



SAP&DC Awarded DCNR Funds



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Greenway Mini Grant Program:

Through funding available by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Community Conservation Partnership Grant Program (C2P2), Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission (SAP&DC) has been awarded \$175,000. This will provide funding for Round 6 of the **Southern Alleghenies Regional Greenways Mini-Grants Program**. Funding availability will be announced in early Spring 2020.

Information on program guidelines will be available here:

[Greenways Mini-Grants](#)

For more information, please contact Stacy LoCastro at slocastro@sapdc.org or (814) 949-6510.

ARC/ORNL: 2020 STEM PROGRAM

Calling Appalachian Students and Teachers for All Expense Paid STEM Learning:

The ARC/ORNL Summer STEM Program is a residential, hands-on learning experience for Appalachia's high school and middle school students, as well as high school teachers in STEM-related fields. Hosted by Oak Ridge Associated Universities in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, this program is a gateway to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in the Appalachian Region. Many participants come from economically distressed counties and often gain their first exposure to applied science and STEM education through this experience.

All participants work with award-winning scientists at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, one of the largest U.S. Department of Energy research facilities in the United States. High school and middle school students conduct guided group science, math, and computer science technology research projects, while high school teachers work with

science practitioners to develop STEM-related curriculum.

The program culminates in a graduation ceremony where participants showcase their work. If you know someone in a one of our six-county's school districts (Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, or Somerset) that may be interested in applying, PLEASE share this! This is a wonderful opportunity for students and teachers alike!

The deadline for the application is **February 20, 2020!** Below is the flyer for the program you can view and share:

[Summer STEM Program](#)

For more information regarding applications or the process, please contact Stacy LoCastro at slocastro@sapdc.org or (814) 949-6510.

Regional Broadband Task Force

Southern Alleghenies Regional Broadband Task Force:



In October 2019, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was put out for bid for the completion of a Broadband Feasibility Study covering Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fayette, Fulton, Huntingdon, Somerset, and Westmoreland Counties. On November 20, 2019, the SAP&DC Board of Directors awarded the contract to *Design Nine, Inc.*

The Broadband Feasibility Study will address:

1. Unserved and underserved areas;
2. Level of service being provided, the needs of local businesses and the reliability of the current services being provided;
3. Provide an inventory of broadband assets already in place;
4. Assess community broadband requirements for bandwidth needs;
5. Determine best technologies to meet the coal impacted community needs; and
6. Provide cost estimates for different deployment strategies.

The study will begin in January 2020 and continue over the next six months. Surveys, public feedback meetings and mapping studies will be used to determine availability and gaps in service across the eight-county region.

If you have any questions regarding the study, please contact Stacy LoCastro at (814) 949-6510 or slocastro@sapdc.org.

Appalachian Regional Commission

Johnstown Urban Industrial Park Connector Street:

Johnstown Redevelopment Authority was awarded \$1,396,497 on December 18, 2019, to construct an access road that connects Iron Street to the Johnstown Urban Industrial Park, as well as extend existing utilities to the site. The 32' wide paved roadway will be 1,000 feet in length and existing utilities found on the City's Redevelopment



properties located along Iron Street will be extended up to the KOZ site, which will include 1,000 feet of storm sewer line. Once completed, the site will allow for an estimated total of 10 buildable lots for development.

A 795-linear foot roadway and storm sewer line will be developed to provide adequate access to 115 acres of developable land containing 10 buildable lots and create development opportunity to generate 500 family sustaining jobs in the City of Johnstown.

Appalachian Regional Commission

Hastings Industrial Park Access Improvements:

The access road improvements to the Hastings Industrial Park have been completed. The improvements include a newly constructed “paper” street, Brubaker Street, and Legacy Drive, which is an extension of Sunnybrook Drive that leads into a cul-de-sac. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Thursday, November 21, 2019 (see picture below).

Hastings Area Industrial Development Association (HAIDA) President Richard Stewart welcomed everyone to the ceremony and thanked all who were involved in completing the million-dollar project. “Funding for the access improvements were made possible through a \$550,000 grant and \$211,261 in additional funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission’s (ARC) Access Road Program and a \$212,810 TEA-21 Earmark provided by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).



Information Sessions and Trainings



Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) Trainings:

The following courses will be available throughout the year. Dates will be announced

over the next coming weeks.

Blair Courses:

- Pedestrian and Crosswalks
- Stormwater Facility Operation and Maintenance
- Stop Signs and Intersection Traffic Control
- Asphalt Roads Common Maintenance Problems

SAP&DC Courses:

- Active Transportation
- Bridge Maintenance & Inspection
- Road Surface Management
- Unpaved & Gravel Roads Common Maintenance Problems
- Speed Limits and Speed Management
- Salt & Snow Management

You can register for courses by creating an account on the [LTAP](#) website and enrolling OR by contacting Janice Streightiff at (814) 949-6523 or streightiff@sapdc.org.

Appalachian Regional Commission



**APPALACHIAN
REGIONAL
COMMISSION**

Corridor N Study (Route 219):

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) provided \$75,000 for the Southern Alleghenies Rural Planning Organization (RPO) to conduct the “Corridor N (U.S. Route 219) Completion Analysis & Impact Study.” It will expand upon the former *Economic Analysis of Completing the ADHS* study that was completed in 2017, also for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). The selected consultant, *Metro Analytics*, will develop a report examining how the completion of U.S. 219, by connecting the PA Turnpike to I-68 in Grantsville, MD, will have an impact(s) on businesses, regional freight activity, job creation, etc. for the Southern Alleghenies Region and surrounding areas. The results of the study will help to support an application for an INFRA grant or similar grant opportunity.

ArcGIS Online

SAP&DC is committed to publishing maps depicting planning and transportation initiatives to the public to show what projects are occurring within the Rural Planning Organization (RPO) four-county region. ArcGIS Online (AGOL) is a cloud-based mapping and analysis solution that is allowing SAP&DC to expand our data and map sharing capabilities. AGOL contains all the capabilities of GIS with the advantage of being able to share data through interactive, easy to understand maps. Visit our AGOL homepage (link below) to view our mapping resources, (i.e. legislative district boundaries and local bridge inventories, trail counts) as well as maps of recently completed and future projects that will benefit our area.

[AGOL Homepage](#)

[Visit our Website](#)

