



# NEWS RELEASE

## CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: October 17, 2022

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### **Designing the Future: Exploring Options for 322 and Penns-Brush Valley**

Dan Marriott, PhD., Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, Penn State

Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 2:00-5:30 p.m.

At Harvest Fields-Calvary Church, 150 Harvest Fields Dr, Boalsburg, PA

RSVP IS REQUIRED, SPACE IS LIMITED

[RSVP online at CentreHistory.org/research-explore/Connector](http://CentreHistory.org/research-explore/Connector) or call 814-234-4779.

The Centre County Historical Society and Hamer Center for Community Design are sponsoring a design charrette in partnership with the Department of Landscape Architecture at Penn State to explore alternative design options for the proposed State College Area Connector. **Rather than focusing on the proposed routes**, the charrette—a focused workshop—will engage interested organizations and residents in developing a broader vision for the future of the highway corridor and valley. In addition to the many different safe roadway design options available for 322—beyond a limited-access freeway—the charrette will consider the opportunities such a project can offer to unite rather than divide the communities of the valley.

Using examples from Pennsylvania and other states, the charrette will explore traffic calming measures, pedestrian and bike access, programs to help sustainable farming, and recreation and wildlife corridors designed to minimize the negative impacts of 322. The afternoon will allow you to work closely with neighbors and experts to consider options for the future. Penn State landscape architecture faculty and students will be available to help you envision and record your ideas.

The result will be a specific list of community goals to not only influence the proposed design of 322, but also establish clear design expectations for safe multimodal transportation, planning and economic development, and heritage and land conservation.

Dan Marriott, PhD, is an associate professor of landscape architecture at Penn State. He has advised transportation agencies across the United States on how they might address community needs and values in project design. Dan is teaching an upper-level studio course this fall using the State College

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Connector Project for his students to engage further with community members in developing context-sensitive designs.

At this stage in the Connector Project, PennDOT has selected three corridors for detailed engineering and assessment. PennDOT has announced public meetings Wednesday, October 19 and Thursday, October 20 at the Mt Nittany Middle School, near Boalsburg. Hours each night are 5:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. These recommendations will be reviewed by relevant agencies with an expected announcement about the final set in December.

Parking is available at Calvary Church. For additional information on this program or to be added to an email list for updates, please contact Mary Sorensen at [msorensen@centrefurnace.org](mailto:msorensen@centrefurnace.org) or call 814-234-4779. Updates for the State College Area Connector Project and related meetings may be found at [CentreHistory.org](http://CentreHistory.org).

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