



December 14-19, 2018

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SESSION STATUS

At 12:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 1, 2018 the Senate and House stand adjourned sine die. Neither chamber is expected to return before January 1.

UPCOMING SESSION DAYS

House

Jan. 1, 15, 16, 28, 29, 30
Feb. 4, 5, 6, 19, 20, 21
Mar. 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27
April 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 29, 30
May 1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 22
June 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24-28
Budget hearings: Feb. 11 - Mar. 7

Senate

Jan. 1, 15, 16, 28, 29, 30
Feb. 4, 5, 6
Mar. 18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27
April 8, 9, 10, 29, 30
May 1, 6, 7, 8
June 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 24-28
Budget hearings: Feb. 19 - Mar. 7

WEEKLY TRANSPORTATION RECAP

Around the Rotunda

GROUPS URGE PENNSYLVANIA MOTORISTS TO “SLOW DOWN TO GET AROUND” By Jeff Cox, Pennsylvania Legislative Services | December 14, 2018

With the hectic holiday season and a new Pennsylvania law going into effect on December 18, several groups, including the Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association (PWIA), the American Automobile Association (AAA) Central Penn, the National Waste and Recycling Association and the Pennsylvania Independent Waste Haulers Association, gathered in the Main Capitol Rotunda today to raise awareness of a new law, [Act 83](#), to protect Pennsylvanians who work along Pennsylvania roadways.

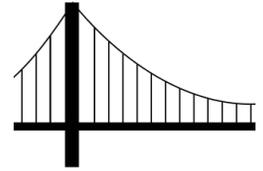
Act 83 was passed this past October and signed into law by Gov. Tom Wolf on October 19. The act’s provisions include:

- requiring motorists approaching and passing a stationary solid waste collection vehicle to reduce and maintain a safe speed for weather, road conditions and traffic in order to proceed with due care and caution;
- providing for the use and display of yellow strobe lights by solid waste collection vehicles that can be seen by traffic in both directions;
- providing for yellow and white lights for tow trucks; internal blue lights for privately-owned vehicles used in answering emergency calls; and internally mounted lights in certain fire police vehicles;

Tim O’Donnell, PWIA President, stated, “Our industry provides an essential service; the safe, efficient collection and management of waste materials and recyclables is essential to public health and safety.” Noting this service is provided by more than 18,000 professionals across Pennsylvania, he commented, “The safety of our employees is a paramount importance to us. Every day we send these men and women into Pennsylvania neighborhoods and onto Pennsylvania roadways to collect our trash and recyclables and it is our collective obligation to make sure they safely return home every night to their families just like we do.” O’Donnell continued, “These men and women are doing a dangerous job. Waste and recycling collection workers, fire, police and emergency officials, tow truck operators, roadside assistance workers, mail and package carriers, and all these professionals deserve a safe working environment.” He reported that in the coming months “Pennsylvanians will be seeing signs on our trucks and containers, driver education initiatives, social media outreach and other means to get out this important message out.”

Joan Daubert, chief executive officer for AAA Central Penn, said, “Since 2007, AAA has been instrumental in passing Move Over laws across the US and participating in educational and advocacy initiatives to increase awareness.” According to Daubert, the national AAA’s 2017 Traffic Safety Index “reveals the motorists’ conflict between what they believe and how they actually drive.” She stated, “The results continue to show that there is an attitude of do as I say and not as I do among motorists which really have proven to be fatal.” She discussed the challenges of distracted driving. Daubert observed, “If you want to be a good driver and you want to teach your kids to be good drivers then you need to be an attentive driver.” She also discussed the challenges of excessive speed and road rage. Daubert said, “AAA would like to call on motorists to start observing their own driving behaviors and try to make improvements. She asserted, “Let’s be more courteous, more cautious, and more attentive when we are behind the wheel.”





Kevin Kraushaar, senior vice president for Government Affairs and General Counsel for the National Waste and Recycling Association, expressed his gratitude to the General Assembly for passing the legislation and Gov. Wolf for signing it into law. He explained that Pennsylvania is the 21st state to add provisions to its laws specifically addressing the issue of protecting workers in the waste and recycling industry. According to Kraushaar, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has said that the waste collection and recycling industry is the fifth most dangerous profession in the United States. He reported, “On average, we probably lose 30 to 45 workers every year and that number is going up and two-thirds of all of the injuries are the result of careless driving and reckless behavior from people moving around those vehicles.” Kraushaar added, “There are about 100,000 waste collection vehicles on the streets at any given time throughout the United States. The numbers show this is a very important piece of legislation.” He encouraged motorists “to slow down when you see a vehicle on the side of the road, look for the workers, check for traffic as you slowly move around the vehicle, and avoid distractions.”

