

**QUAKER VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

343 Eicher Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

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**Executive Director's Report – December 2023**

**2024 Fuel Cost Adjustment** – Per the current waste and recycling contract specifications, participating QVCOG member municipalities will permit an annual diesel fuel cost adjustment for garbage and recyclable collection throughout the length of the contract. After conducting the specified calculation and confirming with the WM team, a calculation for the 2024 Fuel Cost Adjustment was conducted with **no increase** being slated for the new year. Please note, the following communities participate in the aforementioned agreement: Aleppo Township, Avalon Borough, Bellevue Borough, Ben Avon Borough, Edgeworth Borough, Emsworth Borough, Glen Osborne Borough, Glenfield Borough, Kilbuck Township, Leet Township, and Sewickley Borough.

**Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program** – The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) is a Commonwealth grant program administered by the Office of the Budget for the design, acquisition, and construction of a regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational, and historical improvement project. RACP projects are authorized in the Redevelopment Assistance section of a Capital Budget Itemization Act, have a regional or multi-jurisdictional impact, and generate substantial increases or maintain current levels of employment, tax revenues, or other measures of economic activity. RACP projects are state-funded projects that cannot obtain primary funding under other state programs. The RACP funding round will open Friday, December 8, 2023. The window will close Friday, January 12, 2024. More information regarding this funding opportunity can be found at [qvcog.org](http://qvcog.org).

**Franchise Fee Cooperative** – In the recent past the Cohen Law Group has represented and worked on behalf of many QVCOG member communities when their franchise fee agreements were near expiration. A major advantage provided by this cooperative is reduced rates charged by the aforementioned firm. The current proposal as outlined commits a 20% discount if 7 or more QVCOG members participate. The proposal also includes a franchise fee audit to determine whether Comcast has paid each of the municipalities all the franchise fee revenue to which they may be entitled. Per the Cohen Law Group, between 2021-23, their firm conducted over 120 franchise fee audits (most of them of Comcast) and found underpayments approximately 65% of the time. Should an underpayment be identified during an audit, the franchise renewal is the best time to collect such underpayments (plus penalties and interest). Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the proposal, etc. please contact Mr. Daniel Cohen via email [dcohen@cohenlawgroup.org](mailto:dcohen@cohenlawgroup.org) or by phone at (412) 447-0130, ext. 110.

**2024 Board of Delegates Meeting Dates and Locations** – In keeping with the current procedure, the QVCOG's Board of Delegates will continue hybrid meetings (both in-person and virtual attendance). Proposed 2024 meeting dates and host locations can be found below (all meetings are set to commence at 7:00 p.m.).

**January 17th** - Sewickley Public Library

**March 20th** - Sewickley Public Library

**May 22nd** - Sewickley Public Library

**July 17th** – Leetsdale Borough Building

**September 18th** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**November 20th** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**February 21st** - Sewickley Public Library

**April 17th** - Sewickley Public Library

**June 19th** - Sewickley Public Library

**August 21st** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**October 16th** - Leetsdale Borough Building

**December 18th** - Leetsdale Borough Building