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June 20, 2022

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## Latest News

### **PUC Releases 2021 Impact Fee Distributions**

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission has announced that it collected \$234 million in natural gas impact fees for calendar year 2021, which will be distributed in early July. Counties and municipalities directly affected by drilling will receive \$123 million of these funds. To find your township's distribution, [click here](#) and choose "Reports," and then "County and Municipality Disbursement," and finally "2021" from the drop-down menu.

The total collected is about \$100 million higher than last year, driven primarily by a much higher average price of gas in 2021 versus 2020. In addition, 518 new wells were drilled during 2021. [Click here](#) for the press release.

### **Reminder: PennDOT Survey on Automated Vehicles Due Friday**

In the next 10 years, unmanned automated vehicles (AVs) will begin to operate on Pennsylvania roadways. These could include fully-automated long-haul trucks, privately owned AVs, or shared AV ("robotaxi") fleets.

As the lead regulatory agency for automated vehicles, the state Department of Transportation is creating the *Pennsylvania Automated Vehicle Guidebook for Municipalities*, expected to be released this winter. To ensure the guidebook meets the needs of municipalities, PennDOT is requesting feedback to help determine what information should be included. Please take the three-minute survey at the link below by **Friday, June 24:**

[Preparing for Automated Vehicles: A Survey of Local Government Officials \(surveymonkey.com\)](#)

### **PennDOT Also Wants Feedback on Interstate Charging Stations**

The state Department of Transportation is also asking for the public to complete a survey **by June 30** on the Department's plans to place electric vehicle charging stations with federal funding. The stations will be prioritized at every 50 miles along Pennsylvania interstates, which make up [Alternative Fuel Corridors](#). [Click here](#) for the survey. [Click here](#) to learn more about PennDOT's plan for installing electric vehicle charging stations.

### **PA Unemployment Rate Drops to 4.6%**

The state Department of Labor and Industry has announced that Pennsylvania's unemployment rate for May was 4.6%, down from 4.8% in April. Pennsylvania's rate exceeds the national unemployment rate of 3.6%. [Click here](#) for more.

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

On June 20, 1963, To lessen the threat of an accidental nuclear war, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed to establish a "hot line" communication system between the two nations. The agreement was a small step in reducing tensions between the United States and the USSR following the October 1962 Missile Crisis in Cuba, which had brought the two nations to the brink of nuclear war.

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## Legislative & Policy



The House and Senate will be in session today, June 20, and are scheduled to be in session through Friday this week. The General Assembly is expected to continue to work on finalizing the commonwealth's 2022-2023 budget this week. Watch the session live [here](#).

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## Learn

### **[Municipal Newsletters on Low to No Budget - 6/21/22](#)**

This webinar will show participants how to use low-cost/no-cost tools to create engaging municipal newsletters.



**[A Handbook for the Effective Administration of State and Local Broadband Programs- 6/22/22](#)**

This webinar will help guide local governments at all levels to develop comprehensive strategies to build high-speed broadband networks in areas where they do not yet exist and help residents subscribe to broadband where it does exist while maintaining public confidence by spending funds wisely and optimally.



**[2022 MS4 Stormwater Ordinance Updates - 6/28/22](#)**

If your township has a NPDES MS4 permit, you are required to update your stormwater ordinance for consistency with the DEP's 2022 Model Stormwater Management Ordinance.



**[Creating Advantages in Today's Difficult Bidding Environment - 6/29/22](#)**

Supply chain issues and staffing shortages have created challenging conditions when bidding and awarding municipal projects. This thought-provoking session will provide strategies to help your township realize time and cost-efficiencies during the bidding process, all while putting in place practices that reduce the need for headache medicines.



**[Webinar - Municipal Policing Potpourri - 7/6/22](#)**

If your township has a police department, contracts with another department for police services, or is part of a regional police department, you will want to attend this webinar to get caught up on all of the recent laws, as well as proposed legislation, affecting municipal police departments.



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