

# PA Transportation Recap



## IN THIS ISSUE

**Co-Sponsor Memos**  
**PA Bulletin**  
**In the News**

**Bill Actions**  
**Upcoming Events**

**Committee Stories**  
**Session Schedule**

## Co-Sponsor Memos

<a href="#">HCO 39</a>	<a href="#">Moul, Dan</a>	Ensures that school districts are not required to provide pupil transportation to any school or school district located outside the Commonwealth.
<a href="#">HCO 41</a>	<a href="#">Moul, Dan</a>	Establishes a temporary emergency disability placard that will be valid for 30 days and will not be renewable.
<a href="#">HCO 643</a>	<a href="#">Murt, Thomas</a>	Provides for special farmland preservation license plates.
<a href="#">HCO 644</a>	<a href="#">Murt, Thomas</a>	Amends the Vehicle Code to eliminate "legislative plates."
<a href="#">HCO 646</a>	<a href="#">Murt, Thomas</a>	Prohibits smoking in a motor vehicle that is occupied by a minor.
<a href="#">HCO1104</a>	<a href="#">Murt, Thomas</a>	Establishes the Driver Distraction Awareness Fund.
<a href="#">HCO1339</a>	<a href="#">Warren, Perry (F)</a>	Establishes the Commuter and Commerce Toll Tax Credit to offset the burden of higher toll charges on those individuals and businesses that must use Pennsylvania's tolled roads on a frequent basis.
<a href="#">HCO1420</a>	<a href="#">Fee, Mindy</a>	Gives auto auction companies the ability hold off site auctions.
<a href="#">HCO1426</a>	<a href="#">Everett, Garth</a>	Addresses the issue of the profiling of motorcycle riders by some law enforcement personnel.
<a href="#">HCO1616</a>	<a href="#">Snyder, Pam</a>	Designates a bridge on State Route 1011, also known as Castile Run Road, over the South Fork Tenmile Creek between Jefferson Township and Clarksville Borough, Greene County, as the PFC Brent A. McClellan Memorial Bridge.
<a href="#">HCO1618</a>	<a href="#">Bloom, Stephen</a>	Amends the Prevailing Wage Act to exempt the rehabilitation or repair of a structurally deficient bridge from the requirements of the act.
<a href="#">HCO1619</a>	<a href="#">Cruz, Angel</a>	Requires the Department of Transportation to establish and administer a pilot program to place speed humps, or similar devices, in a minimum of one school zone within a school district located in each of the nine county classes in PA.
<a href="#">HCO1636</a>	<a href="#">Dean, Madeleine</a>	Amends Title 75 (Vehicles) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes to require automobile insurance carriers to notify PennDOT within 24 hours when a new insurance policy is adopted by a consumer.
<a href="#">HCO1640</a>	<a href="#">Bizzarro, Ryan</a>	Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), Section 1517 (Medical Advisory Board), to add a certified driving rehabilitation specialist to the medical advisory board.
<a href="#">HCO1642</a>	<a href="#">Stephens, Todd</a>	Honors a man from Upper Dublin Township in Montgomery County, dedicating a portion of Fort Washington Avenue in Upper Dublin Township, Montgomery County, as the SPC5

[HCO1676](#) [Snyder, Pam](#)  
[SCO 744](#) [Gordner, John](#)

George W. Charters, Jr. Memorial Highway.  
 Creates a new specialty license plate for children with autism.  
 Creates a recreational vehicle (RV) specific law which would govern RV dealers, manufacturers, and salespeople.

**Bill Actions**

[HB 93](#) [Millard, David](#)

Act designating a portion of State Route 93 from the boundary line between Berwick Borough and Briar Creek Borough, Columbia County, to the boundary line between Orangeville Bor. & Orange Twp., Columbia County, as Stuart Tank Memorial.

**Bill History:**

03-22-17 H Voted favorably from committee on House Transportation  
 03-22-17 H Reported as committed from House Transportation  
 03-22-17 H First consideration  
 03-22-17 H Laid on the table  
 04-03-17 H Set on the Tabled Calendar

[HB 188](#) [Causer, Martin](#)

Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in fees, further providing for exemption of persons, entities and vehicles from fees.

**Bill History:**

03-21-17 H Reported as committed from House Appropriations  
 03-21-17 H Set on the House Calendar  
 03-21-17 Laid out for discussion 2:03pm  
 03-21-17 Third consideration 2:03pm  
 03-21-17 H Final Passage (Vote: Y:186/N: 11)

[HB 199](#) [Grove, Seth](#)

Act designating the portion of SR 3078 & SR 3090 in York County from the intersection with SR 116 to the intersection with SR 3042 as the Private First Class Donald R. Gise Memorial Road.

**Bill History:**

03-22-17 H Voted favorably from committee as amended House Transportation  
 03-22-17 H Reported as amended House Transportation  
 03-22-17 H First consideration  
 03-22-17 H Laid on the table  
 04-03-17 H Set on the Tabled Calendar

[HB 204](#) [Jozwiak, Barry](#)

Amends Titles 51 (Military Affairs) and 74 (Transportation), in Department of Military Affairs, providing for Civil Air Patrol; and, in authority of Department of Transportation, further providing for authority of department.

**Bill History:**

03-21-17 H Reported as committed from House Appropriations  
 03-21-17 H Set on the House Calendar  
 03-21-17 Laid out for discussion 2:09pm  
 03-21-17 Third consideration 2:09pm  
 03-21-17 H Final Passage (Vote: Y:197/N: 0)

[HB 215](#) [Boback, Karen](#)

Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in registration of vehicles, further providing for special plates for veterans and providing for special plates for recipients of legion of merit.

**Bill History:**

03-21-17 H Set on the House Calendar  
 03-21-17 Laid out for discussion 2:16pm  
 03-21-17 H House Reed motion to proceed to vote on HB 215 ([Vote Y: 187/N: 10](#))  
 03-21-17 Third consideration 2:17pm

03-21-17 H Final Passage (Vote: Y:196/N: 0)

[HB 218](#) [Saylor, Stanley](#)

Act to provide from the General Fund for the expenses of the Executive, Legislative & Judicial Departments, the public debt & the public schools for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

**Bill History:**

03-20-17 H Set on the House Calendar  
 03-20-17 Laid out for discussion 4:43pm  
 03-20-17 Second consideration 4:46pm  
 03-20-17 H Over in House  
 03-20-17 H Rereferred to House Appropriations

[HB 224](#) [Simmons, Justin](#)

Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, providing for administration of epinephrine auto-injectors by school bus drivers and school crossing guards.

**Bill History:**

03-13-17 H Reported as committed from House Appropriations  
 03-13-17 Laid out for discussion 4:31pm  
 03-13-17 Third consideration 4:31pm  
 03-13-17 H Final Passage (Vote: Y:186/N: 1)  
 03-20-17 S Received in the Senate and referred to Senate Education

[HB 247](#) [Sainato, Chris](#)

Amends Titles 51 (Military Affairs) & 75 (Vehicles), in DMVA, for PA Veterans' Memorial Trust Fund; for State Veterans' Commission; repealing provisions; further providing for PA monument registration plate.

**Bill History:**

03-21-17 H Reported as committed from House Appropriations  
 03-21-17 H Set on the House Calendar  
 03-21-17 Laid out for discussion 2:10pm  
 03-21-17 Third consideration 2:10pm  
 03-21-17 H Final Passage (Vote: Y:197/N: 0)

[HB 269](#) [Murt, Thomas](#)

Amends an act designating highways, bridges and interchanges amending the title of the act; and further providing for Cpl. Carl F. Hynek III Memorial Highway.

**Bill History:**

03-22-17 H Voted favorably from committee on House Transportation  
 03-22-17 H Reported as committed from House Transportation  
 03-22-17 H First consideration  
 03-22-17 H Laid on the table  
 04-03-17 H Set on the Tabled Calendar

[HB 283](#) [Baker, Matt](#)

Amends Act designating bridges, highways, and interchanges further providing for Lance Corporal Michael G. Plank Memorial Bridge.

**Bill History:**

03-22-17 H Voted favorably from committee on House Transportation  
 03-22-17 H Reported as committed from House Transportation  
 03-22-17 H First consideration  
 03-22-17 H Laid on the table  
 04-03-17 H Set on the Tabled Calendar

[HB 303](#) [Topper, Jesse](#)

Act designation a bridge on that portion of State Route 1005, known as Church View Road, Segment 0180, Offset 0000, over Beaver Creek, South Woodbury Township, Bedford County, as the PFC/POW William G. Koontz Memorial Bridge.

