

STATE REPRESENTATIVE | 33RD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

MANDY STEELE

SPRING 2024

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

It's been an honor to represent you in Harrisburg during my first term, but it's my duty to support you back here at home as well. I remain committed to rising above partisan politics to get things done for our communities in District 33. I always support our local government leaders and our first responders, as the work they do throughout our communities is invaluable.

Since my last newsletter, I opened a second location and now have district offices in Cheswick and Tarentum. You have a dedicated team of constituent services advisors in those offices who are happy to help you with state-related issues and services. I'm looking forward to a great summer full of events here in our district, and I hope you are as well!



Sincerely,

Mandy Steele

State Representative for the 33rd Legislative District



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STAY IN THE LOOP!

Visit www.RepSteele.com/emails/signup to sign up for my weekly emails or scan the QR code below.



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TARENTUM, CHESWICK OFFICES OPEN TO SERVE

Do you need a vehicle registration renewed or a handicap placard? Do you want to apply for the state's expanded Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program? My offices can help with these things and much, much more! The list below is just a small sample of the state services we offer. Stop by or call either of my offices to learn more. We're here to help.

MY OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- Applying for state programs such as Property Tax/Rent Rebate and PACE
- Birth and death certificates
- Senior ConnectCards for seniors 65+
- Disability parking placards/plates
- Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) information
- Problems or questions about PennDOT, including car registrations, titles and license applications
- Issues with Public Benefit applications
- Unemployment compensation questions
- Questions about utilities or the PUC
- Complaints and problems with insurance companies
- Problems with Pennsylvania income taxes
- College grant and loan (PHEAA) information

✉ RepSteele@PAHouse.net

☎ (724) 826-5151 (Cheswick)

☎ (724) 409-4034 (Tarentum)

**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SEE A SNAPSHOT
OF THE TARENTUM
OFFICE'S OPEN HOUSE.**



It was a great turnout at my Tarentum open house earlier this year.



Tianna and Chase assisting seniors with their Property Tax/Rent Rebate applications.

HELPING PUT MORE MONEY BACK IN 300 SENIORS' POCKETS AND COUNTING!

After I voted to expand eligibility for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program last year, my staff has been visiting high-rises and senior facilities to talk about the program and help those eligible apply. Since January, we've helped over 300 people apply in 11 different locations, and because of the program's increased rebate amounts, they're getting more money back.

We're continuing to visit areas to help sign people up, but you can stop by either of my offices for help too. Please give us a call to let us know you're coming, so we can make sure you bring all of the necessary paperwork with you.



**Property Tax / Rent Rebate
2024 Program Expansion**
MORE people eligible, *MORE* money back!

Homeowner Income	Rebate	Renter Income	Rebate
Up to \$8K	\$1,000	Up to \$8K	\$1,000
Up to \$15K	\$770	Up to \$15K	\$770
Up to \$18K	\$460	Up to \$18K	\$460
Up to \$35K	\$380	Up to \$45K	\$380
Up to \$45K	\$380		

Questions? Contact my office for help receiving your refund!

FIRST RESPONDERS CORNER

INVESTING NEARLY \$470,000 FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES SINCE TAKING OFFICE

Our local firefighters, police and EMS providers respond to emergencies every day so that our communities remain safe. That's why I have made it my mission to bring funding back to the area to support all that they do. In the 16 months since taking office, I've brought back \$468,525 earmarked for emergency services:

- Allegheny Valley Regional Police Dept. – \$17,500 – updated safety equipment and trailer purchase
- Aspinwall Police Dept. – \$7,500 – purchase of new firearms
- Blawnox Borough – \$10,000 – equipment for new fire truck
- Brackenridge Borough – \$80,000 – police department resources
- Fawn Township Police Dept. – \$7,500 – wireless cameras
- Harmar Township Police Dept. – \$30,000 – police car cameras
- Harrison Township – \$23,500 – roof replacement of Hilltop Hose Fire Dept.
- Indiana Township – \$86,800 – two new Ford Police Interceptor utility vehicles
- Tarentum Borough – \$15,000 – police department improvements
- Harrison Township – \$50,000 – renovation of the Hilltop Hose Fire Dept. station and parking lot
- Harrison Township Police Dept. – \$58,225 – speed enforcement devices for community safety enhancement project
- Tarentum Police Department – \$82,500 – camera system for two vehicles and vehicle car decals

In addition to these, our local fire departments and EMS agencies received \$299,793 from the state's annual fire grant program in 2024.



Tarentum & Brackenridge borough officials were in the Capitol in April to receive the prestigious Governor's Award for Local Government Excellence for combining their police forces and establishing a multi-community communications platform. This effort has enhanced public safety for both communities, and I was glad to support it.

EARTH DAY 2024

We are all responsible for ensuring the sustainability of our planet for future generations. We can do that by taking extra steps now to reduce our carbon footprint. At my Earth Day Extravaganza, attendees received a free reusable tote bag and plant and were able to drop off glass bottles, jars and jugs for recycling. We also partnered with Tree Pittsburgh, and over 50 native trees and shrubs were given out. We had some eye-opening discussions with attendees about how we can better address environmental issues in District 33. Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate Earth Day.



PROTECTING PENNSYLVANIA'S WILDLIFE, FARMS, FORESTS

It has been only recently that PA hunters have been able to hunt on Sunday – and just on three Sundays of the year – and the U.S. Department of Agriculture rates Pennsylvania as among the top states in which farmers face crop damage from wildlife. I have introduced a bill package that would work together to increase opportunities for hunters, while also improving wildlife management to help farmers and state forests.

The bills would:

- Repeal the ban for Sunday hunting, giving the Pennsylvania Game Commission the authority to regulate hunting on Sundays.
- Connect farmers to licensed hunters to manage deer populations on their property.
- Require that at least one member of the PGC board has experience in the agriculture industry.

Pennsylvania has a long hunting heritage, and agriculture is one of our top industries. I want to ensure that both thrive, while also nurturing our forests. The bill has already had a public hearing in the House Game and Fisheries Committee, and may receive committee approval soon.

VETERANS OUTREACH

A veterans assistance expert from the American Legion will be in my Cheswick office from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the last Thursday of every month to help veterans and their families access benefits. To schedule an appointment, call my office at (724) 826-5151.



OUT & ABOUT IN DISTRICT 33





HOUSE PASSES MY BILLS

TO BOLSTER SCHOOL COUNSELING SERVICES

Did you know that Pennsylvania is the only state in the U.S. that does not require comprehensive counseling services in all schools? As a dedicated advocate for the mental health of our children, I'm proud the House approved my bill that would require schools to implement comprehensive counseling services to help students thrive.

The bill would make sure school counselors spend the large majority of their time engaged in services to students, whether that's in academics or career planning, addressing social and emotional learning concerns or helping students at risk of dropping out. School counselors have an important role in our students' lives, and this bill would ensure students have the tools and resources they need to be successful throughout their academic career and beyond.

TO BAN TOXIC CHEMICALS IN DRIVEWAY SEALANT

Not all driveway and parking lot sealants are created equal. Some of them are dangerous to the public health and environment because of the high amount of PAHs in them.

PAHs are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. They have been found to increase the risk of lung, bladder and skin cancers in humans and pets and can cause developmental delays in children. 12 states and the District of Columbia have already banned their sale. Within PA, nine municipalities have banned these sealants, while another 10 have restricted their use. My bill would ban the use of sealants that contain high PAHs.

Both bills are now in the state Senate for consideration.