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July 2, 2020

Welcome to the PSATS Morning News.

Missed yesterday's PSATS Morning News? No problem! A [PSATS Morning News Library](#) is available online for your viewing pleasure!

We're excited about this new concept and want to hear what you think. Email comments and suggestions to [morningnews@psats.org](mailto:morningnews@psats.org).

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## Township Video News



It's not even the Fourth of July, and residents are already complaining about fireworks in their neighborhoods. We explain the options townships have to manage their use. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:12)

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## Latest News

### **Secretary of Health Signs New Mask Order**

Expanding on the Commonwealth's existing business safety order requiring the wearing of masks in businesses, Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine has now expanded the mask-wearing directive to [require that, absent social distancing, masks be worn when outside home](#), effective immediately. [Read full story](#).

Township officials are strongly encouraged to implement the order for publicly accessible township facilities. The new order will be sent to state and local officials, law enforcement and others tasked with education about the order for those not in compliance. Further guidance on enforcement is anticipated.

### **Supreme Court Upholds Emergency Declaration**

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has ruled that Gov. Tom Wolf's emergency declaration remains in place despite the passage of a concurrent resolution by the General Assembly. The Court ruled that the General Assembly cannot decide to act unilaterally to end the declaration. Instead, "The General Assembly must adhere to the constitutional requirement of presentment even when attempting to overturn the Governor's delegated putative authority to suspend laws." (Editor note: This would require either a governor's signature or an override vote if vetoed. The legislature can change the authorization law moving forward, but not retroactively.)

### **[New PA Cases of COVID-19 Increase, Hospitalizations Decrease](#)**

New positive COVID-19 cases in Pennsylvania are now beginning to rise. [Read full story](#).

### **[PennDOT Asks Townships to Complete Survey on Emerging Technologies](#)**

The state Department of Transportation is asking township officials to complete a brief online survey, estimated to take about 2-3 minutes, about emerging technologies for transportation. [Read full story](#).

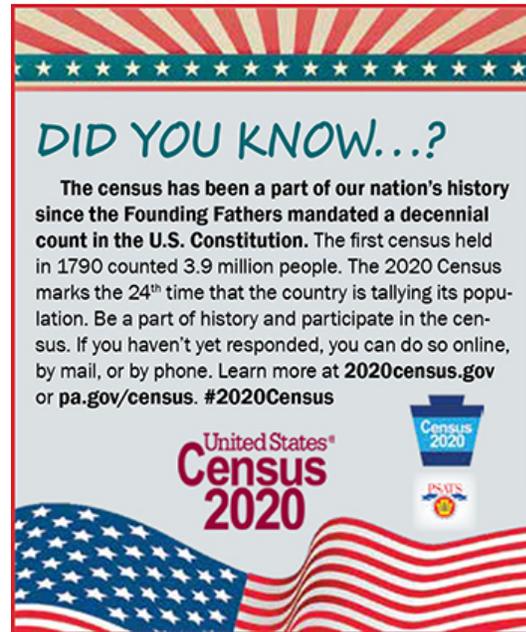
### **[Independent Fiscal Office, Department of Revenue Release Year-to-Date Revenue Reports](#)**

June revenue collections of \$2.67 billion fell below pre-COVID monthly projections released by the Independent Fiscal Office (IFO) in August 2019 by \$545.2 million (-16.9 percent). [Read full story](#).

## Celebrate Independence Day by Promoting the Census

The census has been a part of our nation's history since the Founding Fathers mandated a decennial count in the U.S. Constitution. The first census held in 1790 counted 3.9 million people. The 2020 Census marks the 24th time that the country is tallying its population.

As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, appeal to your residents' patriotic duty and civic pride and urge them to be a part of history by participating in the 2020 Census today. Feel free to share this patriotic-themed "Did you know" census box with your residents. The box is one in a series that PSATS has created to help townships promote the census. Access them, plus many other resources on our [2020 Census page](#).



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## Legislation & Policy



The Senate remains at the call of the President Pro Tempore. The House is scheduled to return to session on Tuesday July 7th.

### Federal News

Legislation to Restore Advance Refunding for Local Governments Introduced

Yesterday, the Lifting Our Communities through Advance Liquidity for Infrastructure (LOCAL Infrastructure) Act was introduced in the U.S. Senate. This legislation would amend the federal tax code to restore state and local governments' ability to use advance refunding to manage bond debt and reduce borrowing costs for public projects.

Note: This legislation would fulfill federal policy of the National Association of Towns &

## Learn

### **[High Performance Snowplow Blades - Virtual - 7/6/20](#)**

In this workshop, learn from Winter Equipment, the leader in snowplow blade innovation, about how to protect your township's investment in its snowplows and achieve high performance. Among the topics to be discussed include how not to change snowplow blades. Attendees will have a chance to win a Grizzly Cooler. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Public Works Point. [Click here](#) to register.

### **[Local Economies And Quality Of Life In The Age Of E-Tail - Virtual - 7/9/20](#)**

The popularity of online shopping is leading to retail closures and warehouse development. This new economy will have winners and losers, and it will transform the landscape of how communities look and function. Attend this session to learn how your community can adjust its land use policies and build infrastructure to sustain existing businesses, promote economic development, and maintain quality of life. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Planning/Zoning Point. [Click here](#) to register.

### **[Advancing Public Communication Through Website Design - Virtual - 7/9/20](#)**

This session will provide an in-depth look at website design best practices that can help you better connect and communicate with the public. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Administration Point. [Click here](#) to register.



**E-Scooters, Mopeds, And E-Bikes:  
Micromobility Rising - Virtual - 07/10/2020**

This virtual workshop will give you an overview of the micromobility tools that are growing in popularity (electric scooters, mopeds, electric bicycles, and hoverboards). A data-rich presentation will focus on a set of case studies relating to municipalities and how they used policies, permitting, infrastructure, and enforcement solutions to ensure a rational integration of micromobility into their municipality's transportation ecosystem. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Planning/Zoning Point.

[Click here](#) to register.

**Protect Your Assets: Best Practices In Cash Management - Virtual - 7/16/20**

This session will outline how to effectively manage cash and investments for your Township. Join Paul Robinson and Matt Conlin from PLGIT to review permitted investments and tips on creating an investment policy. They also will review best practices for striving to protect vital information related to township funds, as well as ways to seek to minimize fraud and the risk of cyber-crime. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Administration Point. [Click here](#) to register.

**Trust The Process: Land Development And Best Practices - Virtual - 7/16/20**

This workshop will address hot topics in subdivision and land development with an emphasis on practical solutions to problem situations. The presenters will explore the relationship between the Municipalities Planning Code and local ordinances by focusing on processing land development applications, overseeing the development, handling dedication, and tackling stormwater management issues. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Planning/Zoning Point. Eligible for 1 CLE Credit. [Click here](#) to register.



**[PennTIME: How Traffic Incident Management Can Keep Our ERS - Virtual - 07/17/2020](#)**

Attend this virtual workshop to learn about PennTIME -- The Pennsylvania Traffic Incident Management Enhancement program, which is focused on improving first-responder safety while keeping traffic moving. The presenters will talk about training, quick clearance, and the need for state agencies and municipalities to work together to keep workers, responders, and citizens safe. Qualifies for 1 PMGA Public Safety Point. [Click here](#) to register.



For full list of webinars and classes please visit <https://learn.psats.org>.



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