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Newsletter of the Township Engineers Association

June 2021

“The Township Engineer” Now Arriving Monthly!

We’ve reformatted “The Township Engineer” newsletter and are now emailing it to members of the Township Engineers Association on a monthly basis.

Look for quick bites about trending topics, new laws/proposed legislation/court case updates as relevant, and educational opportunities in this new monthly member update!

And we’d love to hear what you think about this new format, especially about what other items, topics, or subjects you would be interested in knowing more about. Drop us an email at engineers@psats.org or call Township Engineer’s Association Coordinator James Wheeler at (717) 763-0930, ext. 128.

Latest News

PSATS Stormwater Conference Workshop Presentations Due by July 16

RFP is open for the "2021 PSATS Stormwater Conference" at the following dates and locations:

- Sep. 14 = Policy and Technical Tracks at the Doubletree Convention Center in Monroeville, Allegheny County.
- Sep. 21 = Policy Track at the PSATS Education Center in Enola, Cumberland County.
- Sep. 22 = Technical Track at the PSATS Education Center in Enola, Cumberland County.

- Sep. 29 = Policy and Technical Tracks at the Blue Bell Country Club in Blue Bell, Montgomery County.

If you have a “Stormwater/MS4 Great Idea” you would like to share with others at these events, click [HERE](#) to submit a workshop proposal for either the “Policy Track” or the “Technical Track”. If your company wants to have widespread exposure as a sponsor of these events, click [HERE](#) to receive sponsorship package information.

Proposed Federal Plans to Impact Single-Family Only Zoning?

In a recent blog post “Uncle Sam Giving You More Chances to Love More New Neighbors?”, Chris Knarr of McNeese examined the growing trend toward providing additional housing opportunities through revised planning and zoning regulations. He noted that President Biden’s proposed American Jobs Plan would include \$5 billion in competitive grants that would include requirements that multi-family housing be allowed in areas traditionally zoned for single-family dwellings. Click [HERE](#) to read this post.

Penn State Hosting Online Solar Law Symposium in June

The Penn State “Solar Law Symposium for Lawyers, Landowners & Others” will be held on the afternoons of June 15 and June 17 and is targeted at those who need beginning or intermediate knowledge about utility-scale solar development. The symposium is intended to provide attendees with a well-rounded understanding of the legal facets of the proliferation of utility-scale solar development project proposals in Pennsylvania, across the region, and throughout much of the United States. For more information or to register, click [HERE](#).

Speaking Opportunities Available

PSATS continues to host numerous in-person and virtual educational events targeted at both township engineers and municipal officials. If you are interested in making either an in-person or virtual presentation on a topic of interest to this target audience, please contact Scott Coburn at scoburn@psats.org.

Training Opportunities

[Get on Point With 3D Laser Scanning in Your Municipalities \(Webinar\) — 6/9/21](#)

Learn how municipalities can accelerate project completion, reduce costs, and utilize data collection for future developments with the help of 3D laser scanning. This webinar will explore the 3D laser scanner equipment and software, applications, and the advantages of this digital surveying technology method. Do not miss your chance to be entered in a drawing to win one of three giveaway prizes!



Roadside Safety Features (Webinar) - 6/23/21

This webinar will discuss safety concepts and how to keep vehicles on the road through pavement marking, guide rails, signs and road surface improvements.



Traffic Calming (Webinar) - 6/30/21

this session will provide an overview of traffic calming, including the benefits and issues associated with traffic calming applications. We will explore the importance of adopting traffic calming policy, the benefits of different traffic calming features, and how to mitigate some of the negative effects of traffic calming.



Community Traffic Safety Programs (Webinar) - 7/28/21

Learn about the different types of outreach programs that Community Traffic Safety Program (CTSP) coordinators are presenting to schools, agencies, and organizations to help educate them on traffic safety issues across Pennsylvania. Learn how CTSPs work with police and other community safety partners on educational and enforcement programs in an effort to reduce the number of crashes, injuries, and fatalities. During this session you will also find out how you can get free presentations scheduled in your area.



Save-a-Date to Attend a Fall 2021 Engineers Seminar

Even though the 2021 Engineers Spring Virtual Seminar has only recently concluded, plans are already underway for the 2021 Engineers Fall Seminars, which will return to live, in-person sessions on the following dates/locations:

- [September 28 — Mohegan Sun Pocono, Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne Co.](#)
- [October 14 — PSATS Education Center, Enola, Cumberland Co.](#)
- [October 21 — Valley Forge Casino Resort, King of Prussia, Montgomery Co.](#)

To register for the session of your choice, click on the appropriate date to be taken to that event's registration page.

REMINDER: Grant Opportunities Still Available!

PA Growing Greener Plus Grants — PADEP is accepting applications for [Growing Greener Plus Grants](#) until **June 25**. The department is prioritizing projects that reduce nonpoint source pollution, including nitrogen, phosphorous, and sediment pollution from agricultural and stormwater runoff. Eligible municipal applicants include incorporated watershed associations, counties or municipalities, county conservation districts, council of governments, or a municipal authority. Click [HERE](#) for information on applying for these grants.

PA Non-point Source Section 319 Grants — PADEP is accepting applications for [Watershed Planning and Restoration Grants](#) until **June 25**. The department is prioritizing projects that reduce nonpoint source pollution in targeted watersheds with watershed implementation plans. Eligible municipal applicants include incorporated watershed associations, counties or municipalities, county conservation districts, council of governments, or a municipal authority. Click [HERE](#) for information on applying for these grants.

PA Broadband Grants for Unserved and Underserved Communities — The Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) announced that \$5 million is available for projects that expand high-speed broadband service infrastructure in unserved and underserved areas through the [Unserved High-Speed Broadband Funding Program](#) (UHSB). The application period will be open from June 1 through September 24, 2021 and is only open to **nongovernmental** entities which have the technical, managerial, and financial expertise to design, build, and operate a high-speed broadband service infrastructure in unserved areas.

Federal Transportation Grants — \$1 billion in federal discretionary grant funding is available through the [U.S. Department of Transportation](#) for all sizes of communities. Funding for this highly competitive program comes from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program. Applications are due **July 12** and must be submitted through [grants.gov](#). To learn more, visit the [RAISE webpage](#).

Federal Broadband Grants — The U.S. Department of Commerce has \$288 million available in grant funding for the deployment of broadband infrastructure. Grants will be awarded to partnerships between a state or local government and a provider of fixed broadband services. Projects should be designed to provide broadband service to rural areas and to the greatest number of households in an eligible service area, be the most cost-effective in providing broadband services, and provide a download speed of 100 Mbps and an upload speed of 20 Mbps. As rural townships have often remarked, there is a continuing need for better internet connectivity during emergencies, this might be an opportunity to help your clients fill that gap. Interested engineers should [click here](#) to learn more about this funding program. Applications are due by August 17, 2021.



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