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September 12, 2022

Latest News

Today is the last day to submit applications for 2023 PSATS Conference Workshop presentations. Revise text and indicate submissions are due by 11:59 PM.

The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) has issued a request for proposals for workshop presentations to be made at its 2023 Educational Conference & Exhibit Show, which will be held on April 23-26, 2023, at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pennsylvania (workshops are April 24-25). Workshops will be held on a wide variety of topics, including all aspects of township administration, planning and zoning, public safety and emergency management, and public works.

Every year, nearly 4,000 elected and appointed township officials, township employees, municipal service providers and others attend PSATS' Educational Conference, which also includes the largest municipal exhibit show in Pennsylvania.

Interested parties must submit proposals to PSATS by September 12, 2022, through the following link: [Conference Workshop RFP](#). All applicants will be notified by November 28, 2022, as to whether their proposals have been accepted.

If you have any questions regarding the conference workshop RFP process for PSATS' 2023 Educational Conference & Exhibit Show, please contact Scott Coburn at 717-763-0930, ext. 171 or scoburn@psats.org.

Commonwealth Continues to be Flush with Cash

In August 2022, the Commonwealth collected \$2.9B in tax revenue. These tax collections exceeded projections by \$63.8m, or 2.3%. To-date, the Commonwealth budget carries a \$60.4m surplus.

PennDOT Accepting Multimodal Grant Applications

The state Department of Transportation is now accepting applications for a new round of Multimodal Transportation Fund grants. Applications are due November 14. Townships and councils of governments may apply for these grants.

Projects that will be considered should coordinate local land use with transportation assets to enhance existing communities; improve streetscape, lighting, sidewalk facilities, and pedestrian safety; improve connectivity or use of existing transportation systems; or advance transit-oriented-development. Click here for [grant guidelines and instructions](#).

Homeland Security Applies for Cybersecurity Grants to Benefit Local Government; Asks Townships to Complete Brief Survey

The Pennsylvania Office of Homeland Security (PAOHS) has announced a funding opportunity to address cybersecurity issues in the commonwealth. Federal grant funds will be made available through a Notice of Funding Opportunity expected to be released near the end of September 2022. The grant will require an 80% pass-through either directly or for the benefit of local units of government. This can include a combination of services, equipment, and training. The funds will be made available over a four-year period and require a match of 10% in year 1, 20% in year 2, 30% in year 3, and 40% in year 4. Discussions are ongoing to determine the source of match funding. PAOHS has created a task force to develop a plan for these funds. PSATS holds a seat on that task force.

While the amount of funding has not yet been released, it is anticipated Pennsylvania will receive approximately \$30 million over the four-year grant period. The approach PAOHS is taking is for the task force to develop approximately five or six projects that will benefit large segments of local government. An example would be cybersecurity awareness training and ongoing random testing of employees of municipal government in an effort to defeat phishing or other cyber attacks. There may be other services or equipment which would benefit townships.

To better inform the efforts of the task force, PAOHS has requested that township officials complete a six-question survey about current capabilities and priorities with regard to cybersecurity.

Please have someone with knowledge of your township's cyber systems complete the survey through this link before September 26:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZQWJYR2>

Questions can be directed to George Bivens at PSATS at gbivens@psats.org.

Reminder: Federal Flood Mitigation Funding Available, Due October 3

Pennsylvania is receiving \$5 million through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support mitigation against future damage from natural disaster. Properties covered by a National Flood Insurance Program policy that have sustained repetitive losses due to flooding are eligible for the new Swift Current initiative. The local government where the property is located is considered the sub-applicant and will work with interested property owners to develop and submit a sub-application on behalf of the property owner. Applications must be submitted by October 3, 2022.

The following types of projects are eligible even if an insurance claim has been filed:

1. Property acquisition and structure demolition/relocation;
1. Nonstructural retrofitting of existing buildings and facilities;
2. Structure elevation;
3. Mitigation reconstruction;
4. Dry floodproofing of historic residential structures or non-residential structures; and
5. Structural retrofitting of existing buildings.

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Today in History...

On September 12, 1953, Massachusetts Senator John F. Kennedy, the future 35th president of the United States, marries Jacqueline Bouvier in Newport, Rhode Island. Seven years later, the couple would become the youngest president and first lady in American history.

Legislative & Policy



The House will be in session today, September 12. Both the House and Senate have only nine sessions days scheduled before the general election. Watch the session live [here](#).

Learn

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

Taking Charge: Using Conservatorship To Eliminate Blight - 9/14/22

This webinar will introduce participants to the process of conservatorship, how to evaluate if a property fits the qualifications, and how to bring a property from blight to blessing in just one year.



Municipal Policing Potpourri - 9/21/22

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.



Stormwater Management Practices For Residential Property Owners - 9/28/22

This presentation will discuss small scale practices designed to minimize runoff from residential properties including, rain gardens, rain barrels and cisterns, pervious pavement, lawn to natural area conversions, tree planting, and sustainable turf care.



Protecting Your Township Against Cyber Security Threats - 10/5/22

In this webinar, representatives from Splashwire will review the 3Ps necessary to best protect your township – Process, Policy, and Procedures – against the ever-increasing number of cyber threats, whether those are malware or phishing attacks or other sinister efforts to access, take, or freeze your township's data.



The Latest On Short Term Rentals - 10/12/22

In this session, learn about the recent trends for regulating STRs around the country, as well as best practices to ensure that your municipality can address these issues head-on in an effective and efficient manner.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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