Gary Roberts, executive director of Pennsylvania Independent Waste Haulers Association, said, “This new law is a big win for our workers and our industry.” He added, “We send men and women out each day to do the important work of keeping our communities clean and the Slow Down law will help make sure they return home safely to their families each night.”

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Committee News

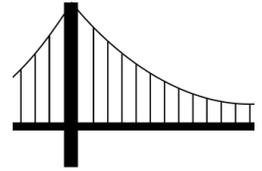
No Committee News this week.

Bullet.in.Points

Transportation Recap will next publish on January 4, 2019, and will include Bullet.in.Points for December 21, December 28, and January 4.

Cosponsor Memos

HCO 234	Toohil, Tarah(R)	Clarifies language in the tax code with regard to traffic signal foundations, poles and mast arms.
HCO 237	Kortz, Bill(D)	Authorizes local police to use radar and LIDAR for speed enforcement.
HCO 246	Sankey, Thomas(R)	Allows for contributions for sexual offense evidence testing when renewing a driver's license, identification card, or vehicle registration.
SCO 298	Killion, Thomas(R)	Establishes an annual regulatory assessment on limo owners certificated by the PPA that is based on 1% of the limo owner's gross revenue of providing service in Phila and Phila Airport.
SCO 303	Street, Sharif(D)	Creates a 10-year statute of limitation on parking violations and red-light camera violations in the city of the first class.
SCO 304	Argall, David(R)	Clarifies tax laws regarding the taxation of traffic signals.
SCO 318	Boscola, Lisa(D)	Reduces the ten-mile requirement for transporting students outside a school district by inserting a five-mile requirement for schools to provide free transportation to pupils.



Bill Actions

No Bill Actions this week.

Upcoming Events

PA State Transportation Commission

December 20, 2018 - 10:00 a.m., Commonwealth Keystone Building, Room 8N1, 400 North Street, Harrisburg
Commission Meeting. For additional information: (717) 787-2913

PA Public Utility Commission

December 20, 2018 - 10:00 a.m., Commonwealth Keystone Building, Hearing Room 1, 400 North St., Harrisburg
Public Meeting. For additional information: (717) 783-1740

Southeastern Pennsylvania Transit Authority (SEPTA) Board

December 20, 2018 - 3:00 p.m., SEPTA Headquarters, 1234 Market Street, Mezzanine Level, Philadelphia
Board Meeting. For additional information: (215) 580-7800

PA Turnpike Commission

January 2, 2019 - 10:00 a.m., Turnpike Admin. Bldg, Large Board Room, 700 S. Eisenhower Blvd., 3rd Fl., Middletown
Commission Meeting. For additional information: (717) 831-7333

PA Turnpike Commission

January 15, 2019 - 10:00 a.m., Turnpike Admin. Bldg, Large Board Room, 700 S. Eisenhower Blvd., 3rd Fl., Middletown
Commission Meeting. For additional information: (717) 831-7333

PA Public Utility Commission

January 17, 2019 - 10:00 a.m., Commonwealth Keystone Building, Hearing Room 1, 400 North St., Harrisburg
Public Meeting. For additional information: (717) 783-1740

House Appropriations

February 11, 2019 - 10:00 a.m., Room 140, Main Capitol
Budget Hearing - Independent Fiscal Office

Senate Appropriations

February 19, 2019 - 3:00 p.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building
Budget Hearing - Public Utility Commission

Senate Appropriations

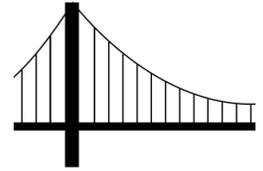
February 25, 2019 - 3:00 p.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building
Budget Hearing - Dept. of Transportation

House Appropriations

February 26, 2019 - 1:00 p.m., Room 140, Main Capitol
Budget Hearing - Department of Transportation

House Appropriations

March 6, 2019 - 10:00 a.m., Room 140, Main Capitol
Budget Hearing - Budget Secretary - Office of the Governor/Executive Offices



