



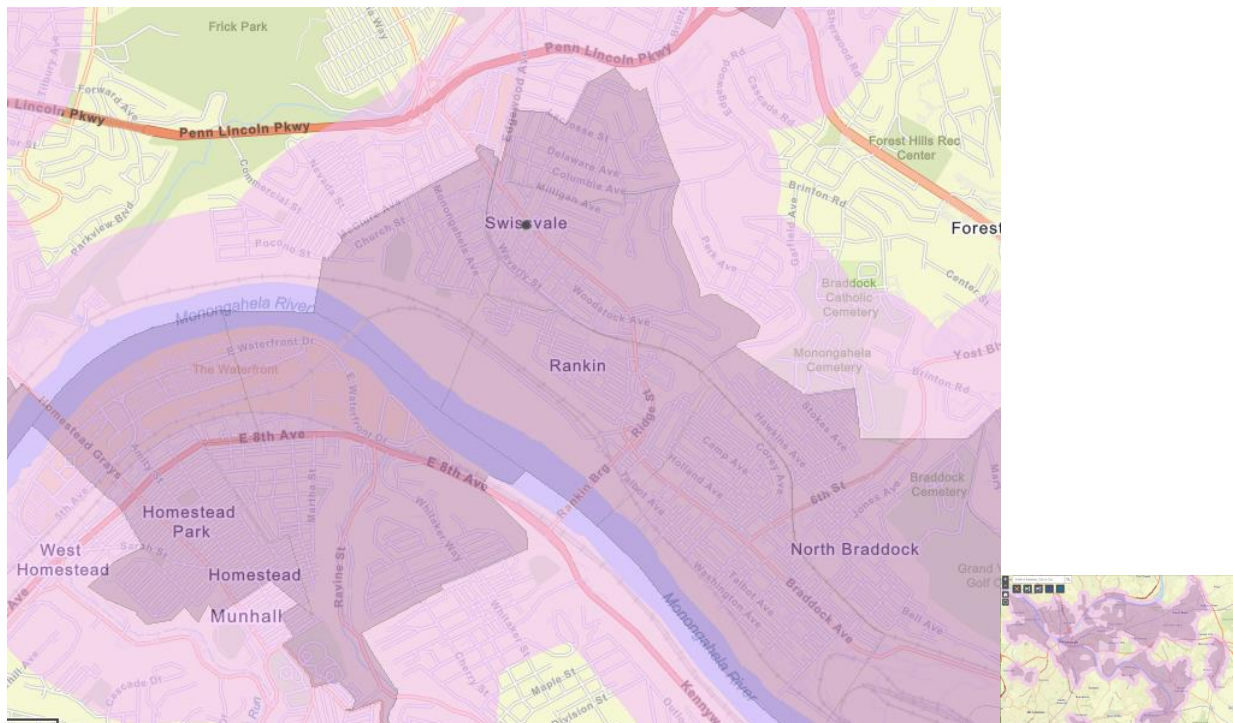
**Swissvale Shade Tree Advisory Commission Meeting  
July 12, 2023 7:00 pm via Zoom**

Attending:, Barb Grabowski, Gib Miller, Julie Ann Mountain, Perry Recker, Kurt Summersgill, Mike Takacs

- Allegheny County Urban/Pollution Corridor Tree Grant - Total funding of \$250,000, with a maximum \$50,000 award per project is available through the Allegheny County Air Quality Program as Clean Ar Fund Urban/Pollution Corridor Tree Planting application. The due date for applications is July 21, 2023. The application requires several different elements including a detailed project narrative, a budget narrative, letters of support, a map of the project area, environmental justice information for the project area, and an i-Tree benefit analysis report. Mike ran some basic i-Tree evaluations, but specific details are necessary. Swissvale has several areas which would easily fit this type of project (Woodstock, Monongahela, Braddock) from an environmental equity standpoint (see below). The conclusion is that we would not be able to pull together a comprehensive plan by July 21st. However, we do need to pre-prepare application information to support future grant opportunities. Everyone should look at the application requirements and think about what we can do to get ready for the next one.

Info below from: <https://www.dep.pa.gov/PublicParticipation/OfficeofEnvironmentalJustice/Pages/PA-Environmental-Justice-Areas.aspx>

DEP defines an EJ Area as any census tract where 20 percent or more individuals live at or below the federal poverty line, and/or 30 percent or more of the population identifies as a non-white minority, based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau and the federal guidelines for poverty. EJ Areas are mapped on DEP's EJ Areas Viewer at [dep.pa.gov/EJViewer](http://dep.pa.gov/EJViewer) [Opens In A New Window](#) NOTE: areas marked purple and pink on the maps below qualify.





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- Wilkins School Cleanup - The debris from the first cleanup has still not been picked up by the DPW. We will have to schedule some time to tie it up into smaller bundles that can be left near the street for pickup. Gib will talk to Jordan again about pickup and what would need to be done to facilitate that.
- Church & Braddock Parklet - SEDCO, Swissvale Rotary and the Borough are trying to develop a plan to complete the parklet. Grounded Strategies was contacted and provided contract proposals for various actions. With no formal budget for the parklet, the proposals were more than could be considered. The Borough will be moving the Veteran's memorial from the site of the old Borough building prior to its demolition. A decision hasn't been made whether the final location will be at the new Borough building or potentially into the Church & Braddock parklet.
- Fall 2023 Tree Vitalize Application - We are expecting an answer to our Fall 2023 Tree Vitalize application by August or September.
- The Swissvale 125th celebration is on July 29, 2023. SSTAC can join in at the SEDCO booth to discuss trees and pass out information.