

LSA Grants

Continued from page 1

- Easton City - \$150,000 – Easton Police Department Evidence Building;
- Easton City - \$375,568 – Larry Holmes Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements (Phase 1);
- Forks Township - \$275,000 – Sewer Department Camera Truck;
- Freemansburg Borough - \$250,000 – Municipal Community Cultural Center (Phase 3);
- Greater Easton Development Corporation - \$125,000 – Easton Event Infrastructure;
- Hellertown Borough – \$300,000 - Tuminello Park Pedestrian Bridge;
- Hellertown Borough Authority - \$100,000 – Solar Garage;
- Hellertown Borough Authority - \$50,000 – Utility Vehicle;
- Lower Mount Bethel Township - \$135,000 – Roadside Tractor and Boom Mower;
- Lower Nazareth Township - \$86,878 – Colonial Regional Police Vehicle;
- Nazareth Borough – \$50,000 - Public Works Vehicle;
- Northampton County - \$475,000 – New Bethany Building Expansion;
- Palmer Township - \$250,000 – Bicycle Path Rehabilitation;
- Palmer Township - \$150,000 – Suburban EMS Stryker Xpedition Powered Stair Chair Purchases;

Grants were approved today by the Commonwealth Financing Authority. The Local Share Account Programs were created through the PA Race Horse Development and Gaming Act (Act 2004-71), which provides for the distribution of gaming revenues through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) to support projects in the public interest within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Funding through the Marcellus Legacy Fund uses revenue generated through Act 13 of 2012 that imposes an impact fee on the state's unconventional natural gas wells.

2026 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence 2026 Governor's Award for

By Senator Lisa Boscola

Environmental Excellence The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is accepting applications for the 2026 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence, the state's top environmental honor. Any Pennsylvania business, farm, government agency, educational institution, or nonprofit organization that has developed or participated in a project that promotes environmental protection and stewardship in the Commonwealth may apply.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) oversees the award selection process, evaluating projects on seven criteria: commitment to protecting the environment, partnership, environmental education and outreach, innovation, climate change, sustainability, and environmental justice. The Governor's Office will then select the awardees.

Projects must have been completed between November 1, 2024, and November 19, 2025.

Applications are submitted online and will be accepted through Friday, January 16. For more information or to apply, please click here <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/dep/about-dep/awards/governors-award-environmental-excellence>.



LEGISLATIVE SPOTLIGHT

MAKING A DIFFERENCE WITH

STATE SENATOR ***** 18
LISA BOSCOLA



Boscola Announces Almost \$2 Million in State Investment for Neighborhood Assistance Projects

By Senator Lisa Boscola

Earlier this week, Senator Boscola announced that eleven community revitalization projects in the 18th Senatorial District have been approved for \$1,995,750 in tax credit funding through the Commonwealth's Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP).

Senator Boscola "This investment through the Neighborhood Assistance Program will have a positive impact on revitalizing communities and improving the quality of life in neighborhoods throughout the Lehigh Valley and our Commonwealth," Senator Boscola stated. "Through this tax credit program, we are seeing an investment of just under \$2 million dollars to eleven projects in Northampton County."

The eleven projects approved for the tax credits are:



Second Harvest Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley and Northeast PA (CFP - \$266,500) – Maintain fleet of vehicles ensuring reliable delivery of nutritious food to over 100,000 individuals each month;

ArtsQuest (NPP - \$285,000) – Construction of The Creative Factory to replace Banana Factory. It will serve 10,000 students annually and have a \$46 million economic impact;

Community Action Development Corporation of Bethlehem (NPP - \$308,750) – Southside Tomorrow NPP will provide legal training for at least 100 residents, renovate building facades and host cleanup and community building events;

Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley (NPP - \$152,000) – Community and Economic Development programs focused on improving neighborhoods and the economy in Bangor, Pen Argyl, Portland and Wind Gap through small business support, community and beautification efforts and student scholarships;

Greater Community Development Corporation (NPP - \$190,000) – Community development in South Side Easton, including affordable housing, educational opportunities, operation of a shelter and food pantry;

Greater Easton Development Corporation (NPP - \$190,000) – The West Ward Community Initiative to support 11 small businesses and engage over 350 residents in various community development programs;

Greater Easton Development Corporation (NPP - \$95,000) – The Easton Main Street Initiative aims to strengthen Easton's economy by connecting the downtown, riverfront and Lafayette College;

ArtsQuest (SPP - \$31,500) – Engage 5,000 community members in inclusive arts programs;

Community Action Development Corporation of Bethlehem (SPP - \$162,000) – Rehabilitation of two blighted row homes in the City's Western Gateway to provide four affordable rental units along with improving building façade and install a new mural in Pulaski Park;

Hispanic Center Lehigh Valley (SPP - \$108,000) – Project will provide 10,000 meals and pantry services to 3,200 people, while also enrolling 150 people in case management; and,

New Bethany, Inc. (SPP - \$207,000) – Project to prevent homelessness by providing housing support and financial assistance to 1,500 people. Programs will also help at least 40 families and 25 families to maintain stable housing.

The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development administers the NAP program, whose goals are to promote community participation and collaborations among nonprofits, businesses and residents while producing outcomes which assist a distressed area or the low-income population in a neighborhood.

The program has five main components: The Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP), Special Program Priorities (SPP), the Neighborhood Partnership Program (NPP), the Charitable Food Program (CFP), and the Enterprise Zone Program (EZP).