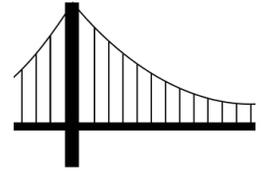
Senate Appropriations

March 7, 2019 - 3:00 p.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

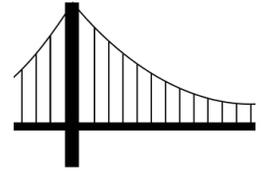
Budget Hearing - Budget Secretary/Governor's Executive Office (if necessary)

In the News

- 12-19-2018 **Power outages detour Port Authority rail service in the South Hills**
Power outages along Port Authority Blue Line Library tracks in the South Hills detoured trains and put some commuters on buses Wednesday morning. Inbound rail cars were operating through Allentown between South Hills Junction and First Avenue, according to tweets from Port Authority.... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-19-2018 **Uber was just approved to resume self-driving tests in Pittsburgh and the rest of the state**
Uber has been waiting nearly two months to resume its self-driving operations in the Strip District — that is, in autonomous mode, without hands on the wheels at all times. That's something the San Francisco-based ride-hailing startup was not required to do, but did so at the urging of the Pennsylvania Department of... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 12-19-2018 **Pennsylvania signs on to major regional plan to cut car and truck emissions**
Pennsylvania and eight other northeastern states have agreed to craft a regional plan to cut greenhouse gas emissions from vehicles and use money from the new carbon market to invest in cleaner transportation infrastructure. Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Secretary Leslie Richards said... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 12-19-2018 **Power problem stops inbound morning light-rail T service**
Power problem stops inbound morning light-rail T service A section of the light-rail T's Blue Line Library service was shut down Wednesday morning after a circuit tripped outside the Mt. Washington Transit Tunnel can caused a rail car inside the tunnel to lose power,... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 12-19-2018 **Mechanicsburg Borough Council approves 2019 budget with no tax increases**
Mechanicsburg property owners can expect to continue paying the same rate in municipal real estate taxes next year. Borough residents also should see new roadwork projects and traffic lights operate more efficiently in 2019. The Mechanicsburg Borough Council unanimously approved a \$5.5 million... - [Carlisle Sentinel](#)
- 12-19-2018 **WB council to consider two-year lease for Conahan Intermodal parking spaces**
WILKES-BARRE — A two-year lease for parking spaces at the James F. Conahan Intermodal Transportation Facility downtown would generate more than \$800,000 for the city, according to a lease waiting council's approval. The deal for 752 spaces at \$45 a month would essentially commit the... - [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#)
- 12-19-2018 **To relief of residents, Whitehall zoners block plans for truck parking lot**
In a sign of how difficult it is to find parking for tractor trailers, the Whitehall Zoning Hearing Board on Tuesday shot down plans to create overnight parking at a former manufacturing site Property owner 1788 Holdings had sought a variance for up to 55 truck... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)



- 12-18-2018 **[Accused in \\$400,000 GoFundMe scheme, Mark D'Amico could face jail on traffic charges](#)**
While awaiting trial in a \$400,000 GoFundMe scam that fooled donors with a phony Good Samaritan story, Mark D'Amico may be sent to jail for as long as 30 days for traffic tickets he received in Burlington County, authorities said Monday. D'Amico has been charged with driving with a suspended license in three... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 12-18-2018 **[Spirit Airlines takes lead in on-time flights](#)**
Spirit Airlines moved into first place in October for on-time flights, according to the latest air travel consumer report by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics. The low-cost airline, which is the sole commercial carrier serving Arnold... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-18-2018 **[PennDOT driver guilty of endangerment in Muhlenberg Township chase and crash](#)**
A jury found a PennDOT driver guilty of putting a dirt-bike rider in danger by chasing him down Route 61 and into a head-on collision in July 2016, but cleared the driver of felony assault charges. The jury deliberated for roughly 10 hours during two days before reaching a... - [Reading Eagle](#)
- 12-18-2018 **[EMTA makes new contract offer to Lift drivers](#)**
Operators of the transit agency's paratransit service have worked without a contract since 2016. The Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority's newly-configured board of directors, in November, rejected a four-year contract with the transit agency's Lift drivers, saying it needed more time to consider that... - [Erie Times-News](#)
- 12-18-2018 **[Small Talk: There's no place to walk in many places in Chester County](#)**
The second that car door opens and our feet hit the asphalt, we all become pedestrians. Newlin Township resident John O'Neal has noticed a lack of crosswalks and pedestrian walkways along many roadways in rural Chester County. Yet, thankfully, the number of pedestrian deaths and non-fatal crashes is... - [Pottstown Mercury](#)
- 12-18-2018 **[Border between these Franklin County townships to be revised](#)**
GREENCASTLE -- The U.S.-Mexico border isn't the only boundary with issues. The border between Guilford and Antrim townships has a few kinks that officials want to straighten out. A border commission is holding a public hearing at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 19, in the Antrim Township Supervisors' meeting room at 10655... - [Chambersburg Public Opinion](#)
- 12-18-2018 **[JARI secures funding for truck driver training](#)**
It's rare for a week that passes by without a call or two from local companies looking to fill commercial trucking jobs, Johnstown Area Regional Industries' Debra Balog said. Early next year, JARI will cover the costs to train as many as 10 new workers for the jobs, thanks to support from a state tax credit program and... - [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#)
- 12-18-2018 **[PennDOT looking for your input to improve its operations](#)**
The northwest region of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has launched its 2018 online survey, asking customers in Crawford, Erie, Forest, Mercer, Venango and Warren counties for their input to help the agency identify opportunities to improve its operations.... - [Meadville Tribune](#)



