



NEWS

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Montco Offers Event and New Guidebook Focused on Townhouse Design

Norristown, PA (Oct. 23, 2017) – The Montgomery County Planning Commission (MCPC) invites the public to attend Building Better Townhouse Communities on Wednesday, Oct. 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Upper Dublin Township building, 801 Loch Alsh Ave., Fort Washington.

This informative event will focus on how careful attention to site planning, design, and architecture is needed to ensure successful townhouse projects. It will specifically address several typical elements in townhouse developments including designs for front yards, driveways, landscaping, pedestrian amenities, trails, road circulation, visitor parking, and other considerations.

Attendees will hear from a variety of speakers, gaining perspective on the topic from the point of the view of the county's comprehensive plan as well as from developers with experience in townhouse development. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions after a panel discussion.

A highlight of the event will be the premiere of a new guidebook containing design standards that can be used for all types of townhouse developments. The guidebook looks at the evolution of the townhouse, townhouse trends in Montgomery County, and the impacts of townhouse communities. It details townhouse design elements and provides recommendations for best practices.

“Last year, over 500 townhomes were built in Montgomery County. We’ve seen many examples of how well-designed townhome communities can be walkable places with street trees and parks that enhance the community’s value over the long run. Our new guidebook recommends best practices in design that townships and boroughs can reference when townhome developments are proposed in their community,” said Jody L. Holton, AICP, MCPC Executive Director.

This event is being provided as part of Planning Smarter Montco 2017, a Montgomery County initiative offering planning education and outreach, and corresponds to the Sustainable Places theme contained in "Montco 2040: A

Shared Vision," Montgomery County's nationally awarded comprehensive plan. Register at www.montcopa.org/PlanningSmarter.

For more information, please contact Rita McKelvey at 610-278-3753 or via email at rmckelve@montcopa.org.