**Bill History:**

03-22-17 H Voted favorably from committee on House

<a href="#">HB 580</a>	<a href="#">Gillespie, Keith</a>	<p>Transportation            03-22-17 H Reported as committed from House Transportation            03-22-17 H First consideration            03-22-17 H Laid on the table            04-03-17 H Set on the Tabled Calendar</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		<p>03-22-17 H Voted favorably from committee on House Transportation            03-22-17 H Reported as committed from House Transportation            03-22-17 H First consideration            03-22-17 H Laid on the table            04-03-17 H Set on the Tabled Calendar</p>
<a href="#">HB 741</a>	<a href="#">Stephens, Todd</a>	<p>Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in registration of vehicles, further providing for antique, classic and collectible plates.</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		<p>03-21-17 H Voted favorably from committee on House Judiciary            03-21-17 H Reported as committed from House Judiciary            03-21-17 H First consideration            03-21-17 H Laid on the table            04-03-17 H Set on the Tabled Calendar</p>
<a href="#">HB 834</a>	<a href="#">Marshall, Jim</a>	<p>Act designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 588 over Interstate 376, Chippewa Township, Beaver County, as the TFC Blake T. Coble Memorial Bridge.</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		<p>03-22-17 H Meeting set for 9:00 a.m., Room 205, Ryan Office Building, House Transportation -- House Transportation            03-22-17 H Reported as committed from House Transportation            03-22-17 H First consideration            03-22-17 H Laid on the table            04-03-17 H Set on the Tabled Calendar</p>
<a href="#">HB 886</a>	<a href="#">Murt, Thomas</a>	<p>Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in offenses in general, prohibiting persons from smoking in motor vehicles occupied by minors; and prescribing a penalty.</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		<p>03-16-17 H Filed            03-17-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Transportation</p>
<a href="#">HB 892</a>	<a href="#">Murt, Thomas</a>	<p>Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in misc. provisions, further providing for the offense of careless driving; establishing the Driver Distraction Awareness Fund; and providing for additional duties of the Department of Transportation.</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		<p>03-16-17 H Filed            03-17-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Transportation</p>
<a href="#">HB 898</a>	<a href="#">Fee, Mindy</a>	<p>Amends the Board of Vehicles Act further providing for definitions and for license to engage in business.</p>
<b>Bill History:</b>		<p>03-17-17 H Filed            03-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Professional Licensure</p>
<a href="#">HB 902</a>	<a href="#">Murt, Thomas</a>	<p>Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in registration of vehicles, repealing provisions relating to legislative plate.</p>

<b>Bill History:</b>		03-17-17 H Filed 03-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Transportation
<a href="#">HB 904</a>	<a href="#">Murt, Thomas</a>	Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in registration of vehicles, providing for special farmland preservation plates and for the use of a portion of the fee for the plate.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-17-17 H Filed 03-20-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Transportation
<a href="#">HB 917</a>	<a href="#">Everett, Garth</a>	Amends Title 53 (Municipalities Generally), in municipal police education and training, prohibiting motorcycle profiling and establishing a private right of action.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-21-17 H Filed 03-22-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Judiciary
<a href="#">HB 926</a>	<a href="#">Warren, Perry (F)</a>	Amends the Tax Reform Code, providing for a commuter and commerce toll tax credit.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-21-17 H Filed 03-22-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Finance
<a href="#">HB 928</a>	<a href="#">Jozwiak, Barry</a>	Amends The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, further providing for prohibited acts and penalties. Amending Title 75 (Vehicles), in licensing of drivers, further providing for suspension of operating privilege.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-21-17 H Filed 03-22-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Transportation
<a href="#">HB 936</a>	<a href="#">Moul, Dan</a>	Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in registration of vehicles, further providing for person with disability plate and placard.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-22-17 H Filed 03-23-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Transportation
<a href="#">HB 937</a>	<a href="#">Moul, Dan</a>	Amends the Public School Code, in pupils and attendance, further providing for when transportation of pupils provided.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-22-17 H Filed 03-23-17 H Introduced and referred to committee on House Education
<a href="#">HB 952</a>	<a href="#">Snyder, Pam</a>	Act designating the bridge, Bridge Key 53825, on that portion of SR 1011, also known as Castile Run Road between Jefferson Township & Clarksville Borough, Greene County, as the PFC Brent A. McClellan Memorial Bridge.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-23-17 H Filed
<a href="#">HB 953</a>	<a href="#">Gabler, Matt</a>	Amends Titles 74 (Transportation) & 75 (Vehicles) eliminating statutory authority to toll Interstate Route 80.
<b>Bill History:</b>		03-23-17 H Filed
<a href="#">HB 964</a>	<a href="#">Masser, Kurt</a>	Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in other required equipment, further providing for general requirements for school buses.

<b>Bill History:</b>	03-23-17 H Filed	
<a href="#">HB 970</a>	<a href="#">Masser, Kurt</a>	Amends Titles 42 (Judiciary) & 75 (Vehicles), in budget & finance, for municipal corporation portion of fines & establishing the Municipal Law Enforcement Accreditation Fund; for speed timing devices; for State & local powers.
<b>Bill History:</b>	03-23-17 H Filed	
<a href="#">HB 974</a>	<a href="#">Masser, Kurt</a>	Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in fees, further providing for driver's license and learner's permit; and abrogating a regulation.
<b>Bill History:</b>	03-23-17 H Filed	
<a href="#">HB 976</a>	<a href="#">Masser, Kurt</a>	Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in equipment standards, further providing for unlawful activities.
<b>Bill History:</b>	03-23-17 H Filed	
<a href="#">HB 977</a>	<a href="#">Masser, Kurt</a>	Amends the act entitled "An act encouraging landowners to make land & water areas available to the public for recreational purposes," further providing for definitions, for applicability and for liability.
<b>Bill History:</b>	03-23-17 H Filed	
<a href="#">SB 133</a>	<a href="#">Ward, Kim</a>	Act imposing a duty on the Department of Transportation to file with the Department of Homeland Security a request for extension of time to comply with the REAL ID Act of 2005; and making a related repeal.
<b>Bill History:</b>	03-21-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar 03-21-17 Laid out for discussion 4:04pm 03-21-17 S 1 Floor amendment(s) adopted 03-21-17 Second consideration 4:05pm 03-21-17 S Rereferred to Senate Appropriations	
<a href="#">SB 137</a>	<a href="#">McGarrigle, Thomas</a>	Amends Titles 51 (Military Affairs) & 74 (Transportation), in Department of Military Affairs, providing for Civil Air Patrol; and, in authority of Department of Transportation, further providing for authority of department.
<b>Bill History:</b>	03-20-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar 03-20-17 Laid out for discussion 4:00pm 03-20-17 Third consideration 4:00pm 03-20-17 S Final Passage (Vote: Y: 47/N: 0) 03-22-17 H Received in the House and referred to House Veterans Affairs & Emergency Prepared.	
<a href="#">SB 171</a>	<a href="#">Rafferty, John</a>	Amends the Administrative Code, in administration organization, further providing for gubernatorial appointments.
<b>Bill History:</b>	03-20-17 Second consideration 4:02pm 03-22-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar 03-22-17 S Laid on the table 03-22-17 S Removed from the table 03-27-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar	
<a href="#">SB 172</a>	<a href="#">Argall, David</a>	Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in preliminary provisions, further providing for defs.; and, in rules of the road, further providing for speed timing devices and providing for automated speed enforcement systems.
<b>Bill History:</b>	01-24-17 S Voted favorably from committee on Senate	



Transportation

01-24-17 S Reported as committed from Senate Transportation  
01-24-17 S First consideration  
03-22-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar  
03-22-17 S Laid on the table (Pursuant to Senate Rule 9)

[SB 265](#) [Regan, Mike \(F\)](#)

Act designating the bridge carrying SR 3012 over the Susquehanna River between City Island & the intersection with SR 1010 & SR 1027, commonly referred to as the Market Street Bridge, as the Sen. Harold Mowery Market Street Bridge.

**Bill History:**

03-21-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar  
03-21-17 Laid out for discussion 4:02pm  
03-21-17 Third consideration 4:02pm  
03-21-17 S Final Passage (Vote: Y: 48/N: 1)  
03-23-17 H Received in the House and referred to House Transportation

[SB 279](#) [Rafferty, John](#)

Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in rules of the road in general, further providing for speed timing devices; and, in powers of department and local authorities, further providing for specific powers of department and local authorities.

**Bill History:**

02-08-17 S Voted favorably from committee on Senate Transportation  
02-08-17 S Reported as committed from Senate Transportation  
02-08-17 S First consideration  
03-21-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar  
03-21-17 S Laid on the table

[SB 288](#) [Rafferty, John](#)

Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in rules of the road in general, further providing for duty of driver in emergency response areas.