- 12-18-2018 **Mahoning supers expand proposed parking ban**
MAHONING TWP. — The township supervisors Monday added another section to the proposed parking ban on Bloom Road and authorized their solicitor to advertise the revamped proposed ordinance. The supervisors plan to vote on the plan at their Jan. 7 meeting. The supervisors voted 4-1 a week earlier to direct Solicitor Ryan Tira to... - [Sunbury Daily Item](#)
- 12-18-2018 **University Park Airport to Offer More Chicago Flights**
Travelers will have a few more options for flying to and from University Park Airport in 2019. Beginning April 2, American Airlines will offer two flights a day to Chicago O'Hare, with nonstop service on 50-seat regional jets. "American's decision to serve O'Hare is to complement their daily... - [State College News](#)
- 12-18-2018 **NJ Transit should say when A.C. line will return | Editorial**
The first rule of communications club is, communicate. The second rule of communications club is So, if NJ Transit, by fiat of Gov. Phil Murphy and some fresh leadership, is under strict orders to improve how it communicates with passengers, why did the word "unclear" appear so frequently last week in headlines about... - [Trenton Times](#)
- 12-18-2018 **Driverless car bill a disaster waiting to happen**
Despite almost daily reports of crashes or non-responsive technology on public roads involving driverless cars, Congress is trying to hitch a new law to Santa's sleigh in the form of the year-end-keep-the-government-open spending bill, just ahead of a new majority come January.... - [Baltimore Sun](#)
- 12-18-2018 **Upcoming trial in drag race keeps focus on a dangerous and sometimes deadly Philly tradition**
Upcoming trial in drag race keeps focus on a dangerous and sometimes deadly Philly tradition - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 12-18-2018 **Driving without cleaning car of snow and ice could be fineable offense under Boscola proposal**
Between a clouded windshield, nervous drivers and slick conditions, driving in winter has enough hazards without someone who left a hat of snow and ice on their vehicle. Pennsylvania already has laws that make it a fine if the frozen debris falls on another driver and leads to death or serious injury, passed in... - [Pennsylvania Legislative Services](#)
- 12-18-2018 **Following Uber sidewalk incident, Pittsburgh drafting better reporting rules for self-driving cars**
A self-driving Uber swerved onto a city sidewalk just days before another of the ride-hailing company's cars struck and killed a pedestrian in Tempe, Ariz., earlier this year — but nobody knows exactly where the incident occurred in Pittsburgh. That's because, in the absence of an accident or police report,... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 12-18-2018 **Airport workers won predictable schedules, higher wages. Can they win affordable health care, too?**
Kojuah Siaga Moore went to the hospital with chest pains in the spring. Later this year, his wife, pregnant with their fourth child, also went to the hospital for lab tests for her pregnancy. The cost of both visits, which came in under their \$2,000 deductible, landed them in medical debt.... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)



