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October 8, 2021

Latest News

Impact Fees Projected to Increase in 2022

The Independent Fiscal Office released its Monthly Economic Update, which features articles on the natural gas impact fee and renter eviction filings. Due to increased prices of natural gas, the IFO anticipates an increase of nearly \$75 million in total natural gas impact fees for 2022. The increase is due to the highest monthly price increase since enactment of the fee in 2011. [Click here](#) to read more.

ARP Rules Update

While there are still no published updates relative to rules or eligibility standards from US Treasury for ARP funds, PSATS has learned from NATaT that the U.S. Treasury is not going to require ID.me registration for Non-Entitlement Units (communities with populations less than 50,000) and that they are working on a more “user friendly” reporting system. We will keep you apprised as more is shared. Keep in mind reporting deadlines have been moved to April 30, 2022 for the first report for communities with populations under 50,000.

Pfizer Requests FDA Approval for COVID-19 Vaccine for Children

Pfizer and its partner BioNTech have [asked the Food and Drug Administration](#) for Emergency Use Authorization of their coronavirus vaccine for children ages 5 to 12. In anticipation of the submission, the FDA scheduled a meeting on the application for October 26. [Click here](#) for more.

Governors Agree to Share Gun Crime Data

Gov. Tom Wolf, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, New York Governor Kathy

Hochul, and Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont have agreed to share crime gun data to prevent gun violence and enhance public safety. The agreement allows law enforcement agencies from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut to share crime gun data across state lines to detect, deter, and investigate gun crimes, as well as identify and apprehend straw purchasers, suspect dealers, firearms traffickers, and other criminals. [Click here](#) for more.

Turnpike to Install, Lease Excess Broadband Capacity

The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission is installing a large-scale fiber optic broadband network in the eastern part of its system to enhance its communication capacity. The 220-mile fiber optic network will extend broadband to underserved areas and generate non-toll revenue through a partnership with the private sector to lease excess broadband capacity to outside organizations and commercial entities. The PTC believes this will help provide broadband to underserved communities by commercializing the unused capacity of the fiber it is installing to support automatic tolling. [Click here](#) for more.

More resolutions are coming in from County Conventions. It's not too late to register for PSATS' 2021 Business Meeting next week in Hershey! [Click here](#) to learn more!

Today in History....

The Office of Homeland Security is founded on October 8, 2001, less than one month after the September 11 terrorist attacks. Former Pennsylvania governor Tom Ridge assumed his role as director as the office opened.

Now a cabinet department, Homeland Security is now one of the largest organs of the federal government, charged with preventing terror attacks, border security, immigrations and customs, disaster relief and prevention and other related tasks.

Legislation & Policy



Gov. Tom Wolf Signs Private Road Law

Yesterday, Gov. Tom Wolf Signed [Act 75 of 2021](#) (HB 523) into law. The act amends the General Road Law to clarify that each property owner benefiting from a private road must contribute proportionally to the cost of maintenance and has the right to bring civil action to enforce this provision. The new law does not apply to private roads subject to a written maintenance agreement or a private road within a homeowners' association. The act takes effect December 6, 2021.

Learn

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

Emergency Management Fall Exercise Forum

This full-day class is designed for everyone responsible for your municipality's emergency management program, including elected officials, municipal managers, road crew/public works personnel, and, most importantly, local emergency management coordinators (EMCs).

[10/28/21 – PSATS \(Cumberland Co.\)](#)

[11/4/21 – West \(Washington Co.\)](#)

[11/9/21 – East \(Montgomery Co.\)](#)

[11/18/21 – Central \(Centre Co.\)](#)



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