**Bill History:**

02-08-17 S Reported as committed from Senate Transportation  
02-08-17 S First consideration  
03-22-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar  
03-22-17 Second consideration 11:28am  
03-27-17 S Set on the Senate Calendar

[SB 427](#) [Vulakovich, Randy](#)

Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in operation of vehicles, providing for highly automated vehicles and platooning testing.

**Bill History:**

02-24-17 S Filed  
02-24-17 S Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Transportation  
03-21-17 S Public hearing held in committee Senate Transportation

## Committee Stories

### House Transportation Committee

3/22/17, 9:00 a.m., Room 205 Ryan Office Building  
By Jeff Cox, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider bills.

[HB 93 Millard, David](#) - (PN 603) Act designating a portion of State Route 93 from the boundary line between Berwick Borough and Briar Creek Borough, Columbia County, to the boundary line between Orangeville Borough and Orange

Township, Columbia County, as the Stuart Tank Memorial Highway. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 199 Grove, Seth](#) - (PN 160) Act designating the portion of State Route 3090 in York County from the intersection with State Route 116 to the intersection with State Route 3042 as the Private First Class Donald R. Gise Memorial Road. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as amended**.

[A00508](#) by Taylor, described as a technical amendment adding State Route 3078 to the legislation. The amendment was unanimously **adopted**.

[HB 269 Murt, Thomas](#) - (PN 228) Act amending the act of November 4, 2016 (P.L.1196, No.159), entitled "An act designating a portion of State Route 663 in Montgomery County as the Army Specialist Ray Ira Haas Memorial Highway; designating the portion of State Route 100 from Hereford Township at the Lehigh County line through Washington Township in Berks County as the First Lieutenant William R. Gendebien Memorial Highway; designating a portion of State Route 2026, also known as Blair Mill Road, in Montgomery County as the Private First Class Paul T. Wright Memorial Highway; designating a bridge on a portion of Sheep Bridge Road over I-83, Newberry Township, York County, as the Staff Sgt. Jason M. Faley Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 879 over Trout Run in Goshen Township, Clearfield County, as the Private David Kyle McCracken Memorial Bridge; designating a portion of State Route 2034 in Montgomery County as the Cpl. Carl F. Hynek III Memorial Highway; designating a portion of State Route 145 in Salisbury Township, Lehigh County, as the Cpl. Joshua B. Smith Memorial Highway; designating a bridge on that portion of U.S. Route 15 over State Route 114, Upper Allen Township, Cumberland County, as the Cpl. Jonathan Dean Faircloth Memorial Bridge; designating a portion of Byberry Road between Warminster Road and Orangemen's Road in Montgomery County as the Major Jeffrey Toczykowski Memorial Highway; designating a portion of State Route 1010 in Berks County as the DeLight Breidegam, Jr., Memorial Highway; designating a portion of State Route 51 in Fayette County as the Officer Richard Champion Memorial Highway; designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 741 over the Conestoga River, between Pequea Township and Lancaster Township, Lancaster County, as the Cpl. Eric M. Torbert, Jr., Memorial Bridge; designating the interchange of State Route 43, the Mon-Fayette Expressway, with Rubles Mill Road, known as Exit 4, Fayette County, as the Master Sgt. Arthur L. Lilley Memorial Interchange; designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 770 over the Tunungwant Creek, Bradford Township, McKean County, as the Master Sgt. Thomas Maholic Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge to be constructed on that portion of State Route 6 over Dingman Run, Coudersport Borough, Potter County, as the PFC George Pesock Memorial Bridge; designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 872 over Bailey Run in Wharton Township, Potter County, as the Sgt. Paul M. Brown Memorial Bridge; designating a certain interchange in New Stanton Borough, Westmoreland County, as the E. Jeffrey Wentzel Memorial Interchange; designating a portion of State Route 220 in Lycoming and Sullivan Counties as the Lieutenant Commander John J. Peterman Memorial Highway; designating a portion of State Route 220 in Lycoming County as the Thomas A. Paternostro Memorial Highway; designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 1027 in Polk Township, Jefferson County, as the Polk Township Veterans Memorial Bridge; and making related repeals," amending the title of the act; and further providing for Cpl. Carl F. Hynek III Memorial Highway. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 283 Baker, Matt](#) - (PN 269) Amends the act entitled "An act designating: A portion of State Routes 108 and 551 in Lawrence County as the Battery B Memorial Highway. A bridge on that portion of State Route 403 over the Two Lick Creek, Borough of Clymer, Indiana County, as the Sergeant James Robert Pantall Memorial Bridge. A bridge on that portion of State Route 580 over the Susquehanna River, Cherry Tree Borough, Indiana County, as the Airman Second Class Gerald Emmett Johnson Memorial Bridge. A bridge on State Route 2014 over the Muncy Creek in Muncy Creek Township, Lycoming County, as the Private Walter L. Smith Spanish-American War Memorial Bridge. A portion of State Route 2044 in Lycoming County as the Lance Corporal William F. Merrill Vietnam Veterans Highway. The bridge on State Route 225 that crosses the Armstrong Creek in Halifax Township, Dauphin County, as the Staff Sergeant Brian K. Mowery Memorial Bridge. A bridge on that portion of State Route 1026, Section 004 over the Cocalico Creek, Denver Borough, and West Cocalico Township, Lancaster County, as the Samuel L. Snyder Memorial Bridge. An overpass on State Route 49 over State Route 15, Lawrence Township, Tioga County, as the Lance Corporal Michael G. Plank Memorial Bridge. A portion of Blair Mill Road in Montgomery County as the PVT William H. Walls, U.S.M.C. Memorial Highway. The overpass on State Route 3145 over Interstate 376, BMS 02-3145-0010-0537, in the Market District at Settlers Ridge, Robinson Township, Allegheny County, as the Roy F. Johns, Jr., Overpass. A portion of State Route 51 North in the Borough of Coraopolis, Allegheny County, as the Fred A. Trello Memorial Boulevard. A certain interchange in New Stanton Borough, Westmoreland County, as the Edwin "Lance" Wentzel Memorial Interchange. The bridge carrying State Route 2005 (Business Route 222) over the



Schuylkill River, Riverfront Drive and Norfolk Southern Railroad in the City of Reading, Berks County, commonly referred to as the Bingaman Street Bridge, as the 65th U.S. Infantry Regiment, Borinqueneers Memorial Bridge. A bridge on that portion of State Route 36 over the Chest Creek, Patton Borough, Cambria County, as the Martin Joseph Davis Memorial Bridge. A portion of State Route 1008 in Fayetteville, Franklin County, as the James W. Cutchall Memorial Highway. A bridge on that portion of U.S. Route 15 over State Route 114, Mechanicsburg Borough, Cumberland County, as the Corporal Jonathan Dean Faircloth Memorial Bridge. The bridge on that portion of Township Route 431/436, Cooney Road, over U.S. Route 22 in Munster Township, Cambria County, as the PFC Thomas A. Cooney Memorial Bridge. The bridge on Tower Road spanning U.S. Route 219 in Croyle Township, Cambria County, as the Trooper Herbert A. Wirfel Memorial Bridge. A bridge on that portion of Greenwood Avenue over the SEPTA tracks in Cheltenham Township and Jenkintown Borough, Montgomery County, as the Honorable Lawrence H. Curry Bridge. A bridge on that portion of State Route 144 over the Bald Eagle Creek, Milesburg Borough, Centre County, as the Veterans Bridge. An interchange on Pennsylvania Turnpike Route 66 in Westmoreland County as the David B. Sheridan Memorial Interchange. A bridge on that portion of State Route 217 over the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks and 2nd Street in Derry Borough, Westmoreland County, as the Derry Veterans Memorial Bridge," further providing for Lance Corporal Michael G. Plank Memorial Bridge. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 303 Topper, Jesse](#) - (PN 303) Act designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 1005, known as Church View Road, Segment 0180, Offset 0000, over Beaver Creek, South Woodbury Township, Bedford County, as the PFC/POW William G. Koontz Memorial Bridge. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 580 Gillespie, Keith](#) - (PN 616) Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in registration of vehicles, permitting owners of historic military vehicles to obtain Historic Military Vehicle License Plates. Effective in 120 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 834 Marshall, Jim](#) - (PN 916) Act designating a bridge on that portion of State Route 588 over Interstate 376, Chippewa Township, Beaver County, as the TFC Blake T. Coble Memorial Bridge. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.


- 30 -

### **Senate and House Transportation Committees**

*3/21/17, 9:30 a.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building*

By Jeff Cox, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committees held a public hearing on highly automated vehicles (HAV) testing legislation.

