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December 19, 2022

Latest News

PA Broadband Authority Provides Resources for FCC Map Challenges

The Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority recently released several resource documents to help local officials submit bulk data challenges for incorrect information on the Federal Communications Commission's broadband map, as well as [how to submit bulk data to the Authority or Penn State Extension](#) for inclusion in the commonwealth's bulk challenge submission. The Authority [provided a spreadsheet](#) outlining the type of information needed for the commonwealth's bulk challenge submission. Townships interested in collaborating with the Authority on a bulk challenge submission need to send all completed spreadsheets to Kyle Snyder at kysnyder@pa.gov no later than **Monday, January 9, 2023**.

Both bulk and individual challenges can be submitted directly to the FCC until **January 13, 2023**. Again, it is critical to take these steps to ensure that areas of townships that do not have land-based broadband are properly noted in the FCC's map, which will be used to divide funding amongst the states. For [copies of these documents, and a frequently asked questions](#), please go to PSATS' broadband page, which can be found on psats.org.

Townships Receive Law Enforcement Grants

Gov. Tom Wolf announced \$170 million in grant awards to over 220 law enforcement agencies throughout the commonwealth through two new programs designed to improve community safety and support local law enforcement. Township police departments throughout the state received funding through the Local Law Enforcement Support Program, which provides law enforcement agencies with resources to implement information technology improvements, purchase or upgrade equipment, cover nontraditional law enforcement personnel costs, support retention and recruitment efforts, and provide necessary training. In

addition, Millcreek Township, Erie County, received \$560,387 in funding through the Gun Violence Investigation & Prosecution Program. Click here to read the [press release, including the listing of awardees](#).

PA Unemployment Rate Remains at 4%

The state Department of Labor and Industry announced that Pennsylvania's unemployment rate for November remained at 4.0%, a record low for the commonwealth in recent years. The national unemployment rate also remained at 3.7% in November. [Click here](#) for the press release.

Today in History.....

On December 19, 1972, fifty years ago, the Apollo lunar-landing program ended when the last three astronauts to travel to the moon splash down safely in the Pacific Ocean. Apollo 17 had lifted off from Cape Canaveral, Florida, 10 days before.

Learn

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

[How We Can Better Recruit Volunteer Firefighters - 1/5/23](#)

This webinar will share case studies of what works and does not work when recruiting volunteer firefighters and, more importantly, discuss the changes that are necessary to keep people volunteering within your communities.



[The Municipal Chart Of Accounts - What And Why - 1/18/23](#)

In this webinar, Terri Cunkle from DCED's Center for Local Government Services will provide best practices when operating within the municipal Chart of Accounts, which is a listing of the account numbers used for municipal budgeting.



[Best Practices For Local Bridge Owners - 1/25/23](#)

Managing your local bridges can be a daunting task. This presentation will discuss how to assess your inventory, prioritize projects, review various funding options, and provide tips to extend the life of the structures.



Understanding Your Township's Emergency Operations Plan - 2/1/23

One of the most important matters a township supervisor needs to become familiar with is the status of their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The EOP specifies activities to be taken by the township and other community officials to protect the lives and property of citizens in the event of a natural or human-caused emergency or disaster.



More Than Water: Other Benefits Of Stream Restoration - 2/8/23

Unfunded MS4 requirements....The need to preserve land and protect against encroaching development....Rising demand for recreational amenities....Can a township address all of these competing challenges with limited funds? They have in Conewago Creek!



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