



2019 Spring Conference – Panelist Biographies

Building and Managing Relationships - Two Sides of the Same Coin

Building relationships and managing relationships has become a necessary core competency, which too many easily dismiss as a soft skill. What do they entail? Why are they important? What does it take (“toolkits”) for an organization, a group, an office, a team, or an individual to do both well? Additionally, trust in government is important and declining. Why and how can you restore trust and what are the factors that impact a person’s decision to trust.

- Richard Pomerantz, Co-Partner, the Strategy Group, and Chair, Westtown Township Planning Commission
- Casey Lalonde, West Goshen Township Manager
- Mandi Cantlin, East Bradford Township Manager

Richard (Dick) Pomerantz, Co-Senior Partner, The Strategy Group

Canadian born and trained as a lawyer, Richard Pomerantz co-founded and is a co-senior partner of The Strategy Group, a US-based strategy, training and development, and executive-leadership coaching firm serving for and not-for-profit clients worldwide. Dick’s experience includes the following core competencies: development and implementation of pragmatic relationship management infrastructure; training and development programs; skill sets synced to client service driven positioning strategies; crisis communications management; facilitator of strategic planning processes; and results-oriented board, executive and management coaching, strategy and implementation. Dick currently serves as the Westtown Township Planning Commission Chair.

Casey LaLonde, Township Manager of West Goshen Township

Casey LaLonde is the Township Manager of West Goshen Township where he has worked for 13 years. Before his tenure at West Goshen Township, he was Assistant Borough Manager at Downingtown Borough for two years and Township Manager at East Coventry Township for five years. Casey holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from Penn State University, and a master’s degree in public administration from Virginia Commonwealth University. Casey currently serves as President of the Chester County Consortium of Municipal Managers, Chair of the Chester County Tax Collection Committee and Vice-Chair of the West Chester Pike Coalition.

Mandie Cantlin, Township Manager of East Bradford Township

Mandie Cantlin is the Township Manager of East Bradford Township where she has worked for 15 years. Before her tenure at East Bradford, she worked for Edgmont Township in Delaware County for 5 years. Mandie holds a BA in political science, a master’s degree in public administration, and she is now working on her doctoral degree in public administration. Her

doctoral research work has focused on the topic of building and maintaining public trust in local government.

How Local Ordinances Can Implement Landscapes 3

Landscapes3, Chester County's new comprehensive plan, focuses on balancing growth and preservation. Local townships, through their zoning and subdivision ordinances, have tremendous influence on the goals of Landscapes3, particularly preservation, smart growth, and infrastructure improvements. At this session, CCPC planners will highlight a few actions municipalities can take to improve the character of new development.

- Brian O'Leary, AICP, Executive Director for the Chester County Planning Commission
- Paul Fritz, Technical Services Director, Chester County Planning Commission
- Carol Stauffer, AICP, Assistant Director, Chester County Planning Commission
- Susan S. Elks, AICP, Planning Services Division Director, Chester County Planning Commission
- Brian Styche, ASLA, AICP, Transportation Services Director, Chester County Planning Commission

Brian O'Leary is the Executive Director of the Chester County Planning Commission, where he manages commission staff working on smart growth, land use, comprehensive planning, revitalization, housing, site design, historic preservation, open space, transportation, trails, and pipelines. He has over 25 years of experience in community planning. Brian has a BA in international relations from Johns Hopkins University and an MBA in real estate/urban land studies from Temple University. He is currently the past president of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association and the government board representative for the Delaware Valley Smart Growth Alliance.

Paul Fritz is the director of the Technical Services Division at the Chester County Planning Commission, which consists of the graphics, GIS, and IT departments. He is a certified planner and registered landscape architect with over 20 years of planning and design experience with diverse public and private urban and rural projects. Paul has a master's degree in landscape architecture from the State University of New York College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry and a bachelor's degree in American Studies from Drew University.

Carol Stauffer has worked at the Planning Commission for 28 years in a variety of roles, including senior community planner and Planning Services Division director. Most recently, she served as the department's Infrastructure and Plan Review Division director and oversaw plan reviews, environmental reviews, data and demographic activities, and pipeline initiatives (including management of the Pipeline Information Center). Prior to her tenure at the Planning Commission, Carol worked for private and public sector planning firms in Pennsylvania and Maine. Ms. Stauffer has a Masters, City Planning from the University of Pennsylvania, and BA in Geoenvironmental Studies from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.

Susan Elks leads a division of eight that is responsible for direct interaction with Chester County's 73 municipalities and partners to achieve consistency with *Landscapes2*, Chester County's award-winning comprehensive policy plan. Through the Vision Partnership Program, Ms. Elks administers technical service and cash grants for comprehensive planning, ordinance updates,

and special studies at the municipal and regional level. Ms. Elks has 20 years of experience spanning community, land use, and environmental planning and regulatory compliance, and has expertise in project management and facilitation

Brian Styche has completed the following works for Chester County: Public Transportation Plan - an element to Landscapes2; Multimodal Circulation Handbook for Chester County; Northern Struble Trail Feasibility Study; and, Chester Valley Trail Extension to Downingtown Feasibility Study/Master Plan. Since graduating from Penn State, Brian has nearly 25 years of parks, recreation, transportation and trail planning, design, and construction experience and has worked in all phases of the project development process from initial concept to the preparation of design documents to construction observation. In addition, Brian has working knowledge of the available funding programs and how they may be used to advance projects.

Community Sustainability and Local Green Initiatives

This session will focus on information and recommendations for increasing sustainability in both local government, and residents, and taking a closer look at the future and identify ways of becoming more sustainable —Solar, renewable energy, transportation, rapid assessments for municipal and community evaluations, and how to encourage rethinking our place in changing our footprint.

