

Gerber hosts environmental forum in Ardmore for local officials

LOWER MERION – Earlier in March, Rep. Mike Gerber, D-Montgomery, hosted an environmental forum with local government leaders at the Lower Merion Township Building in Ardmore.

Gerber organized the forum to help municipal and school-district leaders learn about making their operations more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly.

“Many local governments are working to become greener and save money. My hope is this forum will lead to each municipality sharing their best practices, learning from one another and benefiting from our experts,” Gerber said before the meeting.

Gerber invited Environmental Advisory Board members, all elected officials and staff from the seven municipalities in his district, which include Conshohocken, Lower Merion, Narberth, Plymouth, Upper Dublin, Whitmarsh and Whitpain. Gerber also invited the four school districts that serve the 148th Legislative District: Colonial, Lower Merion, Upper Dublin and Wissaickon.

Guest speakers for the forum included Kevin Gallagher from the state Department of Environ-



Chris Smith, Upper Dublin School District; Joseph Chmielewski, Upper Dublin School Board; John Bonan, Director of Policy, Johnson Controls Inc; Joe Mudd, Lower Merion School District Green Council; Glenn Rosazza, Lower Merion School District Green Council; Kevin Gallagher, Legislative Liaison, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection; Andrea Barol, Upper Dublin Environmental Protection Advisory Board; Eric Lowry, Lower Merion Environmental Advisory Council; Mike Gerber, State Representative, 148th Legislative District; Steve Nelson, Director of Policy with the Montgomery County Planning Commission; Matt Schwartz, Whitmarsh Environmental Advisory Board; Terry Yemm, Director of Operations with Colonial School District; Robert Bisbing, Whitmarsh Environmental Advisory Board; Joe Palmer, Supervisor, Whitpain Township; Carolyn Nickels, Plymouth Environmental Advisory Board; Matt Thomas, Narberth Greens; Tony Tucci, Conshohocken Borough Council.

from the Montgomery County Planning Commission, who discussed the county's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Task Force “green-print” plan; and consultant John Bonan of Johnson Controls Inc., an expert on helping local governments become greener.