



**STEEL RIVERS**  
Council of Governments

# NEWSLETTER

**FOR MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES**



## BOARD MEETING

SRCOG HUMAN  
SVCS. CENTER  
1705 MAPLE ST.  
HOMESTEAD

**THURS. OCT. 3  
6:00 PM**

[RSVP](#)

## GRANT APPLICATIONS OPEN

GET YOUR MUNICIPAL  
PROJECTS FUNDED

**DEADLINES IN  
OCT. AND NOV.**

[LEARN MORE](#)



## AMERICAN WATER LEAD PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

AMERICAN WATER WILL  
REPLACE CUSTOMER-OWNED  
LEAD SERVICE LINES WITH THE  
CUSTOMER'S CONSENT

**SPREAD THE  
WORD**

[LATEST UPDATE](#)

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO VIEW CURRENT PROJECTS**

BRADDOCK HILLS BOROUGH, CITY OF CLAIRTON, CITY OF DUQUESNE, DRAVOSBURG BOROUGH, ELIZABETH BOROUGH,  
FORWARD TOWNSHIP, GLASSPORT BOROUGH, HOMESTEAD BOROUGH, LIBERTY BOROUGH, LINCOLN BOROUGH, CITY OF  
MCKEESPORT, MUNHALL BOROUGH, PORT VUE BOROUGH, SOUTH VERSAILLES TOWNSHIP, VERSAILLES BOROUGH, WEST  
ELIZABETH BOROUGH, WEST HOMESTEAD BOROUGH, WHITAKER BOROUGH AND WHITE OAK BOROUGH



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10/3/24 BOARD MEETING
- 11/21/24 MANAGERS MEETING
- X/X/24 HOLIDAY GATHERING



## MAKING CONNECTIONS

### at Manager's Meetings

Every other month, Borough Managers are invited to the COG office in Homestead for lunch and a discussion about topics important to your daily operations. Our last two managers meetings had small attendance but a huge impact.

#### July Meeting

- Information about our anti-violence community outreach program was shared. Managers were encouraged to connect with their police and join in violence-interrupting initiatives in their area. For more information, contact Natalya Luttinger, Community Violence Reduction Initiative Program Manager at [nl@steelriverscog.org](mailto:nl@steelriverscog.org).
- Did you know that Homestead Borough has a Climate Action Plan? It helped them receive \$80k to install an EV charging station. Contact us today if you would like to learn how to create an action plan.
- Kristin Gusten, the COG's Finance and Administration Director, shared how to leverage more efficient banking services, such as getting to know your bank's CRA and using federal credit language to negotiate lower interest rates. [PennVest](#) could be a good source for low-interest loans. Contact Kristin for more information at [klg@steelriverscog.org](mailto:klg@steelriverscog.org).

#### September Meeting

- Alan Sisco, Director of Special Projects at the COG, led an open discussion about making our region more competitive for grant and development opportunities that address real and specific needs of our member boroughs. Managers identified needs such as: Zoning/codification updates, community centers, trails and parks, riverfront development, blight demolition, road and sewer improvements, and affordable housing. Barriers to seeking grant funds and other development opportunities include: inability to meet a local match, time and manpower to find and apply for funding. **Suggested next steps:** Invite managers to meetings centered around specific topics, conduct online meetings to make attendance easier. There is a concrete benefit in collaborating with neighboring boroughs. Please contact Alan with more suggestions.
- Is your borough experiencing CSO issues due to changing water levels caused by the dam removal? Contact Elaine Skiba at Glassport Borough. She has been in contact with the Army Corps of Engineers.

**join us at the next Managers Meeting  
on Thursday, November 21, 2024.**



### Lead Service Line Replacement Program

PA American Water has launched a state-wide initiative to locate and replace all lead and galvanized metal water pipes, even those privately owned. at NO COST to homeowners and businesses. What's the catch? There isn't one. [Lead in our drinking water](#) is an ongoing public health hazard, and eliminating it benefits us all. You can help by [sharing this message](#) with your residents and encouraging them to contact PA American Water. Some homeowners are reluctant to let strangers into their homes for pipe inspection. Outreach from the Borough Offices can reassure them and help eliminate the risk of lead poisoning.

For more information, visit PA American Water's [Frequently Asked Questions](#), and their [interactive map](#). Type in an address and see, based on the data collected so far, the composition of water pipes in each specific structure. PAAW needs more residents to contact them, update this data, allow pipes to be inspected, and get hazardous ones replaced. Please consider making this a priority in your borough.

### GRANT APPLICATIONS CURRENTLY OPEN

#### **MORE - Municipal Opportunities for Retrofits and Energy Efficiency Grant Program (PEDA) application deadline October 25**

MORE offers grants and loans to deploy energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in federally owned buildings and facilities. Glassport is currently completing an application for this grant.

#### **Active Allegheny Grant Program (ACED) application deadline November 8**

AAGP provides funds for planning and designing transportation projects that provide opportunities for connectivity and physical activity. The City of Duquesne is currently working on an application for this grant.

#### **Main Street Matters Program (DCED) application deadline November 15**

MSM funds revitalization of downtown cores and surrounding neighborhoods - planning, supporting small businesses, public safety enhancements, and more.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE THE COG TO APPLY ON YOUR BEHALF,** your submission deadline will be one week prior to the dates listed above. Contact [Jennifer Kwiatek](#), Government Grants Coordinator, for more details.