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January 12, 2023

Township Video News



TVN's Question of the Week | What are the bidding limits and threshold for telephone quotes for 2023?

Holly has the answer to this week's Q&A on how these rates are adjusted annually by the Department of Labor and Industry. Also, [click here](#) to catch up on previous Questions of the Week.

Latest News

DCNR Awards ATV, Snowmobile Grants

The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources [announced grant awards](#) of \$3.2 million to help address priority trail gaps and support ATV/Snowmobile projects in the commonwealth. The grants are funded with American Rescue Plan Act moneys and help implement the commonwealth goal of having a trail within 10 minutes of every Pennsylvanian.

Several townships were awarded grants, including Jenks Township, Forest County; Ulysses Township, Potter County; and Hanover Township, Lehigh County. [Click here](#) to learn more about the winning projects.

Legislation & Policy



Bills Freezing Gas Tax Passes Senate

Yesterday, the Senate passed [SB 35](#) by a vote of [29-19](#). SB 35 would eliminate automatic increases for the commonwealth's oil franchise tax based on the average cost of fuel. Instead, the bill would freeze the levy at \$2.99/gallon, which would eliminate the 4-cent increase that took effect

January 1 due to higher average fuel prices over the last year. PSATS is concerned that this bill will decrease road funding available to townships without replacement revenues and prevent future increases in needed funds. The bill will now go to the House, which has yet to organize and appoint committees for the session.

Shapiro Appoints Cabinet Secretaries

Yesterday, Gov.-elect Josh Shapiro nominated five individuals for cabinet positions. Shapiro nominated Dr. Val Arkoosh, former Montgomery County Commissioner, as Secretary of Human Services; Dr. Debra Bogan, Director of the Allegheny County Health Department, as Secretary of Health; Dr. Latika Davis-Jones, Senior Director of Behavioral Health at Highmark Wholecare, as Secretary of Drug and Alcohol Programs; Jason Kavulich, Lackawanna County Director of Agency on Aging, as Secretary of Aging; and Mike Humphreys, current Acting Insurance Commissioner, as Insurance Commissioner. These positions are subject to Senate confirmation.

Learn

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

Flagger Training

This instructor-led Flagger Training will be conducted for individuals who have flagging responsibilities on ANY ROAD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

[1/17/23 - Montgomery County](#)

[1/30/23 - Cumberland County](#)

[2/28/23 - Montgomery County](#)

[3/1/23 - York County](#)

[3/7/23 - Lehigh County](#)

[3/15/23 - Mercer County](#)

[3/23/23 - Erie County](#)

[4/4/23 - Chester County](#)

[4/6/23 - Lackawanna County](#)



2023 Engineers Spring Seminar - 4/24 & 4/25, 2023

The 2023 “Spring Township Engineers Seminar” is a series of two half-day events on Monday and Tuesday mornings during the PSATS Annual Conference in Hershey. Each morning's agenda will include important issues of interest to municipal engineers and their local government clients taught by knowledgeable and respected subject matter experts. We encourage your attendance at both of these interactive and informative sessions, each of which provides 3 PDHs per day.



Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors

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