 [SB 427 Vulakovich, Randy](#) - (PN 396) Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in operation of vehicles, adding a chapter providing for highly automated vehicles and platooning testing. Portions are effective in 45 days and the remainder is effective in 90 days.

[Dr. Raj Rajkumar](#), a professor at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), offered a brief overview of the societal benefits of vehicle automation and CMU's history as "a birthplace of highly automated vehicles" with work dating back to the early 1980s. He explained that the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) has defined five levels of automation. These include:

- **Level 0:** No automation
- **Level 1:** Some driver assistance
- **Level 2:** Partial automation
- **Level 3:** Conditional automation
- **Level 4:** High automation

- **Level 5:** Full automation

Dr. Rajkumar told committee members there are three fundamental considerations for the legislature: public safety, technological innovation, and economic development. He offered some recommendations on legislation. Dr. Rajkumar said, "The question for the legislation is which additional new testing and deployment modalities should be permitted." He asserted, "On-road testing under real-world traffic conditions is absolutely essential to gaining experience and fixing problems." Dr. Rajkumar also argued, "HAV legislation would benefit tremendously from built-in flexibility." He explained, "Since the technology is progressing rapidly, we will gain by not cornering ourselves into a rigid and inflexible position." Dr. Rajkumar added, "We need to be able to relax constraints when the technology proves itself to be reliable and, at the same time, if mishaps and harmful incidents occur more frequently than imagined, we may need to impose more restrictions." He concluded, "Rules, instead of being set in stone, can build in evolutionary flexibility so that any restrictions can either be relaxed or strengthened, as developments warrant.

Sen. Vulakovich wanted to know how the Pittsburgh area and CMU stands with Uber compared to California. According to Dr. Rajkumar, California has been very aggressive because they have Silicon Valley there and many global carmakers have a physical presence there so California wants to continue to be perceived and be the leading place for the development of this technology. He added that Pittsburgh and CMU would like to see Pennsylvania keep pace and enable further testing on Pennsylvania roads so the technology can blossom. Sen. Vulakovich asked Dr. Rajkumar why he thinks Uber selected Pittsburgh and to work with CMU. Dr. Rajkumar responded that it is his understanding that at some point in time Uber determined that Pittsburgh and CMU was the place to be.

Rep. Rothman wanted to know if legislation was in place, how far along is the technology to get to Level 5 automation in Pennsylvania. Dr. Rajkumar estimated at least ten years. He explained it will take a while to develop the computers and programs needed. He noted the technology has been developed for Levels 3 and 4.

Minority Chairman Keller wanted to know what type of insurance is needed for the cars while they are being tested. Dr. Rajkumar explained that CMU basically carries its own insurance.

Sen. Stefano wanted to know what level CMU is currently testing in and how long will it take to get to Level 5 and beyond. Dr. Rajkumar they are currently at Level 2 or Level 3 depending on how it is interpreted.

[Ben Husch](#), Senior Committee Director, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), reported, "Currently, 11 states and the District of Columbia have passed some type of legislation related to autonomous vehicles and executive orders have been issued by the governors of Arizona and Massachusetts." He added, "But those numbers don't accurately represent the state activity because it does not give a full picture of everything going on across the country." Husch noted, "Companies are testing autonomous vehicles all across the US, including in states where the legislature has not yet passed any laws." He gave a brief overview of the developments in Nevada, California, Michigan, Arizona and Massachusetts. According to Husch, 20 states considered autonomous vehicle legislation in 2017 and thus far in 2017, 28 states have introduced 75 bills. He attributed the increased legislative activity to the release of the federal guidance last fall. Husch then briefly explained the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) "Federal Automated Vehicles Policy" (FAVP). He further explained that there are four sections in the FAVP and section 2 is entitled "Model State Policy" which "presents a roadmap for states to voluntarily use when determining how automated vehicle testing and possible deployment should be structured in their state." Husch noted this section is non-binding. He also pointed out another part of section 2 discusses the delineation of federal versus state authority when it comes to automated vehicles.

Chairman Rafferty wanted to know if any state has put into law a provision where the manufacturers of the HAVs would contribute to a fund that would educate the law enforcement community and first responders to update statutes to handle the HAVs. Husch responded, "I don't believe so off the top of my head but that issue is one that has been discussed at NCSL events." He added that although there has been no legislation he is aware of, it is an issue on many peoples' minds.

Chairman Taylor asked Husch if he has compared Senate Bill 427 to other states' statutes. Husch responded, "Yes." He added he also looked at how the legislation compares to other parts of section 2 of the FAVP and it follows the suggestions of section 2 closer than most other states. Chairman Taylor asked if there was anything particularly lacking in the bill. Husch responded, "Not to my knowledge."

Sen. Scavello asked what state has the largest number of these types of vehicles. Husch said that he did not know but he would try to get the information. He added his educated guess would be California or Nevada. Sen. Scavello wanted to know if all auto manufacturers are looking at this technology or if it is just one or two companies. Husch said it is being looked at by a number of car manufacturers and technology companies.

Rep. Matzie wanted to know the status of the FAVP and whether it is being updated with the change in presidential administrations. Husch explained that the career staff involved in writing the document is still in place but certain political appointments have not been made so it may push the timeline back.

Sen. Vulakovich commented on some of the liability issues involved with the development and deployment of the technology.

Sen. Brewster wanted to know if other states have addressed the insurance issue. Husch responded that they have not made a final determination in who would be considered the driver. He said that the guidance issued by NHTSA insinuated that a Level 3 vehicle the driver of the vehicle would be the driver but in a Level 4 the operating software would be considered the driver. Husch added that some states have put in a liability number that a tester would have to cover. Sen. Brewster wanted to know if there has been feedback from the insurance industry on the impact this technology could have on premiums. Husch responded that they have had discussions with the insurance industry.

Sen. Bartolotta wanted to know if there have been discussions in other states about cyber security. Husch said the almost every state is having that discussion. Sen. Bartolotta then asked about data collection and who is collecting the data. According to Husch, the issue of data sharing is addressed in section 1 of the FAVP.

Sen. Stefano asked if any of the other states are measuring the economic impact of their regulations. Husch replied, "Not to my knowledge but I would like to double-check and get back to you."

Rep. Kortz wanted to know if the states that have been testing the HAVs have had any crashes and if there have been any fatalities. Husch said that he is not aware of any fatalities during testing but there have been crashes involving HAVs.

[Kurt Myers](#), Deputy Secretary for Driver & Vehicle Services, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), testified, "HAV technology holds tremendous potential for improving the quality of life of our citizens." He continued, "HAVs offer new mobility options for our senior citizens and those with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from driving, environmental benefits in the form of reduced emissions and congestion, and of course, safety." Myers briefly discussed the activities of the Autonomous Vehicle Policy Tax Force established by PennDOT Secretary Leslie Richards, which he co-chairs. He told lawmakers the task force was created "with the goal of establishing a policy for the testing of HAV technology in Pennsylvania, with safety as its top priority." Myers reported that the task force's policy recommendations were released in late November. He commented, "The policy is, without a doubt, a 'living document' which be revised as needed over time." Myers acknowledged, "We understand that the policy will need to be revised once legislation is finalized and enacted." He reported that several of PennDOT's internal experts in the field of automated vehicles reviewed Senate Bill 427 and the department's comments are detailed in his written testimony.

[Major Edward Hoke](#), Director of the Bureau of Patrol, Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), noted, "Currently, there are no laws that enable, prohibit or regulate the testing of HAVs on commonwealth highways." He commented, "The absence of legislation creates an enforcement void that our existing statutes do not address." Major Hoke told lawmakers, "Establishing a legal framework is necessary for the safe and responsible testing of HAVs on our highways both now and in the future." He went onto say, "While new and innovative technologies continue to provide new opportunities that were difficult to conceptualize just a few years ago, they also bring about many new challenges." Concluding his testimony, Major Hoke commented, "No matter what those challenges may be the PSP remain committed to protecting and serving the citizens and visitors of this commonwealth, just as they have since 1905."

Sen. Scavello asked Major Hoke how a police officer pulls over a HAV. Major Hoke conceded that "this technology presents many challenges." He explained that most of the HAVs interested in testing on Pennsylvania roads would be Level 3s which require an operator to be seated behind the wheel of the vehicle. Sen. Scavello asked if an owner of a Level 5 vehicle be required to pay for a license. Myers responded, "There is no question this technology is

transformative and it can be disruptive." He suggested there will be an evolution from the standpoint of job responsibilities.

