

## Happy Birthday MPC!

The year 2018 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the adoption of P.L. 805, No. 272 of July 31, 1968, known as the “**Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code**” (MPC). The MPC has provided Pennsylvania municipal governments a uniform tool to use in the performance of their duties and responsibilities pertaining to land use in the Commonwealth. Prior to the MPC local governments each through their respective municipal codes authorized the regulation of land use. For example, in 1968 the MPC repealed Section 3206 of the 1961 Borough Code: Zoning Commissions.

Over the past 50 years there have been numerous amendments adding to and modifying the 1968 Act. What seems most striking are the number of case laws which have helped to add significant body to the Act. Should you be interested, you can review Title 53 of Purdon's Pennsylvania Statutes Annotated (53 P.S. §10101, et. seq.) and view the many annotations of common pleas and appellate court decisions related to the MPC.

The strength of the MPC lies with elected municipal officials, appointed members of planning commissions and zoning hearing boards. Uniform training on the MPC provides such officials an understanding of just what the MPC enables, and of equal importance, what the MPC does not enable! For over 25 years the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning and Education Institute (PMPEI) has provided this important education and training on the MPC for thousands of local government officials.