

## **The Master Planner Program: Learn About Good Planning**

*By David D. Ward, AICP*

Municipalities now have a great training opportunity available to them. Three annual short courses in planning are available to any municipal official or member of a planning commission who seeks a better understanding of planning regulation in the State. Broader knowledge of the law supports an improved comfort level in utilizing the Municipal Planning Code, making important decisions easier. The seasoned volunteer as well as those newly interested in community planning will benefit from understanding the process of making good things happen, rather than waiting for the emergence of complaint and contention. The certified instructors are experienced in clarifying issues and sending their students away with new tools to use both professionally and as volunteers.

The series, presented by the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute consists of three courses in municipal planning, each one offering seminars on three of interactive instruction. Participants are eligible for Continuing Education Credit from Penn State, CLE credits from the PA Bar Association and for real estate professionals to earn their continuing education credits.

### **Community Planning**

October 9, 16, and 23

*West Chester University-Graduate Center Campus, Chester County*

This course will address the role of planning in local government and how planning commissions relate to the governing body, zoning hearing board and zoning officer. Specific topics include basic knowledge of the Municipalities Planning Code, comprehensive planning, plan implementation including zoning, subdivision and land development regulation, official mapping and how effective planning commissions approach their responsibilities. The course is designed for both new and experienced students.

Registration is available on-line at [www.CC2020.org](http://www.CC2020.org). A pdf of the brochure can be ordered by emailing [info@CC2020.org](mailto:info@CC2020.org). Call 610-696-3180 for a printed brochure.

### **Subdivision and Land Development Review**

October 8, 15, and 22

*Upper Chichester Municipal Building, Delaware County*

This course will address the basics of the subdivision and land development plan review process. The basis for regulation will be explored as well as looking at the provisions in your local ordinances. An actual plan will be evaluated during the course and alternative designs explored. We will review how to improve your municipality's review process to make it more effective and efficient.

Registration is available through the Delaware County Planning Department at 610-891-5200.