

**Press Release:**

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**Mayor DelVecchio Selected as Panelist for Sustainable New Jersey Forum**

Lambertville Mayor DelVecchio was selected by US Rep. Rush Holt to sit on a five-member panel that led a discussion on creating sustainable communities across the region.

The panel discussion also featured US Deputy Housing Secretary Ron Simms and was hosted by the nonprofit Sustainable Jersey. The event – held August 27 – was coordinated by the Municipal Land Use Center at the College of New Jersey.

Congressman Holt asked Mayor DelVecchio to join the panel to highlight the city's creation and implementation of various environmental-impact projects, including: hazard mitigation, traffic calming, the South Hunterdon Renewable Energy Co-Op, Connaught Hill redevelopment, single-stream recycling, storm water management and climate protection.

“It is very gratifying to know that the projects we are putting into place in Lambertville are being recognized by others as ideal ways to make a community more sustainable,” said Mayor DelVecchio. “More importantly, it highlights the tremendous volunteer work that goes into making these projects a reality. What has always set Lambertville apart is that we are a community of doers.”

Mayor DelVecchio highlighted the accomplishments of the City of Lambertville and noted that the City is:

- One of five municipalities in the state with an approved hazard mitigation plan, and the only one that was developed by a group of volunteers.
- Focused on traffic calming measures, using federal, state and local grants and relying on input from volunteer committees, the business community, individual residents, City officials and professional engineers.
- Working on solar energy projects through involvement in the South Hunterdon Renewable Energy Co-op, a committee comprised of officials from the City of Lambertville, West Amwell Township, South Hunterdon Regional High School, Lambertville Public School, West Amwell Township Elementary School and the Lambertville Municipal Utilities Authority. The all-volunteer cooperative aims to work with the private sector to power local and school buildings through solar energy, at no additional cost to taxpayers.
- On the cutting edge with their model Recycling Program. With input from a committee of volunteers, Lambertville implemented a single stream recycling program within the Municipality which is not only a model program for Hunterdon County but for all municipalities. Since implementation, we have decreased the amount of garbage and increased our recycling tonnage numbers.

Mayor DelVecchio also highlighted the volunteer efforts of residents on Connaught Hill to create a pocket park in the neighborhood. Residents worked to clean up the park site, removing abandoned cars, tires and debris. Congressman Holt was instrumental in helping the City obtain funding for drainage and street reconstruction.

“Lambertville is a unique community, and the cornerstone of our foundation are the resident-volunteers who are supportive of unique ideas that help to make our hometown special,” said DeVecchio.

Representatives of Lawrence Township, Hopewell Township, the City of Trenton, and Hamilton Township, also were asked to speak about their respective communities.

The mission of Municipal Land Use Center is to support municipal governments in meeting the region’s land use challenges by identifying opportunities for improved development and redevelopment, open space acquisition, and farmland preservation through the provision of education and training, essential tools, technical assistance and referrals to lead to more livable communities for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. For additional information, please visit their website at [www.tcnj.edu/~mluc/](http://www.tcnj.edu/~mluc/).

For additional information about the City of Lambertville, please visit [www.lambertvillenj.org](http://www.lambertvillenj.org).