- 12-18-2018 **[Leak at newly-expanded Delaware River chemical plant jams highways](#)**
The Croda chemical plant at Atlas Point on the Delaware River, which was recently expanded by its British owners to produce two tons of hazardous ethylene oxide per hour so the material didn't have to be shipped from Texas by rail, was shut down due to a leak on Sunday afternoon, stopping... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 12-18-2018 **[Spirit Airlines takes lead in on-time flights](#)**
Spirit Airlines moved into first place in October for on-time flights, according to the latest air travel consumer report by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics. The low-cost airline led a listing of 10 carriers in the report with 89... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-17-2018 **[PennDOT Driver License, Photo Centers Closed for Christmas Holiday](#)**
(Press Release)
- 12-17-2018 **[PPG Appoints Kumar Nandan as Vice President, Tax](#)**
(Press Release)
- 12-17-2018 **[Residents call on Sewickley council to address concerns about steep driveway](#)**
To a passerby, it looks like a steep driveway. But to residents who live on Hopkins and Hill streets in Sewickley, the driveway raises safety concerns and other issues. These residents came to Sewickley council Dec. 11 to again speak out about the driveway at 550... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-17-2018 **[Dennis Martire: Transportation infrastructure glue for blue coalition](#)**
For the Democratic Party, the road to the 2018 elections began the day after the presidential ballots were counted two years ago. Feeling abandoned by what was once seen as the party of the working class, many working men and women cast their votes for Donald Trump and other... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-17-2018 **[ALL ABOARD! Historic railway returns to Blain](#)**
A train last rode along the Shermans Valley Railroad 83 years ago, but a recent discovery in the New Bloomfield library led to a train once again making the trip west to Blain. [BlainStation_Conductor.JPG](#)ALL ABOARD! -- A train conductor is one of the play props now residing at the historic train station in Blain, after... - [Penn Live](#), [Patriot-News](#)
- 12-17-2018 **[Central Pa. woman accused of fleeing buggy crash that hurt teen, killed horse](#)**
Police said a New Holland woman faces several charges for allegedly leaving the scene of a collision with a buggy that injured a 15-year-old and killed a horse in Lancaster County on Dec. 11. New Holland police said Brandie Beiseigel, 32, faces charges including... - [Penn Live](#), [Patriot-News](#)
- 12-17-2018 **[Blair Street residents make rezoning request](#)**
HOLLIDAYSBURG — Blair Street was a different place 72 years ago when Robert Schaefer was born. "We used to play kickball and ride our bikes on Blair Street," he said. Now he opens the front door of his 606 Blair St. homestead to the sights, sounds and smells of thousands of cars and diesel trucks per day.... - [Altoona Mirror](#)



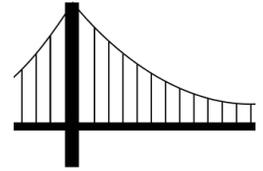
- 12-17-2018 **Getting rail service restarted between Reading and Philly is a steep grade to climb [Ask the Eagle reports]**
When the last commuter train screeched into Reading's Franklin Street Station the night of June 30, 1981, it ended an era. The passenger rail service that began here with the Reading Railroad was finished, with SEPTA terminating operations from Reading as of that day.... - [Reading Eagle](#)
- 12-17-2018 **Effort to re-establish rail service has a long history [Ask the Eagle reports]**
A plan to look at the economic effect that passenger rail service would have on Berks County would be the latest in a decadeslong line of reports and studies on the feasibility and impact of commuter rail. The latest study, being coordinated by the Greater Reading Chamber... - [Reading Eagle](#)
- 12-17-2018 **There are many boosters for the return of rail service [Ask the Eagle reports]**
Charles Greulich is a rail fan who enjoys learning about the history of the Reading Railroad. But Greulich wishes passenger rail wasn't just a part of the past in Berks County, but the near future too. Greulich, 66, of Douglass Township, Montgomery County, drives to... - [Reading Eagle](#)
- 12-17-2018 **As tractor trailers abound, Forks moves to ban truck parking in neighborhoods**
A dispute between Forks Township neighbors over a tractor cab is shining a headlight on a Lehigh Valley-wide issue: Where should independent truck drivers park? Mia Lampa noticed her neighbor on Silo Drive was keeping his tractor cab on the street or his property last February, and when she tried to call... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)
- 12-17-2018 **Sharon looking into charging for on-street parking**
SHARON – City officials are considering charging for parking to prevent employees of shops along East State Street from occupying spaces intended for customers. Council took no action at its meeting last week, but Sharon Manager Bob Fiscus said he would research options and seek ideas from police Chief Ed... - [Sharon Herald](#)
- 12-17-2018 **Blue Line owner wants to expand transportation in the Valley**
SHAMOKIN DAM — The owner of Blue Line Secure Transportation Services wants to introduce a shuttle system that would allow professionals and executives in the Susquehanna Valley to travel to the Harrisburg region during the week. Jeff Diggan told members of the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of... - [Sunbury Daily Item](#)
- 12-17-2018 **Clearfield discusses problems with street cutting**
Clearfield Borough Council discussed the with improper repair of street cuts at its committee meetings Thursday night. Todd Kling, foreman of the road crew, said the borough has been having issues with utility companies and private contractors cutting the roads and... - [Clearfield Progress](#)
- 12-17-2018 **Changes planned to boost lagging Zagster bike-share ridership**
Ben Oaks says he highly recommends Lancaster's Zagster bike-share service. Over the summer, he used it constantly to shuttle between his quarters just east of downtown and his job at the Lemon Street Market. In 12 months he racked up 87 trips. According to Zagster, that makes him... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)



