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May 14, 2021

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## Latest News

### **Masks Off for Fully Vaccinated**

Fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting, except where required by federal, state, or local rules, including local business and workplace guidance, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced yesterday. In addition, fully vaccinated people may refrain from testing following a known COVID-19 exposure unless they have symptoms. [Click here](#) for more. [Click here](#) for a chart showing CDC masking guidance for both unvaccinated and fully vaccinated people.

State Acting Secretary of Health Alison Beam stated that Pennsylvania's Universal Face Coverings order automatically incorporates the masking changes made by the CDC.

"Today's guidance from the CDC affects only people who are fully vaccinated," Beam said. "This is another incentive to get the vaccine that is now easily and conveniently available. Once 70 percent of Pennsylvanians over 18 are fully vaccinated, we can completely lift the masking order."

### **PennDOT to Hold Telephone Town Hall on Updated Transportation Funding Study**

The state Department of Transportation is holding a telephone town hall on **Tuesday, May 25**, at 6 p.m. as an opportunity to comment on its revised PennDOT Pathways Program. Pathways contains ideas for filling the \$8.1 billion annual highway and bridge transportation funding gap and incorporates public comment into the Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study.

To participate, dial in directly to the meeting at 855-756-7520, Entry Code Ext. 73539#.

The PennDOT Pathways program is evaluating near- and long-term transportation funding solutions for Pennsylvania. Options under consideration include the Major Bridge Public-Private Partnership (P3) Initiative, which would fund the reconstruction or replacement of the identified bridges through tolling. Other options include corridor tolling, managed lanes, congestion pricing, and a road user charge. If you are concerned about being charged by the number of miles you drive, make sure you call and register your opinion.

The department is requesting public feedback on the plan **until June 1, 2021**. To view a website outlining the Pathways findings, [click here](#). To read the study, [click here](#). To comment, email [PennDOTPathways@pa.gov](mailto:PennDOTPathways@pa.gov) or call (717) 325-6129. Please copy PSATS Government Relations Director Joe Gerdes on submitted comments at [jgerdes@psats.org](mailto:jgerdes@psats.org). PSATS will review the study and provide comments in accordance with existing policies and resolutions. To view PSATS' comments on the original plan, [click here](#).

#### **This day in History...**

On May 14, 1973, NASA launches the first U.S. space station, Skylab.

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## Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety. Click on the title of the class for more information and to register.

#### **[Rx for Disaster: The Effects of COVID-19 on the EMS System - Virtual - 5/17/21](#)**

This workshop will focus on the impact of the pandemic on the commonwealth's EMS system, including the toll it's taken on agencies' finances and their workforces.



**Strategic Planning for Fire Service Operations in Townships - Virtual - 5/24/21**

This session will use lecture, small group discussions, and facilitated brainstorming to identify solutions to sustain or improve fire service in your community.



**Essentials of Township Public Safety - Virtual Class - 6/8/21 & 6/10/21**

Join us for this two-session presentation which discusses such topics as fire service, emergency management, police, ambulance service, mutual aid, homeland security, and municipal liability for volunteers.



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Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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