

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



November 16, 2022

---

## Latest News

### **Shell Cracker Plant Begins Operations in Potter Township, Beaver County**

After years of construction and significant state investments from natural gas impact fees, Shell Polymers Monaca has begun operations in Potter Township, Beaver County. Shell Polymers Monaca will make plastics from natural gas extracted from Pennsylvania and is strategically located within 700 miles of 70% of the U.S. polyethylene market. It is the first major polyethylene manufacturing complex in the United States and has a designed output of 1.6 million tons annually. [Click here](#) to read the Shell press release. [Click here](#) to read the state Department of Community and Economic Development press release.

### **Correction: Deadline for Road and Bridge Safety Awards**

Yesterday's article on the PSATS Excellence Awards contained an incorrect deadline for the Road and Bridge Safety Improvement Awards. The actual deadline is March 3, 2023. We apologize for the mistake. To learn more, [click here](#).

### **Walmart Settles with States Over Opioid Epidemic Allegations**

Attorney General Josh Shapiro announced that he has reached a settlement with Walmart to resolve allegations that the company contributed to the opioid addiction crisis by failing to appropriately oversee the dispensing of opioids at its stores. As part of the settlement, Walmart will pay more than \$3 billion nationally, with Pennsylvania to receive an estimated \$120 million to help fund treatment resources in impacted communities. In addition, Walmart has agreed to improve how their pharmacies handle opioids. [Click here](#) to read the press release.

**Today in History....**

On November 16, 1801, the New York Evening Post published its first issue. Established by Alexander Hamilton as a way to provide a Federalist viewpoint (big, centralized government), the Post is now the oldest continuously running newspaper in the United States.

---

## Legislation & Policy



### Senate Elects Officers for 2023-2024 Legislative Session

Yesterday, the state Senate elected its officers for the 2023-2024 legislative session. The Senate is not expected to return to Harrisburg until the start of the new legislative session in January.

The Senate unanimously elected Senator Kim Ward of Westmoreland County as the Senate President Pro Tempore. She is a former township supervisor and the first female to ever hold the position.

#### **Senate Republican Caucus**

Senate Majority Leader: Sen. Joe Pittman  
Senate Majority Whip: Sen. Ryan Aument  
Senate Appropriations Committee Chair: Sen. Scott Martin  
Senate Majority Caucus Chair: Sen. Kristin Phillips-Hill  
Senate Majority Caucus Secretary: Sen. Camera Bartolotta

#### **Senate Democratic Caucus**

Senate Minority Leader: Sen. Jay Costa, Jr.  
Senate Minority Whip: Sen. Christine Tartaglione  
Senate Minority Appropriations Chair: Sen. Vincent Hughes  
Senate Minority Caucus Chair: Sen. Wayne D. Fontana  
Senate Minority Caucus Secretary: Sen. Maria Collett

#### **State House News**

The state House of Representatives is expected to return to session again today. Watch today's House session live [here](#).

Election results are still pending in two races that will determine control of the House. As such, the House Republicans have delayed the election of officers and caucus leaders until next week. The House Democrats held their leadership elections and here are the results:

#### **House Democratic Caucus**

House Democratic Leader: Rep. Joanna E. McClinton

House Democratic Whip: Rep. Jordan Harris  
House Democratic Appropriations Chair: Rep. Matt Bradford  
House Democratic Caucus Chair: Rep. Dan Miller  
House Democratic Caucus Secretary: Rep. Tina Davis  
House Democratic Policy Committee Chair: Rep. Ryan Bizzarro  
House Democratic Caucus Administrator: Rep. Mike Schlossberg

After more than a decade of not acting on legislation after the election, the House concurred on Senate amendments to three bills, including the two bills listed below. These bills will now go before the governor.

[HB 140](#) would amend the Vehicle Code to require vehicles parking along a pedalcycle lane or pedestrian plaza to park in the direction of traffic flow, parallel with their right or left wheels within 12 inches of the outside lane of the buffer area between the pedalcycle lane or plaza and parking. The bill would allow municipalities to adopt alternative regulations for parking adjacent to a plaza or pedalcycle lane. In addition, the bill would require the commonwealth on state roads and municipalities on local roads to give deference to loading for businesses and electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

[HB 1546](#) would amend Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to create the offense of endangering a public safety official if a person intentionally or knowingly communicates, or posts on social media, the restricted personal information of a public safety official or a family or household member of a public safety official with reckless disregard or the intent that the information will be used to threaten, intimidate, or facilitate a crime against the public safety official or their family. The bill defines restricted personal information as the individual's image, name, Social Security number, home address, home phone number, mobile phone number, personal email, or home fax number. This bill would address a PSATS resolution.

---

## Learn

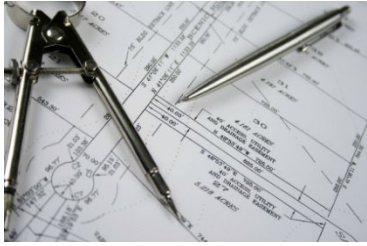
PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.



### **2022 PAAZO Fall Seminar**

In the PAAZO Fall Seminar, learn from experts on a wide variety of topics pertinent to your duties as a municipal Zoning official.

[11/17/22 - Butler County](#)



### [PSATS Zoning Academy - 11/30-12/1 - Butler County](#)

This class will greatly benefit newer zoning officials, those looking to become zoning officials and municipal officials and employees seeking a better understanding of zoning's impact on municipal operations.

---

## **Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors**

David M. Sanko, Executive Director  
4855 Woodland Drive  
Enola, PA 17025



Click [here](#) to unsubscribe or to change your Subscription Preferences.