Noting individuals in Pennsylvania are required to obtain a learner's permit and are tested before receiving an operator's license, Rep. Harper asked if there is a need for establishing a framework to test each HAV. [Jason Sharp](#), Executive Deputy Chief Counsel, PennDOT, explained that it gets caught up in the question of whether the federal or state government has the authority to regulate vehicle safety versus the licensing of a driver. [Mark Kopko](#), Manager of Advance Vehicle Technology, PennDOT, explained that the task force recommended that the department could require a demonstration of the vehicle.

Rep. Kortz asked if people without a driver's license will be allowed to operate a HAV. Myers responded that the person could potentially be allowed to operate a Level 5 HAV.

Sen. Vulakovich asked about vehicle markings. Myers discussed the requirements in Nevada. He explained that PennDOT believes a HAV needs to be marked, registered and titled, which means they would have Pennsylvania license plate on them. Myers said the department is looking for some flexibility on how that vehicle is marked in consultation with the State Police.

Rep. Rothman wanted to know where Pennsylvania is in regard to allowing testing on public roads. Myers responded that Pennsylvania is clearly recognized as a leader nationally and internationally which he said is based on the fact PennDOT took a leadership role years ago. He added, "We are well-positioned at this point in time."

Minority Chairman Keller asked if the State Police has looked at the potential loss of fines due to this new technology. Major Hoke responded that the State Police's primary mission is highway safety and they believe this technology will save lives. Chairman Keller asked if any estimates have been done on the loss of fine revenue. Major Hoke responded, "No". He indicated it would be premature to do so now.

[Shari Shapiro](#), Public Policy Senior Manager, Uber Technologies, spoke about the economic benefits of self-driving technology. She explained that Uber opened its Advanced Technology Center in Pittsburgh in 2015. Shapiro reported, "Since then, we have invested hundreds of millions of dollars in research, testing and deployment of vehicles with self-driving technology." She pointed out, "In less than two years, we have created more than 500 local jobs, both blue- and white-collar." Shapiro observed, "Most importantly, we showed that Pennsylvania is a great place to start or grow an autonomous technology business." She went on to testify, "Unfortunately, in its current form, Senate Bill 427 creates upfront barriers to developing and deploying self-driving safety technology here without making Pennsylvanians any safer." Shapiro commented, "We believe that there are better ways to address key issues like safety, insurance, accident reporting, registration and titling, without needlessly restricting testing and deployment of vehicles without fully self-driving features." She concluded, "It is our hope that we can work with the committees to find a regulatory framework that allows companies like Uber to continue to develop technology that has the power to generate jobs, spur economic growth and save thousands of lives right here in Pennsylvania."

[Chan Lieu](#), Policy Advisor, Self-Driving Coalition for Safer Streets, testified that his group "wholeheartedly supports Pennsylvania's interest in fully autonomous vehicles (AV), but is deeply concerned that Senate Bill 427 would severely restrict the development and deployment of self-driving technology in the commonwealth." He asserted, "The coalition believes that this legislation is a well-intended effort to achieve the laudable goals of improved safety, mobility, congestion and productivity but falls short for several fundamental reasons." Lieu said, "As a result, we respectfully call upon the legislature to shift its consideration with respect to AV technology to explicitly include measures and steps that would facilitate greater testing and the rapid deployment of self-driving vehicle technology."

[Jeff Perry](#), Director of Public Policy, General Motors, testified, "At General Motors, we are committed to a safe transition to self-driving cars and have focused on developing a suite of technologies that range from active safety features to autonomous vehicles." He observed, "But before we deploy self-driving cars at the highest levels of self-driving automation, we need to capture and develop real-world experience in a safe environment." He added, "That is why it is vital that legislation is enacted to provide for the safe testing and deployment of self-driving technology." Perry concluded, "We believe that self-driving care legislation should encourage and foster innovation while also ensuring that safety is a top priority."

[Damon Shelby Porter](#), Director of State Government Affairs, Global Automakers, testified that his group opposes Senate Bill 427. He argued, "This bill is limited to testing but erects unnecessary barriers for companies seeking to test automated vehicles in the state." Porter also pointed out, "The bill would also limit the number of automated vehicles that may receive a testing permit, thereby limiting innovation." He asserted, "These barriers do nothing to support motor vehicle safety and would impede the development and testing of automated vehicles in Pennsylvania." Porter said, "We believe continued discussion and dialogue by the PennDOT task force is needed while automated vehicle testing continues and expands." He suggested, "After an appropriate time, when additional testing is completed and more questions are answered should policymakers consider whether legislation and if so, what legislation is required."

[Wayne Weikel](#), Senior Director of State Government Affairs, Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, told lawmakers, "Upon analysis and review, we believe Senate Bill 427 will only serve to obstruct the commonwealth's emerging automated vehicle technology industry, while offering no clear benefit to resident safety." He reported, "The alliance has urged policymakers to proceed carefully in creating new and broad legal frameworks, such as those proposed by Senate Bill 427 in its current form. Weikel continued, "It is because of these concerns that the Alliance strongly cautions the Legislature against imposing restrictive regulations that would serve to inhibit vehicle innovation and delay potential safety benefits." In his written testimony, Weikel provided the committees with a list of concepts which he said should be given "careful consideration."

Chairman Taylor wanted to know when the panelists' companies expect to put Level 5 vehicles on the street. Shapiro explained that there is no time line. She commented, "We will always be testing." Shapiro added, "That is why a testing bill makes no sense." Porter said that there is a critical role for states to play and there is a critical role for the federal government to play. He noted there has been automated technology in cars for 20 to 25 years. Porter spoke of the impact the legislation could have on another state. He explained that automobile manufacturers are building cars for all 50 states and they become concerned that one state will pass a law which could lead to the car only being able to be sold in one state. Lieu suggested taking the NHTSA approach as outlined in the FVAP.

Sen. Brewster commented that there are other areas in Pennsylvania waiting for the industries represented by the panelists. He said, "Pittsburgh is not the only game in town." Sen. Brewster added that he would like to see the industries' long-term strategic plan. Perry responded, "There are other parts of Pennsylvania hat would welcome us with open arms."

Myers reiterated the need for more flexibility in the legislation. He told lawmakers, "It is critical."

[Samuel Marshall](#), President and CEO, Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania, observed, "When insurers raise questions about regulating the testing of self-driving cars, we sometimes get portrayed as the Flintstones opining on the Jetsons." He said, "We're labeled as part of an outdated economy resisting change, with some suggesting we don't want self-driving cars because they'll be so safe that insurance will be obsolete." Marshall briefly reviewed the industry's record of promoting safety. He outlined what he described as "a few key considerations that should be expressly spelled out in any bill authorizing the experimental testing of self-driving cars on our roads." There consideration included:

- Spelling out the insurance requirements of HAV testers and operators and their liability in the event of an accident.
- Setting forth what an applicant has to submit to PennDOT and the standards PennDOT is to apply in reviewing the application.
- Clarifying the level of which an applicant is applying and how PennDOT will evaluate any change in those levels.
- Requiring an applicant to detail its cyber security procedures and having PennDOT have standards for measuring the adequacy of those procedures.
- Requiring an HAV tester immediately and regularly report to PennDOT any cyber security breach, computer malfunction or instances of human intervention or override.



- Clarifying and coordinating the roles of PennDOT and those of NHTSA and the Society of Automotive Engineers and any other states also allowing testing.

Marshall concluded, "This is a long, arduous and risky process and the regulation of it should be flexible and encouraging but also thorough and accountable, because this really is as risky as it is exciting." He noted the Insurance Federation's section-by-section comments on Senate Bill 427 are attached to his testimony.

Sen. Vulakovich wanted to know how to connect the insurance industry with PennDOT. Marshall explained, "Our first priority is safety." He also argued that if the vehicles are tested on public roads then the applicant to PennDOT should be liable. Sen. Vulakovich asked about the importance of research and data gathering. Marshall commented that PennDOT would need to know of any glitches that occur during testing.

Chairman Rafferty asked if there has been any discussion on what is a model state law when it comes to liability and insurance with this new technology. Marshall responded that the issue and the technology are still evolving. He added he could not say if any state has "great" laws in this regard.

The following provided written testimony to the committees:

- [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\)](#)
- [Ford Motor Company and ARGO AI](#)
- [Mercatus Center](#)
- [Pennsylvania AAA Federation](#)

#### **House Appropriations Committee**

*3/21/17, 12:00 p.m., Room 140 Main Capitol*

By Mike Howells, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

The committee met to consider legislation.