- 12-17-2018 **O'Hara startup Aptiv opens technical center for its autonomous vehicles in Las Vegas**
Aptiv, a self-driving vehicle startup with offices in O'Hara, has opened a new technical center in Las Vegas, making it the company's fourth major market for testing. At 130,000 square feet of space, the Las Vegas Technical Center will be home to Aptiv's commercial operations, data command center, safety... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 12-17-2018 **Port Authority begins two months of work at Wood Street T station**
Port Authority began a two-month project Monday to renovate the Wood Street light rail station, Downtown. As a result, the agency closed the Sixth Avenue entrance to the station for about a month on Monday. Once work is done on that side, the Wood Street entrance will be closed for another month. Elevator access will be... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 12-17-2018 **"Slow Down to Get Around" law takes effect this week**
Signs displaying "I'm a dad" and "I'm a mom" were held by employees of Pennsylvania waste and recycling collection companies at a state Capitol news conference as reminders of the importance of their safety and the dangers they face while on the job along the state's... - [Pennsylvania Legislative Services](#)
- 12-17-2018 **Oil production cuts fail to stop falling gasoline prices**
Drivers have been enjoying an extended stretch of falling gas prices. "For the 10th straight week, gas prices have been in a state of decline, falling to the lowest level since prior to Hurricane Harvey in 2017 to the mid \$2.30s with now 31 states with at least one gas station... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-16-2018 **AAA: 2018 will be busiest holiday travel season ever**
AAA is predicting the busiest holiday travel season ever for 2018. The AAA forecast said more than a third of Americans will take to the nation's runways, roadways and rails this holiday season. The record-breaking 112.5 million travelers represents a 4.4 percent increase... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-16-2018 **Report: Federal Air Marshal Service is curtailing surveillance**
The Federal Air Marshal Service says it's curtailing a domestic surveillance program that's been accused of spying on thousands of unwitting passengers who are not suspected of a crime or appear on a terror watch list... - [AP](#)
- 12-16-2018 **Change to medical transit drives fears of fare increases, poor service**
The 12,000 people who rely on the Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority's Lift bus service will likely be affected by a change in how the state manages transportation for Medicaid recipients. EMTA officials and advocates for Lift riders say the change will cost the... - [Erie Times-News](#)
- 12-16-2018 **Historic preservation: Nonprofit group looks to save Fallston Bridge**
A nonprofit organization that has already saved Watts Mill Bridge in South Beaver Township has its sights set on doing the same for the historic Fallston Bridge. The Iowa-based Workin' Bridges in September stepped in to save the Watts Mill Bridge, which could have been headed for demolition in the near... - [Beaver County Times](#)



