



The DeCoder

Legislative & Trending News for Local Governments

**GENERAL
CODE**
Codification Division
May, 2015

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Trending Legislative Topics



A quick scan of the news shows that states are legislatively concentrating on the environment, pension funds, workplace laws and medical marijuana. But what's going on legislatively at the local level?

Follow us on [Twitter](#) for timely legislative and local government news! Recent trending topics we've posted about include:

- ['Daredevil' Dirt Bikers](#) (via Connecticut Post)
- [Nonagricultural Uses on Farms and at Vineyards](#) (via The Jamestown Press)
- [Discrimination Ban Against Non-Religious Persons](#) (via ABC6 News)
- [Military Training By Armed Forces Reservists](#) (via Fox5 San Diego)
- [Prohibiting Unregulated Pipelines](#) (via NJ.com)

Keep your Code accurate and enforceable! If you've adopted any legislation lately, be sure to submit your latest updates to us at EZSupp@generalcode.com! Contact us toll-free at (800) 836-8834 if you have questions.

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Form-Based Codes as Smart Growth Zoning



What are 'Form-Based Codes'? As defined by the Local Government Commission (LGC), form-based codes place primary emphasis on building type, dimensions, parking location and facade features, and less emphasis on segregating land use types. They stress the appearance of the streetscape over long lists of different use types. For more information about this burgeoning zoning trend, read the Michigan Association of Planning's "Smart Growth Tactics: Form-Based Codes."

Looking for online publishing and access assistance? If your community is already implementing a form-based code, or considering one, contact General Code to find out how we're helping other municipalities to publish their completed plans, accurately representing them electronically as part of their eCodes. Form-based codes or zoning plans (or even image-rich legislation) are hosted and maintained as they are intended to be graphically represented!

Social Media for Local Government

Is your municipality using YouTube to distribute information about your community or to promote it? Many local governments have set up official 'channels' to post board meetings, community profiles and more.



Need some inspiration? Check out the Civic Plus Blog that lists "5 Clever Examples of Local Government Using YouTube."

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Maximize Your eCode!



For more info check out our new *eCode Quick Reference Cards*. Available in the eCode Help section under FAQ's at ecode360.com/help/faq

Are you getting the most from your eCode? Use your eCode login for some great features like the user analytics, sticky notes, and advanced search options! Unsure if you have a login or how to use it? Attend one of our FREE informational and interactive webinars. [View our schedule of upcoming webinars.](#)

Don't have *ecode360* yet? See it in action! Check out our latest local government customers who give their citizens online access to their municipal codes:

- [Town of Lonaconing, MD](#)
- [City of Green Park, MO](#)
- [City of Pagedale, MO](#)
- [City of Pevely, MO](#)
- [City of Truesdale, MO](#)
- [Township of Mansfield, NJ](#)
- [Township of Southampton, NJ](#)
- [Town of Henrietta, NY](#)
- [Village of Cedarhurst, NY](#)
- [City of Lower Burrell, PA](#)
- [Township of Aleppo, PA](#)
- [City of Markesan, WI](#)
- [Village of Sherwood, WI](#)

General Code on the Road



General Code hosted a [special night out with the Rochester Red Wings](#) during April's NYS Town Clerks Assn conference!

We're excited to support so many of these great municipal association events! Our Reps look forward to sharing exciting news about the latest *eCode360* features and to discussing your 'general' codification needs! This month you'll find us at these conferences:

- International Institute of Municipal Clerks (May 17 – 20)
- Assn for PA Municipal Mgt / NJ Municipal Mgt Assn (May 19 – 21)
- Massachusetts Town Clerks Association (Jun. 10 – 12)

Check out our [Facebook](#) page for photos from our recent travels!

Celebrating Our Clients!

What a delight it is to have so many of our clients to highlight this month!

City of Batavia, NY celebrated its annual awards recognizing citizens, businesses and municipal staff who contributed to the community throughout the year.

Municipal Clerks Week brought a lot of coverage to our **New Jersey** clients:

- **Wanaque Borough** Clerk Kathy Falone Honored at the MCANJ conference
- **Bernards Township** Clerk Denise Szabo
- **Ramsey Borough** Clerk Meredith Bendian
- **Franklin Lakes Borough** Clerk Sally Bleeker
- **Wyckoff Township** Clerk Joyce Santimauro

Congratulations to the folks in **Norristown, PA** and **Lansdale, PA** on being named 1st and 2nd place winners of the 2015 Borough News Award from the **Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB)** for their outstanding websites!

For more cool stories about our fantastic clients in Connecticut, Michigan, New York and other states, check out our [board on Pinterest!](#)

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Our own Mike & Marge Perry from our Sullivan Division were on hand to wish Saint Robert, MO's City Clerk Debra Adkins a very happy, well-deserved retirement.



Customer Connection



Thank you to the following municipalities for choosing to partner with us on your current codification projects!

- **Pittsfield Charter Township, MI**
- **Town of Carrollton, MO**
- **Village of Red Creek, NY**
- **Borough of Mount Wolf, PA**
- **Borough of Spring Grove, PA**

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Codification Division

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