[HB 204 Jozwiak, Barry](#) - (PN 172) Amends Titles 51 (Military Affairs) and 74 (Transportation) establishing the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs as liaison for the Civil Air Patrol and supervise their expenditures of state funding as well as the maintenance and use of Commonwealth facilities used. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 215 Boback, Karen](#) - (PN 1030) Amends Title 75 (Vehicles) in registration of vehicles, creating a special registration plate for honoring women veterans of the US Armed Forces and creating a special registration plate for recipients of Legion of Merit. Further provides for the transfer of a portion of the women veteran's plate registration fee to be transferred to the Veterans' Trust Fund to be used for programs and resources that assist women veterans. Effective in 120 days. (Prior Printer Number: 342) - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 247 Sainato, Chris](#) - (PN 209) Amends Titles 51 (Military Affairs) and 75 (Vehicles) changing the Pennsylvania Veterans' Memorial Trust Fund to the Pennsylvania Veterans' Monuments and Memorial Trust Fund. The fund shall be administered by the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. Requires the money to be granted for the operation and maintenance of monuments as designated by the department in consultation with the State Veterans' Commission. Further provides the moneys in the fund shall be used for the promotion, administration, operation, maintenance and completion of the monuments and memorials dedicated to Pennsylvania veterans and military units. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.

[HB 188 Causer, Martin](#) - (PN 155) Amends Title 75 (Vehicles), in fees, further providing for exemption of persons, entities and vehicles from fees by increasing the income threshold to \$23,500. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was **reported as committed** with Representatives Kevin Boyle (D-Philadelphia), Tim Briggs (D-Montgomery), Mary Jo Daley (D-Montgomery), Ed Gainey (D-Allegheny), Patty Kim (D-Philadelphia), and Stephen Kinsey (D-Philadelphia) voting in the negative.



**House Judiciary Committee**

3/21/17, 10:00 a.m., Room 140 Main Capitol

By Kimberly Hess, Pennsylvania Legislative Services

Video:  [\(click here\)](#)

The committee met to consider bills.

[HB 741 Stephens, Todd](#) - (PN 807) Amends Titles 18 (Crimes and Offenses) and 42 (Judiciary and Judicial Procedure), in other offenses, further providing for drug trafficking sentencing and penalties; in sentencing authority, further providing for sentencing and penalties for trafficking drugs to minors and for drug free zones, further providing for sentences for offenses committed on public transportation, for sentences for offenses against elderly persons, for sentences for offenses against infant persons and for sentences for offenses committed while impersonating a law enforcement officer. The bill provides for application of mandatory minimum sentences for certain offenses. Also restores mandatory minimum sentencing provisions relating to violent crimes committed with firearms. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was **reported as committed** with Representatives Tim Briggs (D-Montgomery), Dawkins, Madeleine Dean (D-Montgomery), McClinton, and Miller voting in the negative.

Kane reported the contents of the bill passed the House in three different bills last session.

Rep. Todd Stephens (R-Montgomery) said the bill is a top priority for law enforcement and many victims. He was anxious to get the mandatory minimums put back in place "to rid us of dangerous criminals that are engaging in this conduct."

Rep. McClinton offered comments regarding the reintroduction of mandatory minimums. She referenced a letter from the District Attorneys Association and its discussion of mandatory minimums "working to improve public safety." She questioned this, asking "where has the safety improved?" Rep. McClinton also noted that judges are elected in Pennsylvania and they often say they want to exercise their discretion by using the tools available to them, plus Pennsylvania has sentencing guidelines. She argued people need to be sentenced as individuals and said if studies showed "rubber stamp" sentences lead to decreased recidivism she would support that, but argued that is not the case. "We've got all these sentences, yet nothing has changed," she concluded.

Rep. Madeleine Dean (D-Montgomery) spoke against the bill based on three reasons: public safety, tying hands of judges, and fiscal impact. She said research has shown that mandatory minimums do nothing to reduce recidivism. Further, she said, the minimums could cost upward of \$85 million. "The fiscal impact will be extraordinary and the prison population will begin to increase," she said. Further, Rep. Dean argued "we have judges for a reason" and they can use their wisdom based on the guidelines and facts in front of them. She quoted an article written by a judge who wrote that she felt more like a computer than a judge due to the restrictions of mandatories. Rep. Dean acknowledged the desire to help law enforcement, but concluded "the numbers just don't add up" and the fiscal impact would be "extraordinary on our already burdened budget."

Rep. Dom Costa (D-Allegheny) recalled his experience in law enforcement and opined that this bill will benefit in two ways: it sends a message to criminals, and it keeps police officers and communities safe while these people are incarcerated. He said he will be voting for the bill for those reasons, regardless of cost.

Rep. Jesse Topper (R-Bedford) disagreed with arguments that mandatories take away judicial oversight and argued that this is a check and balance on the judicial branch. "That cannot be the only branch that doesn't have these checks and balances," he argued. He supported the bill "without fear that we're overstepping our constitutional bounds."

Rep. Jeff Pyle (R-Armstrong) pointed out the bill reinstates mandatory minimums that have passed the House a number of times and argued that legislators are "a voice of the people... more so than the judges." As a "rookie" on the committee he argued "it is mandatory that we vote for this" to put penalties on actions that society thinks are unacceptable.

Rep. Barry Jozwiak (R-Berks) called the bill a "public safety issue," noting it targets only specific crimes.

Minority Chairman Joe Petrarca (D-Westmoreland) noted his support for the bill, but questioned if the vote is premature. He remarked more work needs to be done in the area of mandatory minimums.

Rep. Stephens remarked on the positive effects of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI), which allowed nonviolent offenders to be released or otherwise diverted, but argued "this is the flip side of the coin" and it deals with those committing violent crimes. Further, he pointed out that the legislature has already limited the discretion of judges by setting various sentencing parameters. He pointed out a top end for sentencing is set, but quipped he'd welcome an amendment to lift that all the way to life at the judge's discretion. He noted the many law enforcement groups that support the bill.

- 30 -

## PA Bulletin

### PENNDOT: VEHICLE EQUIPMENT AND INSPECTION

The Department of Transportation has proposed to amend Chapter 175 (relating to vehicle equipment and inspection) to delete outdated procedures, modernize language and include provisions that reflect modern vehicles and associated equipment, adding sanctions to enforce existing regulations and ensure safe vehicles remain the primary focus, providing clarification to inspection mechanics regarding frequently asked questions, and adding language that accurately reflects the current inspection process. A description and full text is available in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. The proposal, effective upon publication, is not projected to have any fiscal impact. Comments should be sent within 30 days to Anita M. Wasko, Director, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, 1101 South Front Street, 4th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17104. For technical questions, contact Kay Kishbaugh, Manager, Vehicle Inspection Division, 1101 South Front Street, 4th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17104, (717) 783-4597.

## Upcoming Events

### **House Democratic Policy Committee (PUBLIC HEARING)**

*TUESDAY - 3/28/17; 2:00 p.m., Sharpsburg Borough Building, Council Chambers, 1611 Main Street, Pittsburgh*  
Public hearing with Rep. Dom Costa on towing regulations

### **PA Turnpike Commission**

*April 3, 2017 - 10:00 a.m. \*\*Rescheduled from 4/4/17\*\* ; Turnpike Admin. Bldg, Large Board Room, 700 S. Eisenhower Blvd., 3rd Fl., Middletown*  
Commission Meeting. For additional information: (717) 831-7333

### **State Board of Vehicle Manufacturers, Dealers and Salespersons**

*April 4, 2017 - 9:00 a.m.; 2601 North Third Street, Harrisburg*  
Board Meeting. For additional information: (717) 783-1697

### **PA Public Utility Commission**

*April 6, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.; Commonwealth Keystone Building, Hearing Room 1, 400 North St., Harrisburg*  
Public Meeting. For additional information: (717) 783-1740

## Session Schedule

### **Senate**

March 27, 28, 29  
April 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26  
May 8, 9, 10, 22, 23, 24  
June 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

### **House**

April 3, 4, 5, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26  
May 8, 9, 10, 22, 23, 24  
April 3, 4, 5, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26  
May 8, 9, 10, 22, 23, 24  
June 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

