

Kris Warner, USDA State Director has invited all regional councils and interested members to attend the Regional ReConnect Workshop that is taking place on April 2-3 in Washington, PA. If you would like to attend the workshop, please go register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/usda-reconnect-technical-assistance-workshop-washington-pa-registration-57719845612>. MOVRC Staff and the Tyler County Broadband team will be represented.

WVULAW Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic

Fourth Annual Statewide

Mountain State Land Use Academy

May 14-15, 2019

Canaan Valley Resort & Conference Center

Join us! Register now if you haven't already

This premier land use conference in West Virginia gathers land use planners, local, state, and federal government officials to discuss pressing issues in the state.

The Fourth Annual Statewide Mountain State Land Use Academy will be held on May 15, 2019, with a networking reception on the evening of May 14. The Academy is hosted by the Land Use and Sustainable Development Law Clinic at WVU College of Law and sponsored by the West Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association, Lewis Glasser PLLC, West Virginia BAD Buildings Program, and The Berkley Group.

In the morning, the Academy will feature plenary sessions, a keynote address, and award presentations. After lunch, attendees can participate in concurrent breakout sessions on various issues, including dilapidated buildings, economic development, public engagement, medical marijuana, sign ordinances, zoning, and more. Certain sessions will be eligible for CM credits for AICP planners.

Registration and Agenda available at : <https://landuse.law.wvu.edu/home>

Town of Elizabeth Receives \$1 Million Grant

The Town of Elizabeth recently received a binding commitment for a \$1 million grant for its sanitary sewer rehabilitation project. That grant will be combined with a \$1 million grant and \$1,386,500 loan from the State Revolving Fund. In all the Town will spend \$3,386,500 on sewer line replacement and lift station upgrades aimed at reducing the amount of rain water that gets into the system through inflow and infiltration. Treating rain water adds to the expense of operating its sewer treatment plant and, during heavy rain events, causes the Town to exceed the designed capacity of the treatment plant.

RSVP UPDATES



The RSVP program has been busy and thriving, even though the weather has not always been cooperative. The volunteers in Jackson and Wirt counties are beginning their planning for the Clear into the Future environmental grant. There have been 2 meetings to discuss the needs for the designated gardens.

The Senior Stitchers have relocated to their new location at Bolts and Quarters on Rt. 95 and they are getting settled in.

We are happy to have the Upper West Fork Community Park in Chloe, WV, join our RSVP program as of this month. Additionally, we are in the process of adding new stations in Mason and Roane counties.

May 1, 2019, will be our annual Recognition Luncheon and we will be preparing for that in the coming weeks. We are so proud of all of our wonderful senior volunteers in West Virginia.

NADO CONFERENCE HELD IN DC

Carol recently attended the NADO Board meeting and Washington Policy Conference. This annual conference provides a venue for new federal policy priorities and initiatives and latest research and trends that influence the future of the regional development landscape.

Carol was able to participate in discussions with Appalachian Regional Commission headquarters staff, US Economic Development Administration and fellow regional council executive directors from across the nation. We all share the same concerns with labor force participation and effect of opioids on the workforce, broadband access, and federal budgets and shifting priorities.



Mark Your Calendar

MOVRC and First Microloan of WV will be offering a small business seminar on "Understanding Financial Statements" at the MOVRC offices April 4, 2019 from 8-10 am. Breakfast will be provided.

» UPCOMING EVENTS



WWW Program Update

The Wood-Washington-Wirt Interstate Planning Commission held a quarterly board meeting in March 2019. During the meeting, representatives from the West Virginia Department of Transportation and the Ohio Department of Transportation were on hand to provide an overview of various projects currently under development or in the implementation stages. In Washington County, Ohio the status report included the continued development of the Marietta bicycle and pedestrian river trail, Devola multiuse path study, various landslide repair projects, as well as numerous regional projects located outside of the metropolitan area. In Wood County, West Virginia discussion included the status of the WV 14 upgrade and expansion project in the Mineral Wells and Pettyville area, design report to continue improvements to WV 14 in South Parkersburg, Williamstown roundabout project, and the five-lane upgrade project to WV 2.

Two of the more high-profile projects in the area are the WV 14 upgrade in the Mineral Wells and Pettyville area, and the WV 2 five-lane upgrade project. The total project cost for the WV 14 project is approximately \$20 million including right-of-way and construction. The construction phase has been initiated and is currently scheduled for completion in the fall of 2019. The WV 2 project upgrades 2.24 miles of existing two-lane roadway to five-lanes from CR 3/8 to just north of WV 31. The total project cost is approximately \$64 million including engineering, right-of-way, and construction. The right-of-way portion of the project is currently scheduled to be completed in the winter of 2020, and construction to be completed in the fall of 2021.

In other areas, WWW has completed the Draft Work Program for the upcoming Fiscal Year. The document outlines specific work activity the agency will address during the 2020 Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2019. Emphasis areas will include work associated with the Performance Measures and Target setting requirements, development of a new Transportation Improvement Program for FY 2021-2024 and initiating the Long Range Transportation Plan Update process for 2045. Additional work activity will continue with programs and projects initiated in previous fiscal years such as the bicycle and pedestrian safety program, traffic operations and safety study updates, travel time and delay data collection, and public involvement activity.