- 12-16-2018 **[Getting there from here: Commuting options important for local workers](#)**
Lisa Ewing of Perryopolis has been vanpooling to work in Pittsburgh since 1983, and she's the coordinator on a vanpool traveling daily from Uniontown to Pittsburgh and back with stops in Perryopolis and Rostraver Township. Thank you for Reading! Please log in, or sign up for a new account and purchase a subscription to... - [Uniontown Herald-Standard](#)
- 12-16-2018 **[Why is Maryland gas so much cheaper?](#)**
I, too, wonder why gas prices are so high in this state (Dec. 9 Sunday LNP letter, "Why the disparity in gas prices?"). Down in the borderlands with Maryland, all we have to do is drive a few miles into Maryland to purchase gas. It had been approximately \$0.20 a gallon cheaper... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)
- 12-16-2018 **[Kail announces office locations to remain same](#)**
Rep.-elect Joshua Kail, R-Beaver, announced Friday that he will maintain former Rep. Jim Christiana's office locations in Center Township, Beaver County, and Independence Township, Washington County. "The people of the 15th District can expect a smooth transition and... - [Washington Observer-Reporter](#)
- 12-16-2018 **[Assemblyman: We hope this reform will help NJ Transit hear its riders.](#)**
By John F. McKeon "The 8:40 a.m. train is late, once again. It's missing its conductor! I tell you these stories, Dad, so you can use them in Trenton." This was a text message I received from my daughter and it is not unlike many messages that are sent almost daily from NJ Transit riders. For too... - [Trenton Times](#)
- 12-16-2018 **[China temporarily suspends increased tariffs on U.S. vehicles and auto parts](#)**
China took a step toward extending its truce with the Trump administration Friday, announcing that it would temporarily suspend punitive tariffs imposed on American-made cars and auto parts as the U.S.-Chinese trade war ramped up. But the gesture was somewhat hollow, analysts said, as the tariffs will... - [Washington Post](#)
- 12-14-2018 **[PA Turnpike Commission Meeting Agenda for December 17, 2018](#)**
(Press Release)
- 12-14-2018 **[PennDOT Plans Industry Forum Next Tuesday to Share Details of P3 Wetlands...](#)**
(Press Release)
- 12-14-2018 **[PPG to Acquire Global Coatings Manufacturer Whitford Worldwide](#)**
(Press Release)
- 12-14-2018 **[Abington Heights High School wins PennDOT plow art contest](#)**
A wide-eyed polar bear wearing a blue-and-white scarf adorns a snowplow blade that is clearing snow off roads in the Abingtons this winter. Students in the Abington Heights advanced studio art class painted the bear, surrounded by a blue winter sky, on a state Department of... - [Scranton Times](#)
- 12-14-2018 **[Wyoming Valley Levee trail repair project complete](#)**
A months-long project to repair the maintenance road atop the Wyoming Valley Levee is now complete, according to the Luzerne County Flood Protection Authority. The project began in August and recently wrapped up after repairs were completed along all four sections, or "reaches," of the levee... - [Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice](#)



- 12-14-2018 **Plans outlined for more Southern Beltway work**
State turnpike officials and contractors they hired to build several miles of the Southern Beltway through Robinson Township shared details of their plans with residents on Wednesday. Thank you for Reading! Please log in, or sign up for a new account and purchase a subscription to... - [Uniontown Herald-Standard](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Remembering victims of DUI crashes at memorial**
On Thursday, families gathered to honor loved ones they lost far too soon. They came to the Pennsylvania DUI Victims' Memorial Garden on North Front Street in Harrisburg Thursday night. They read the names of friends and loved ones who have lost their lives in DUI crashes.... - [Penn Live](#), [Patriot-News](#)
- 12-14-2018 **The Pennsylvania DUI Association hosts a “Remembrance Ceremony”**
The Pennsylvania DUI Association hosts a “Remembrance Ceremony” - [Penn Live](#), [Patriot-News](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Separate corporate flight entrance eyed at Arnold Palmer airport**
Those who take corporate flights out of Arnold Palmer Regional Airport someday may have their own designated entrance at the Unity facility. A recently announced \$150,000 state grant will help pay for engineering and design of the proposed corporate hangar access, but money isn't yet in... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Port Authority buses run late one-third of the time, auditor says**
Port Authority of Allegheny County buses run five or six minutes late about one-third of the time, according to a state audit released Thursday. Pennsylvania Auditor General Eugene DePasquale said Port Authority's on-time rate of 67 percent was the biggest problem auditors found in a... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 12-14-2018 **TRAFFIC: Overturned tractor trailers close stretch of Pa. Turnpike**
Two overturned tractor-trailer trucks have closed a stretch of the westbound Pennsylvania Turnpike Friday morning between the Allegheny Valley and Pittsburgh exits. The crash occurred in the westbound lanes shortly before 4:30 a.m. and was closed between Exit 48 and Exit 57 — roughly a 6-mile stretch — as... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Guest Column: Deer are not our enemy**
For decades, the deer in our parks – funded by all Pa. citizens – have been increasingly subjected to wounding, mutilation and death during extra days and by additional weapons (Ridley Creek State Park now allows bow hunts for months on end, and now two days of shotgun hunts), making the... - [Primos Delaware County Daily and Sunday Times](#)
- 12-14-2018 **This Metal Is Worth More Than Gold, and It Scrubs Your Car's Exhaust**
Gold was long the most valuable of precious metals, until, suddenly, it wasn't. Last week, an obscure and far less sexy rival called palladium swung ahead, for the first time in 16 years. Gold briefly retook the lead, but spot palladium prices have beaten out gold prices for the past three days.... - [New York Times](#)
- 12-14-2018 **As More Cars Plug In, Utilities and Makers Juggle Ways to Power Them**
The car and electric power grew up together. At the dawn of the automotive age, Henry Ford and Thomas Edison worked in tandem on projects involving motor vehicles and the electricity that made them possible. Soon Ford was cranking up his assembly lines, while Edison, with Ford in... - [New York Times](#)