## In the News

- 03-23-2017 [Wolf Administration Thanks Crews for Winter Efforts, Unique Assistance During...](#)  
(Press Release)
- 03-23-2017 [PENNDOT: State, Local Police Participate in Aggressive-Driving Enforcement...](#)  
(Press Release)
- 03-23-2017 [PDA: Farmers' Markets bring taste of Pennsylvania to toll-road travelers...](#)  
(Press Release)
- 03-23-2017 [Pa. Turnpike Commission halts work on Mon-Fayette Expressway project](#)  
The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission has halted work on a 14-mile extension of the Mon-Fayette Expressway into Allegheny County after a planning agency tabled the project in concluding that the highway would not help meet Pittsburgh's transportation needs. The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission on Monday put off a vote on the... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Turnpike Commission halts work on Mon-Fayette Expressway](#)  
Despite having spent at least \$16 million planning the last leg of the Mon-Fayette Expressway, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission is halting work in response to concerns raised this week by regional leaders. The expressway, estimated to cost \$2.2 billion, would connect Route 51 in... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Westmoreland transit authority extends contract for fixed-route bus system](#)  
The Westmoreland County Transit Authority awarded a one-year extension to the private company that operates its fixed-route bus system. The authority's contract with National Express Transit Co. was set to expire at the end of June, but the extension approved Wednesday will grant... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 03-23-2017 [The Thursday wrap](#)  
At a time when allegations of medical malpractice are often followed by court settlements, the first in a series of lawsuits filed against Excela Health and two doctors over allegations that the docs routinely performed unnecessary heart surgeries didn't exactly unfold as some people... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Apartment building planned on former St. Joe's land near Overbrook Station](#)  
An affiliate of developer Jason Dempsey plans a 63-unit apartment building on land acquired last year from St. Joseph's University, across the street from Overbrook Station on SEPTA's Regional Rail line. The affiliate, 6300 City Line DP Partners LP, is proposing a five-story... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 03-23-2017 [What travel experts are saying about the airline electronics ban](#)  
A new security protocol banning most electronic items, except cellphones, from airplane cabins on U.S.-bound flights from 10 airports in the Middle East and Africa has raised questions about airline safety, national security, and whether a limited ban can be effective.... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 03-23-2017 [What travel experts are saying about the airline electronics ban](#)  
A new security protocol banning most electronic items, except cellphones, from airplane cabins on U.S.-bound flights from 10 airports in the Middle East and Africa has raised questions about airline safety, national security, and whether a limited ban can be effective.... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

- 03-23-2017 [Lehigh Valley Auto Show opens Thursday](#)  
 BETHLEHEM — Workers kept busy Wednesday detailing cars, removing the white front-hood tape off new models and putting finishing touches on their displays ahead of Thursday's opening of the 20th Lehigh Valley Auto Show. The 2017 show, which runs through Sunday at Lehigh University's Stabler... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Penn State students meet General Motors sustainability director](#)  
 Down the hill from Beaver Stadium on Penn State's campus sits a home, but not an ordinary one. It's a 100 percent renewable energy-powered home, called MorningStar Solar Home. No one lives there; it was built for the 2007 Solar Decathlon and utilized for educational purposes.... - [State College Centre Daily Times](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Speaking of addiction . . .](#)  
 As an enabler of casino gambling, state government is partly responsible for thousands of cases of gambling addiction. Its half-hearted acknowledgment of that responsibility includes using some of its vigorish from slot machines and table games for public service announcements and a... - [Scranton Times](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Mystery debris from iconic bridge shatters back window, startles couple](#)  
 Some sort of debris fell Monday from a bridge 163 feet above a major Abingtons thoroughfare and shattered the back window of a sedan driven by a Scranton couple going out for dinner. "We were sitting at a light a little bit before the bridge and you hear a boom and then the car goes up and down," Patricia Gary said. "I... - [Scranton Times](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Turnpike officials freeze Mon/Fayette extension in response to SPC](#)  
 Saying it was not its place to advocate a project, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission said Tuesday night that it has stopped engineering work on the proposed 14-mile, \$2 billion-plus extension of the Mon/Fayette Expressway from Jefferson Hills to Monroeville. "The PA Turnpike... - [Uniontown Herald-Standard](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Great idea!](#)  
 Tired of paying those exorbitant tolls to drive the Pennsylvania Turnpike, particularly the local Mon-Fayette Expressway section? Well, relief could be on the way. State Rep. Perry Warren, D-Yardley, has introduced legislation to establish a commuter-and-commerce toll tax-credit... - [Uniontown Herald-Standard](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Turnpike Commission suspends design work on Mon-Fayette Expressway](#)  
 The state Turnpike Commission will suspend engineering and design work on the final section of the Mon-Fayette Expressway in Allegheny County because of a decision Monday by regional transportation planners to table the project. The announcement followed the decision by the Southwestern Pennsylvania... - [Washington Observer-Reporter](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Repairs coming to Lebanon Valley Rail Trail](#)  
 Lebanon County transportation planner Jon Fitzkee points out what parts of the Lebanon Valley Rail Trail will be repaired this spring as purchasing agent Dennis Firestone prepares to open bids at last week's Lebanon County commissioners' meeting.(Photo: John Latimer, Lebanon Daily News)Buy Photo... - [Lebanon Daily News](#)
- 03-23-2017 [\\$11.3M project to rehab Interstate 79 bridges over Conneaut Swamp](#)  
 GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP — An \$11.3 million rehabilitation project is expected to begin Monday, giving motorists a smoother ride on the twin bridges that carry Interstate 79 over the Conneaut Swamp. Deck preservation work on the two 3,600-foot-long bridges will be performed... - [Meadville Tribune](#)
- 03-23-2017 [Long-term funding issues remain as Senate moves \\$7.8B transportation budget](#)

The Ohio Senate today approved a new two-year, \$7.8 billion transportation budget that directs more funding for public transit and local projects, but still lacks a long-term plan for funding growing transportation needs in a state that touts logistics as a core economic strength.... - [Columbus Dispatch](#)

03-23-2017

**[SEPTA Looking To Buy Dozens Of New Rail Cars From Chinese Manufacturer](#)**

PHILADELPHIA (CBS) — When the SEPTA Board meets Thursday, it is expected to approve a plan to buy new coaches for its regional rails to meet what the Authority calls “unprecedented ridership growth,” up 52%, since 2000. SEPTA staff recommends acquiring 45 bi-level coaches from CRRC, a... - [KYW News Radio 1060](#)

03-23-2017

**[Ephrata, Warwick townships work to refurbish old railroad bridge as part of Rail Trail](#)**

Hikers and bikers soon will be able to travel off road from Ephrata to Lititz, as the Warwick-to-Ephrata Rail Trail nears completion. The last section remaining is a 1.5-mile section from Picnic Woods Road east to Millway Road in Ephrata Township. That part of the abandoned rail... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)

03-23-2017

**[All school districts ought to invest in new system that tracks kids who ride on school buses](#)**

THE ISSUE Three Lancaster County school districts have implemented, or are in the process of implementing, a service that requires all students riding school buses to scan their school-issued identification cards upon entering and exiting the bus, LNP reported Monday. In addition to the scanner, the... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)

03-23-2017

**[Rail cars slip from tracks in Susquehanna Township](#)**

Some freight cars slipped off the tracks in Susquehanna Township Thursday morning, but vehicular traffic has not been affected in the area. The incident occurred near the Linglestown Road exit of Route 322. Additional information was not immediately available.... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)

03-23-2017

**[Route 93: it's all downhill from here](#)**

Route 93 is a 41-mile stretch of road that starts at the intersection of Route 209 in the borough of Nesquehoning, goes through other sections of Carbon County and then into Luzerne before ending in Columbia County. The 2-mile section from the top of Broad Mountain to the Route 209... - [Lehighon Times News](#)

03-23-2017

**[INDIANA COUNTY: Commissioners approve parks and trails upgrades](#)**

The Indiana County commissioners Wednesday approved several significant improvement projects for Indiana County Parks & Trails. The commissioners accepted a bid of \$235,000 from Vince Building Company, of Greensburg, to construct steps and platforms at the Buttermilk Falls... - [Indiana Gazette](#)

03-23-2017

**[No thrill to these chases: rethink police pursuits](#)**

Would you know when to pull the plug on a car chase that was beginning to look like a scene out of an action movie? We're not sure we would, but that's a decision police officers — from state troopers to your local traffic cops — face far too often for comfort.... - [Butler Eagle](#)

03-23-2017

**[SEPTA police increasing after-school presence following brawls](#)**

SEPTA police officers will soon begin riding all subway trains in Philadelphia between 3 and 7 p.m. in an attempt to reduce the frequency of after-school fights among teenagers, Chief Thomas Nestel III said Thursday. In announcing the arrest of 10 teenage boys for a fight at a Center City... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

03-22-2017

**[Pa. lawmakers try to keep pace with self-driving cars](#)**

HARRISBURG — Laws will never be nimble enough to keep up with the rapid innovations of the

automated vehicle industry, said representatives of car and technology companies at a hearing Tuesday during which they urged legislators to be flexible as they craft the state's first laws... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

