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January 30, 2023

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## Latest News

### **Townships Encouraged to Tell PennDOT How to Spend Transportation Funds**

Every two years, the State Transportation Commission (STC) and the state Department of Transportation (PennDOT) conduct a statewide survey to gather feedback on Pennsylvania's transportation system as part of the 12-Year Transportation Program update. [Click here](#) to take the survey!

Townships are encouraged to participate in the survey and help identify where state and federal funds should be spent by categories, including traffic flow, bridges, pavement, public transit, and aviation. Participants will identify how they travel throughout the commonwealth (*by car, mass transit, bike, etc.*). More important, participants can identify a transportation problem at a specific location on a map and provide a description of that issue to encourage PennDOT to address the issue. Finally, participants determine how to spend allocated funds by percentage across six transportation categories.

### **Reminder: Deadline 2/6 for Culvert Replacement Grants That Allow Fish Passage**

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law appropriated funds to the U.S. Department of Transportation for the [Aquatic Organism Passage Program](#) under the National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grant Program. Up to \$196 million is available in this round of funding. Townships are eligible to apply, and all applications must be submitted through [grants.gov](#) by **February 6**.

Eligible projects include replacement, removal, and repair of culverts or weirs that meaningfully improve or restore fish passage for anadromous fish. Anadromous fish species are those that are born in freshwater, such as streams and rivers, spend

their lives in saltwater environments, and migrate back to freshwater to spawn, including salmon and some species of sturgeon. Townships with anadromous fish are generally in Districts 3, 6, and 8, but PennDOT recommends coordinating with your regional office. For more information, including the notice of funding and webinars, please visit USDOT's [program website](#).

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## Legislation & Policy



### **Rozzi Announces Final 2 Stops on Listening Tour**

PA House Speaker Mark Rozzi (D-Berks) announced the final two stops on his listening tour with Wednesday landing in State College and Thursday in Wilkes Barre.

### **Special Election Update**

Tomorrow will be the special election to fill the Senate seat vacated by the resignation of mid state Senator John Gordner. Next Tuesday will bring the 3 State House special elections being held to fill vacancies created by the pre-election death of Tony DeLuca, and the resignations of Congresswoman Summer Lee as well as Lt. Governor Austin Davis. All 3 seats are in Allegheny County.

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## Learn

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

### **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!

### **Operational And Financial Considerations For Electric Vehicles - 2/15/23**

This webinar will focus on the operational and financial issues that municipalities must consider with respect to the use of electric vehicles within their fleets, as well as choosing providers for EV charging stations for municipal and public use.

### **The Anatomy Of Limiting Municipal Liability - 2/16/23**

In this webinar you will learn about the core areas of municipal risk and ways in which you can achieve the most benefit for a minimal investment in time and money.

### **Using GIS To Solve Local Economic Development Questions - 2/21/23**

Using a case study of sewer capacity and solar farm development in Berks County, planning experts will illustrate the importance and value of integrating GIS into decision-making when engaging in economic development projects.

### **Preparing For A DEP MS4 Inspection - 2/22/23**

In this session, a township manager and township engineer will share the experience of one Pennsylvania township when DEP inspected its MS4 program. They will also provide tips so that you can be better prepared if and when DEP shows up at your municipal building.



### Understanding The Sunshine Act - 2/23/23

This webinar will take a deep dive into the Sunshine Act. Sam Wisner of Salzmann Hughes will review and discuss what there is to understand, what agencies, boards and commissions must comply with the Sunshine Act, public meeting requirements, exceptions to "Open Meetings," penalties, public comment, and much more.



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

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