- 12-14-2018 **Does This Look Right to You? HOLLA??D TONNEL**
They decked the Holland with boughs of holly Then people called their décor folly. Hundreds signed a web petition Now they'll vote on their position. As it has in so many Decembers past, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has festooned the canopy above the Holland Tunnel's New Jersey... - [New York Times](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Work on Atlantic City Rail is done, but when trains will run remains unclear**
The safety system installation that shut down the Atlantic City Rail Line this fall is complete, but transit officials still aren't saying when trains will begin running again. "We don't have a determined date in regards to the [Atlantic City Rail Line] restoration," said Nancy Snyder, a spokesperson for NJ... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 12-14-2018 **The Oil Industry's Covert Campaign to Rewrite American Car Emissions Rules**
When the Trump administration laid out a plan this year that would eventually allow cars to emit more pollution, automakers, the obvious winners from the proposal, balked. The changes, they said, went too far even for them. But it turns out that there was a hidden beneficiary of the plan that was... - [New York Times](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Road Warrior: Bog turtles, the public menace**
You come across all sorts of interesting characters and crazy situations if you cover municipal government long enough. One of the silliest lines I've heard belongs to former Northampton County Councilman Tom Dietrich. Dietrich, a Republican who last held public office in 2013, would tease... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)
- 12-14-2018 **It's time for zero-emission buses in California**
While Gov. Jerry Brown and the California Air Resources Board have been fighting the good fight against the Trump administration's attempt to roll back the state's clean car agenda, they have been slower to act on the next generation of clean vehicles: zero-emission buses.... - [Los Angeles Times](#)
- 12-14-2018 **PSU receives gift to support rail transportation program**
Charles N. Marshall of Bryn Mawr has made a transformational gift to support the Rail Transportation Engineering degree program at Penn State Altoona, the university announced Thursday. Marshall's \$500,000 gift has established the Donnell Marshall Excellence Scholarship for Rail Transportation Engineering... - [Altoona Mirror](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Watershed association receives state grant to clean up Babcock Creek**
The Paint Creek Regional Watershed Association is planning improvements to Babcock Creek in Ogle and Paint townships, which members hope will bring life back to the stream. - [Somerset Daily](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Auditor General releases report criticizing Allegheny County Port Authority**
A week after organizers rallied for lower fares and better access, Auditor General Eugene DePasquale released an audit levying a number of criticisms at the Allegheny County Port Authority Thursday. While DePasquale praised the authority for addressing the fiscal and... - [Pennsylvania Legislative Services](#)
- 12-14-2018 **Shaler tax rate to remain consistent in 2019**
Shaler commissioners approved the township's 2019 budget during a Dec. 11 meeting. Residents will be pleased to know that property taxes will remain at 2.49 mills. The balanced budget contains revenues of about \$12 million, according to Township Manager Tim Rogers.... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)



12-14-2018

As the economy grows, nearly 100,000 people commute into the Lehigh Valley for jobs

For about the last five years, Kate Loch has commuted from her Bucks County home to different jobs in and around the Lehigh Valley. For a while, she worked in customer service roles, but now she drives a tractor trailer for a Bethlehem-based company. In that time frame, she's learned the tricks to get from her Perkasie... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)



Transportation Recap is a weekly report on legislative and executive actions on transportation related legislation and is compiled and edited by PLS.

For subscription information, questions or more information contact PLS at mypls@mypls.com or 717-236-6984. Thank you, Lynn, Kim, Jeff, Mike, Matt Hess, Nina, Matt Hykes, Deborah, Kara, Cheryl, Aaron, Becky, Amyra, Nick, Jessica, Nicole, Stephen, Robert, Emily and Stephany.

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