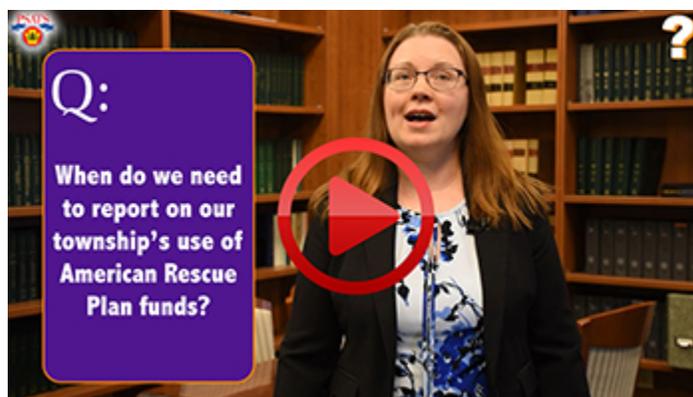


Click [here](#) to view this email in your browser.



September 23, 2021

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | When do we need to report on our township's use of American Rescue Plan funds?

Find out why October 31 is a critical date in reporting on the use of ARP funds and how often you must file such reports based on your population. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week. (1:34)

Latest News

LCB Says Record Sales While Cutting Municipal Local Share

The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) has reported a record sales increase for the 2020-21 fiscal year and the largest annual sales increase in PLCB history. Sales for the fiscal year totaled \$2.91 billion, including liquor and sales tax, 13.7% more than in 2019-20 and 8.9% higher than 2018-19, which held the previous sales record.

The financials show that only \$1.8 million in licensing fees were returned to municipalities in 2020-21, compared to \$4 million in past years, because the LCB waived nearly \$28 million in license fees for 2021 for retail licensees most impacted by the pandemic. As a result, host municipalities received only a partial payment in March 2021 and will not receive any payments this month. Local-share payments will return with a partial payment in March 2022 and should resume at normal levels by September 2022. *PSATS will be asking the Wolf Administration to direct the LCB to restore the municipal local share in light of record profits.* [Click here](#) for the press release.

More Unfunded Mandates Coming From Harrisburg

The Wolf Administration has released its *Pennsylvania Climate Action Plan 2021* and is calling for statewide action on climate change by all sectors, including local governments. Mandates on flooding mitigation and more restrictive building codes are sure to add news costs to local communities so budget accordingly. The document sets Pennsylvania's greenhouse gas reduction goals at 26% by 2025 and 80% by 2050 compared to 2005 levels. The 278-page document details 18 actions to meet statewide emissions goals if carried about by the affected sectors. [Click here](#) to view the plan.

PennDOT Data Shows Roundabouts Reduce Fatalities, Injuries, and Crashes

The state Department of Transportation has announced that fatalities, injuries, and crashes decreased overall at 26 roundabouts at 23 locations in the time since they were built.

"The modern roundabout is simply safer than the traditional intersection," says PennDOT Secretary Yassmin Gramian. "Though not the right option for every intersection, data shows that when installed, roundabouts save lives and reduce crash severity."

PennDOT recently reviewed data for 26 roundabouts on state routes at intersections that were previously stop- or signal-controlled. These roundabouts were selected based on having at least three years of crash data available before and after the roundabouts were built. Department data based on police-submitted crash reports spanning the years 2000 through 2020 shows that fatalities at these locations were reduced by 100%, and the total number of crashes decreased by 22%. In addition, suspected serious injuries were reduced by 81%, and suspected minor injuries were reduced by 36%. [Click here](#) to learn more.

FDA Approves First Booster COVID-19 Vaccine Shots

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has amended the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine to allow for a single booster dose at least six months after completion of the primary series for people 65 years of age and older; those who are 18 through 64 and at high risk of severe COVID-19; and those who are 18 through 64 and whose jobs put them at higher risk of exposure (healthcare, colleges, schools, grocery stores, etc)

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine was recently authorized under the FDA's normal review and approval process. This emergency use authorization is for the booster shot. [Click here](#) for more.

Be sure to join us in Hershey for PSATS' Centennial Celebration Dinner, which takes place in just three weeks! [Click here](#) to learn more and to register!

Today in History...

On September 23, 1875, Billy the Kid is arrested for the first time after stealing a basket of laundry. He later broke out of jail and roamed the American West, eventually earning a reputation as an outlaw and murderer and a rap sheet that allegedly included 21 murders.

Legislation & Policy



Right-to-Know Vexatious Requester Relief Passes Senate

The Senate has passed [SB 552](#), which would allow townships to petition the Office of Open Records for relief from a vexatious requester. A “vexatious requester” would be individuals who use the Right-to-Know Law with malicious intent to intimidate, harass, or punish an agency, resulting in the waste of taxpayer dollars and resources. PSATS supports SB 552, which would address a PSATS resolution. The bill is now awaiting committee assignment in the House.

Bill Would Expand Eligibility for Emergency Services Loan Assistance Program

The Senate has approved [SB 739](#), which would amend the Emergency Services Loan Assistance Program to incorporate a statewide referendum to expand the program's eligibility to include nonprofit chartered fire companies and municipal-owned fire companies. The bill also expands the Application Review Committee to include representatives from the Pennsylvania Professional Firefighters Association, the Pennsylvania Career Chiefs Association, the state Department of

Community and Economic Development, and the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The bill is now awaiting committee assignment in the House.

Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.

2021 PSATS Stormwater Conference PSATS Stormwater Conference events are now Virtual!

The scheduled topics address a number of activities for which municipal American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds could be used. Make sure to attend any of these sessions to be in a better position to help your municipal clients evaluate how to invest their ARP dollars in an eligible category.

[September 29 – “Policy” Track](#)

2021 Engineers Virtual Fall Seminar

This full-day virtual seminar is designed to meet the educational interests and busy schedules of consulting engineers by providing a focused overview of important issues of interest to municipal engineers and their local government clients. In addition to the opportunity to learn from and engage in dialogue with highly regarded faculty members, attendees will receive handout materials and certificate of attendance.

[10/21/21](#)



Township  Engineers
Association

CDL - Probable Cause Training for CDL Supervisory Personnel - Virtual Training

This workshop addresses these federal requirements by providing supervisory personnel with a working understanding of the federal CDL regulations, including on-the-job probable cause procedures.

[10/26/21](#)



CMV/CDL Records Management - Virtual Training

This virtual training workshop will review CMV/CDL employee and vehicle paperwork, including pre-employment inquiries regarding a CDL applicant's records in the FMCSA Clearinghouse; requests for CMV driver's license information from PennDOT; annually reviewing each CDL drivers records in the Clearinghouse; CMV daily vehicle inspection, maintenance, and repair reports; the employer's required policy on CDL drug and alcohol testing; and a general overview of all the CDL regulations.

[10/27/21](#)



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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