties total and sold 15.





SRCOG PROVIDES INCREASED CAPACITY

GRANT ADMINISTRATION
 SRCOG manages grants on behalf of its members, including advertising and bidding, awarding contracts, the final draw down of funds, and audit compliance. Over the years, SRCOG has secured and administered grants to repave roads, replace and install sewer lines, and build new play spaces for children. These funds are also used for the demolition of blighted and abandoned buildings, which creates safer neighborhoods and improve property values.

COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM
 SRCOG owns and manages commercial truck scales and a public safety vehicle. Member police departments share this equipment to weigh commercial vehicles and enforce traffic safety regulations on our local roadways. This preserves both community safety standards and the roadways themselves.

REGIONAL TRAINING COMPLEX
SRCOG manages a Regional Training Complex located in Elizabeth Township, available for police and fire departments, EMS, and municipal personnel to rent for trainings. The complex includes a classroom, firing range, tactical training building, and drivers' proficiency course.

HUMAN SERVICE CENTER
 SRCOG's Human Service Center currently provides space to seven non-profit and human services organizations.

RECREATION AND PUBLIC EVENTS
 SRCOG owns and maintains tents and chairs that its member municipalities use for community events. Additionally, movie equipment is available for rental through SRCOG member, Borough of Port Vue.

WATERFRONT MAINTENANCE FUND

On behalf of Homestead, Munhall and West Homestead, SRCOG manages a fund and administers projects to maintain the multi-municipal business district that spans The Waterfront development. This program was initially funded through Tax Increment Financing program that was developed to support the construction and maintenance of The Waterfront, but in 2018 that program ended. The three municipalities worked together to develop an agreement and to finance a shared \$750,000 annual maintenance fund.

STREET SWEEPING

SRCOG's Street Sweeping Program reduces stormwater pollution by removing silt, trash, and chemicals from streets and alleys before they enter the storm drainage system. This program also improves the attractiveness of member communities by removing litter and debris from roads, streets, alleys, and highways.

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

SRCOG maintains a Geographic Information System (GIS), providing maps and services to its members as requested. SRCOG also uses GIS to support research projects and grant applications.

INTERCOG PURCHASING ALLIANCE

The InterCOG Purchasing Alliance pools purchasing power from participating COG communities to achieve cost savings and gain protections not found in other group bidding efforts.



2020 HIGHLIGHTS



Street Sweeper rented for **82 days** by **9 communities**



Regional Training Center, a **32 seat** complex, used **210 days** by **22 organizations**



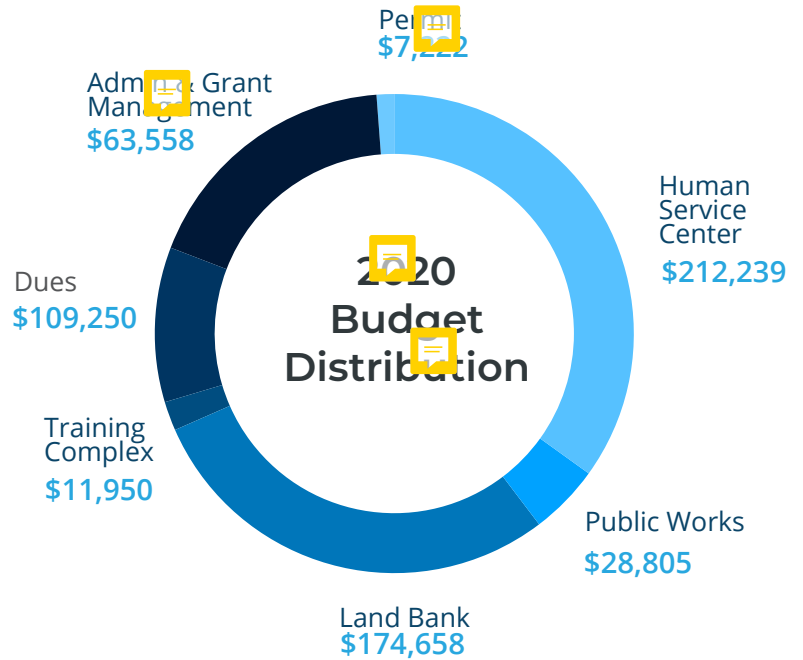
Human Service Center rented by **7 organizations** serving over **600 community members**



22 permits issued: 19 for residential properties and **3** for commercial properties



SCRIP serves **19** member communities made up of **79,938** residents



Our Vision

To make the Mon Valley the most collaborative and sustainable region in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Our Mission

To share resources, services, and ideas to drive positive change in our member communities.

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