- Dianne Herrin, Vice President, Practical Solutions
- Meredith Mayer, Associate Planner, Brandywine Conservancy
- Liz Compitello, Manager of Local Initiatives, DVRPC

Liz Compitello is the Manager of Local Initiatives in the Office of Smart Growth at the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission in Philadelphia. At DVRPC, Liz provides programmatic and technical support to municipalities towards implementing best practices for energy management, supporting the safe and sound development of renewable energy, and responding to climate change in municipal operations and community wide. Liz received her Master's in Regional Planning from the State University of New York at Albany while helping the state of New York develop its Climate Smart Communities Program.

Meredith Mayer is an associate planner at the Brandywine Conservancy. Meredith provides technical planning support and public engagement for the Conservancy's Municipal Assistance Program projects including comprehensive plan updates, open space plans, riparian reforestation, Brandywine Creek Greenway initiatives, and trail feasibility studies throughout the Brandywine region. Meredith is the Conservancy's Sustainability Planner and helps municipalities assess their policy and make sensible changes that help the longevity and health of communities. Using her diverse educational and experiential background, Meredith skillfully translates technical concepts into meaningful ideas that inspire our constituents.

Managing Stormwater - Best Management Practices and Green Infrastructure

Seemingly endless rain, storms and increased flooding is affecting everyone. What are we doing or what should we be doing to address this critical issue in the region? This session will provide insight into the various methods to manage stormwater and how we can encourage "Best Management Practices" and implement green Infrastructure in creative ways in our communities

and residents back yards and through volunteers, watershed associations, non-profits, small grant funds and consultants.

- Dan Daley, P.E. Partner, EB Walsh
- Marc Henderson, P.E. Senior Water Resources Engineer, Meliora Design
- Jan Bowers, Executive Director Chester County Water Resources Authority
- Matt Ehrhart, Stroud Water Research Center

Daniel Daley (Dan) is a project manager and partner at Edward B. Walsh & Associates, Inc. with over 23 years of design and management experience serving both municipal and private clients. Dan joined the firm in 1994 and has a broad range of experience with land development consulting and regulatory approvals. Dan's expertise ranges from providing design services for residential / commercial projects, streetscape improvement projects, and trail improvement projects to preparation of municipal ordinances and expert testimony, stormwater management facilities, and Best Management Practices and Municipal Act 167 Stormwater Management Planning. Dan is a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Pennsylvania and holds a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree from Villanova University. Dan is an active volunteer at East Goshen Township, serving as the chairman of the Planning Commission, chairman of the Open Space and Recreation Task Force and vice chairman of the Comprehensive Plan Task Force.

Marc. B. Henderson, P.E., is a Civil Engineer and Project Manager at Meliora Design with nearly 13 years of water resources and environmental engineering experience. Marc's work includes low impact development and green infrastructure design, stormwater design and retrofits, and water reuse systems. Beyond design, Marc performs professional reviews of design, permitting, regulatory, and policy issues related to site development, stormwater, and erosion/sediment control measures. He has provided Expert Testimony in several cases brought before the Environmental Hearing Board related to stormwater management, permitting, and sustainable site development.

Jan Bowers is Executive Director of Chester County Water Resources Authority. She oversees operation of four regional flood control facilities, a regional water supply reservoir, and the Chester County U.S. Geological Survey cooperative water resources programs. She led development of Chester County's water resources management plan "*Watersheds*" and the "*County-wide Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan*". She co-coordinates multi-municipal watershed management partnerships for collaborating on MS4 stormwater efforts and works with water suppliers on source water protection efforts. She provides floodplain management and National Flood Insurance Program mapping coordination.

Afternoon Program Information Below

Return on Environment: The Economic Value of Protected Open Space in Chester County

Protected open spaces—public parks, preserved farmland, and private conserved lands—provide substantial property value, economic, environmental, public health, and fiscal benefits to surrounding communities. The Chester County Planning Commission—working in partnership with area conservancies and other County offices—undertook a study to better understand and quantify these benefits. The results of this study, entitled “Return on Environment: The Economic Value of Protected Open Space in Chester County,” will be announced later this spring. In this one-hour presentation, study collaborators will offer CCATO participants a “sneak peek” at the remarkable findings.

- Oliver P. Bass, President and CEO, Natural Lands
- Brian O’Leary, AICP, Executive Direction for the Chester County Planning Commission

Oliver P. Bass, President and CEO, Natural Lands Oliver Bass has dedicated much of his career to the conservation of the natural world. Over 21 years at Natural Lands he led the organization’s communications efforts and grew its mission commitment to connecting people to nature, greatly expanding participation in public programs and volunteerism, elevating the organization’s public profile, and launching a new initiative to improve equitable access to green spaces in underserved communities of our region’s suburbs. As a result, visitation to preserves has grown by 220% to 125,000 people a year; more than 100 programs each year are attracting 5,000 participants; the Force of Nature® program has graduated 200 volunteers; and overall volunteer participation has doubled to more than 5,000 hours annually. He was appointed President and CEO of Natural Lands in January of 2019.

Brian O’Leary is the Executive Director of the Chester County Planning Commission, where he manages commission staff working on smart growth, land use, comprehensive planning, revitalization, housing, site design, historic preservation, open space, transportation, trails, and pipelines. He has over 25 years of experience in community planning. Brian has a BA in international relations from Johns Hopkins University and an MBA in real estate/urban land studies from Temple University. He is currently the past president of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association and the government board representative for the Delaware Valley Smart Growth Alliance.