

BERKSHIRE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
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Community Housing Trust Steering Committee Kick-off Meeting
May 3, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Main Conference Room

Dear Community Housing Trust Steering Committee Member,

This letter is to inform you of the first meeting of the Community Housing Trust Steering Committee. This meeting will focus on the need for an unconventional housing development model to meet the affordable housing needs of Berkshire County, as well as defining the goals and structure of the Committee. Listed below is the agenda for the meeting, which is anticipated to last 1.5 -2 hours.

Agenda

- I. Welcome and Introductions (5 minutes)
- II. Overview of Project (5 minutes)
 - Community Planning Efforts and Sub-regional Housing Study
 - Smart Growth Demonstration Initiative Grant
- III. Background and Issues (15 minutes)
 - Urgency of Need for Affordable Housing
 - Jobs-Housing balance
 - Development Pressure versus Housing costs
 - Land Preservation –Housing nexus
 - Ability for local decision-making in housing planning and development
 - Building capacity for housing planning, finance and development in exurbia
 - Expansion of existing organizations
 - Create new organization
 - Purview- local, sub-regional, regional, cross-regional
- IV. What is a Community Housing Trust and how does it work?
Featured Speaker- Peter Gagliardi, Executive Director of HAP, Inc. (30 minutes)
 - Question and Answer
- V. Roles and Responsibilities of Committee (20 minutes)
 - Required deliverables
 - Role and Function of Committee Members
- VI. Next Steps (15 minutes)
 - Choosing a Committee Chair
 - Schedule next meeting
 - Other business items for Next meeting