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January 18, 2022

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## Township Video News



### TVN's DaveTalk | What are your resolutions?

As the New Year brings new resolutions, now is the time for township officials across Pennsylvania to think about resolutions for the 2022 PSATS Educational Conference and Exhibit Show, being held April 24 to 27 at the Hershey Lodge. These resolutions, when adopted in Hershey, become PSATS' policy and help guide the Association's legislative efforts in Harrisburg and Washington.

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## Latest News

### **Pennsylvania to Receive \$4 Billion in New Federal Highway Funds**

The state Department of Transportation announced that the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will provide an estimated \$4 billion in new federal highway and bridge dollars over five years, including an estimated \$1.6 billion from a new federal bridge program.

The press release noted that PennDOT and local governments can look forward to new and expanded competitive grant opportunities across all transportation modes, as well as support for the expansion of an electric vehicle charging network. [Click here](#) for more.

### **Reminder: PSATS Town Halls on Final ARP Rule Scheduled for Thursday**

As previously reported, the U.S. Treasury released its final rule for the American Rescue Plan funding. PSATS staff are currently analyzing the 400-plus-page final rule in preparation for the virtual town halls scheduled for **Thursday, January 20, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.**

The final rule contains significant new flexibility by allowing townships to opt for a standard lost revenues allowance of \$10 million to be used for general government purposes. Learn about what this means for your township, as well as broadened uses for water and sewer and pandemic-related expenses. We will also cover expectations for reporting. [Click here](#) to register for the 11 a.m. Town Hall and [click here](#) to register for the 3 p.m. session!

### **COVID-19 Hospitalizations Show Signs of Slowing**

218,173 new cases of COVID-19 were reported last week in Pennsylvania, The statewide COVID-19 total case count now stands at 2,458,722. The commonwealth dropped to 26th in cases per 100,000 nationally, with Rhode Island, Delaware, and New York now in the top three.

Acting Secretary of Health Keara Klinepeter noted this week, “While initial data suggest that fewer patients are being admitted specifically for COVID-19, there are more patients who test positive upon arrival.” However, she also pointed out that due to isolation and PPE precautions, all COVID-19 patients create an additional strain on the hospital system. The commonwealth is working to provide four overflow sites that will open February 1 to relieve strain on hospitals.

[Click here](#) for more county-specific information.

### **CDC Updates Mask Guidance**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has updated its guidance for choosing masks and respirators, including the levels of protection offered by each and situations where greater protection may be desired. [Click here](#) to learn more.

### **Today in History...**

On January 18, 1803, Thomas Jefferson requests funding from Congress to finance the Lewis and Clark expedition. Jefferson officially asked for \$2,500 in funding from Congress to support the Corps of Discovery. At the time, Jefferson made the request secretly.

[Click here](#) for the latest issue of the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

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## Legislation & Policy



The Senate will be in session today, January 18. Watch the session live [here](#).

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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.

### [PSATS Boot Camp for Township Officials](#)

This three-day event was created just for you — *newly elected (or veteran) supervisors, other newly elected officials, and new secretaries/managers*. Learn the everyday tasks to running a municipality, explore the tools and resources available to help you do your job successfully, and experience real-life scenarios through discussion with experienced PSATS members. [Click here](#) for dates/locations and to register.



### [The ABCs for Elected Auditors - Virtual Class - 1/20/22](#)

In this virtual class, you will learn about the responsibilities of elected auditors under the Second Class Township Code, the nuts and bolts of conducting a thorough audit of the township's finances, how to best navigate DCED's online financial reporting requirements, and ways to ensure



a healthy working relationship between the elected auditors and the township.

**[Basic "Virtual" Training for Secretaries and Administrators - Jan. 27 & Feb. 3, 2022](#)**

This virtual training class will be offered in two half-day sessions. This is your opportunity to learn from acknowledged experts about all the most important issues township secretaries and managers need to know, right from the comfort of your desk. Topics covered will range from budgeting, purchasing, advertising and meeting management all the way to human resource issues and public engagement.



**[Demystifying Grant Seeking: Tools & Tips for Success - Virtual Class - 3/10/22](#)**

Join fundraising master trainer, Chad Barger, CFRE, for a session focused on seeking grant support for township projects and programs. The session begins with an overview of the role of grant funding in an organization and the prerequisites for seeking grant support.



**[Newsletter Best Practices: Keeping Residents Updated Via Email & Postal Mail- Virtual Class - 4/7/22](#)**

We'll examine how print/mailed communications work in tandem with email to ensure our donors are informed and engaged.



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