- 03-22-2017 [TRAFFIC ALERT: Landslide closes eastbound lanes of Route 22 in Monroeville](#)  
 Motorists traveling eastbound on Route 22 in Monroeville should expect delays while PennDOT workers clean up debris and inspect a hillside that collapsed Tuesday. The landslide occurred near a bird supply store at the Northern Pike overpass shortly before 1 p.m.... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 03-22-2017 [We need leaders who have foresight on transit](#)  
 I was disappointed to read that the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission postponed action on the long-overdue Mon-Fayette Expressway connection to Pittsburgh ("Vote on Mon-Fay Expressway Tabled," March 21). When one visits other cities, one drives on modern, limited-access highways. In... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Pennsylvania puzzles over how to regulate driverless car testing](#)  
 Pennsylvania lawmakers' latest attempt to regulate the testing of self-driving cars met resistance Tuesday during a joint session of the Senate and House Transportation committees. Representatives from Uber, General Motors, industry groups representing automakers, PennDOT, Carnegie Mellon University and others cautioned... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Route 30 target of police patrols to chase down aggressive drivers](#)  
 Township police Officer Ted Kukich activated the lights and sirens in his unmarked car to chase down a driver Tuesday on State Route 30 in North Huntingdon. Once the ticket was written and the recipient drove off, it wasn't long before Kukich nabbed another.... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Taken for a ride? Driverless cars, ethics, and public health](#)  
 Janet Fleetwood, PhD, MPH, Drexel's Dornsife School of Public Health Driverless cars, or "autonomous vehicles," are the next big thing in transportation. They have a lot going for them, not least in the critical public health arena of saving lives. Yet they also raise a series... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Letters: Put an end to the Philadelphia Parking Authority](#)  
 Put an end to the PPA The actions of the Philadelphia Parking Authority executive director in the hiring her daughter's housemate show that the PPA is beyond reform ("PPA boss can do better," Tuesday). The only real solution is dissolution, which is easily accomplished. Operation of the PPA's parking facilities can be... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Mass.-based company with Chinese backing beats local group for SEPTA car contract](#)  
 SEPTA plans to order 45 new Regional Rail cars this week, a purchase designed to reduce crowding and improve service on the commuter rail lines. The contract is expected to go to CRRC MA, a subsidiary of a major railcar manufacturer in China but a new player in the United States. The company... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Pa. Senate passes Market Street Bridge renaming bill despite Harrisburg officials' opposition](#)  
 Despite the fact that only small portion of the Market Street Bridge over the Susquehanna River sits in Cumberland County, the state Senate voted on Tuesday to rename the bridge after a late senator from that county. The controversial bridge-naming bill, sponsored by Sen. Mike Regan, R-York... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Sewer line break caused depression that sidelined bus near Capitol](#)



It could take a day or two to repair the broken sewer line that trapped a bus this morning on State Street in Harrisburg. While it was initially thought to be a sinkhole, the depression was actually caused by the broken sewer pipe, said Andrew Bliss of Capital... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)

- 03-22-2017 [Air show returns to Wilkes-Barre/Scranton airport](#)  
Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport will host an air show this summer for the first time in 17 years. The annual air show regularly drew large crowds between 1983 and 2000, when it was suspended for construction of the new terminal and never returned.... - [Scranton Times](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Authority tables decision to sell rail lines](#)  
WEST PITTSTON — A decision on whether or not to sell Luzerne County-owned rail lines for scrap was tabled Tuesday for further review. The Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority — with only three of its five members present — voted 3-0 to table a vote on accepting a... - [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Air Show coming back to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Airport](#)  
It took 17 years, but an air show is finally returning to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport, Luzerne County Councilman Rick Williams said Tuesday. Williams didn't know all the details of the air show and referred a Times Leader reporter to Airport Director Carl Beardsley, who is out of the... - [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Authority tables decision to sell rail lines](#)  
WEST PITTSTON — A decision on whether or not to sell Luzerne County-owned rail lines for scrap was tabled Tuesday for further review. The Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority — with only three of its five members present — voted 3-0 to table a vote on accepting a... - [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Tabling saved funding for Mon/Fayette extension, SPC members say](#)  
Unanswered questions prompted Monday's tabling of plans to add the northern extension of the Mon/Fayette Expressway to two Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission long-range proposals. "It was clear to see that if it was voted on (Monday) it would have failed," Washington County Board of Commissioners Vice Chairman Diana... - [Uniontown Herald-Standard](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Berks radar signs help drivers slow down \(POLL\)](#)  
If you're going too fast down the hill on Penn Avenue toward the West Shore Bypass cloverleaf in West Reading, you'll know it. An electronic sign shouts your speed in red numerals: "32-33-34 mph." Then it gets to the point, flashing, "SLOW DOWN." If nothing else, it makes you... - [Reading Eagle](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Absurd federal regulations increase cost to travelers](#)  
As a Pennsylvania Turnpike EZ Pass user, I just received a letter advising us of a change. If you are also a user, you know that as you proceed through the toll booth, a green light lights to tell you your toll has been paid. But now the Turnpike is removing those lights, and you can guess if... - [Beaver County Times](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Time to get moving on freeway extension](#)  
Which will happen first: The Mon-Fayette Expressway will be completed, or humanity will make the six-month journey to Mars and successfully plant its boots on the Red Planet? Right now, we're putting our money on Mars. The idea of extending the Mon-Fayette Expressway first became a gleam in... - [Washington Observer-Reporter](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Lawmakers consider rules for driverless cars](#)  
HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania has yet to pass any laws spelling out rules for driverless cars, even as autonomous vehicles have begun to hit the road in Pittsburgh. Uber, the ride-hailing

service, began using autonomous vehicles in a pilot program in Pittsburgh last fall.... - [Sunbury Daily Item](#)

03-22-2017

**[Highway section dedicated to Civil War-era Battery B](#)**

The 9 miles between Mount Jackson and Enon Valley will be renamed Battery B Memorial Highway, honoring Civil War veterans who traveled the road when they went to war. Judy Foster, president of the Enon Valley Community Historical Society, will preside at the dedication set for at 10 a.m. April 1 at the Little... - [New Castle News](#)

03-22-2017

**[Lawmakers consider rules for driverless cars](#)**

HARRISBURG — Pennsylvania has yet to pass any laws spelling out rules for driverless cars, even as autonomous vehicles have begun to hit the road in Pittsburgh. Uber, the ride-hailing service, began using autonomous vehicles in a pilot program in Pittsburgh last fall.... - [Meadville Tribune](#)

03-22-2017

**[Aggressive driving patrols underway](#)**

Washington Township Police along with 40 other municipal law enforcement agencies from across south central Pennsylvania will join the Pennsylvania State Police to conduct the second targeted aggressive driving enforcement wave through April 30. Motorists in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon,... - [Waynesboro Record Herald](#)

03-22-2017

**[Trump Says Regulations Impede. Perhaps Not in the Electric Car Business](#)**

And it's happening now in cars. Vehicles powered by electricity keep getting better. Electric cars are getting less expensive, their range is increasing, and the infrastructure to sell, charge and maintain them is improving. As a result, electric cars keep getting more popular, even in a... - [New York Times](#)

03-22-2017

**[Uber Board Stands by Travis Kalanick as It Reveals Plans to Repair Its Image](#)**

Because Uber rarely puts together such calls for the news media, the one on Tuesday reflects how the company is working to seize control of its image after a rough start to the year. In recent weeks, Uber's reputation was badly damaged after a former employee published a scathing blog post... - [New York Times](#)

03-22-2017

**[Laws allowing guns in parking lots, driving through red lights take effect](#)**

Employers can no longer forbid workers from bringing guns on company property if the weapons remain locked in vehicles under a new law that took effect Tuesday. Meanwhile, ticketing drivers for going through red lights just got more complicated under a separate law that also took effect today — though... - [Columbus Dispatch](#)

03-22-2017

**[The Heron's Nest: Downside of fixing 322; solutions in Chester; winter of discontent on sports scene](#)**

Call it the cloud that accompanies every silver lining. I was struck by the reaction of many readers to news that after decades of talk, the state is finally starting work to fix what is often referred as the "Killer Conchester," the stretch of Route 322 that runs from... - [Primos Delaware County Daily and Sunday Times](#)

03-22-2017

**[Delco Software Company Uses Beer, Drones To Tout 'Cloud' Future Of Business](#)**

NEWTOWN SQUARE (CBS) –Drones, virtual reality goggles, voice-activated personal assistants: they're already in many homes. Now a software company based in Newtown Square, Delaware County is making a push to put that tech in the hands of businesses — by way of the cloud.... - [KYW News Radio 1060](#)

03-22-2017

**[The complications of marijuana and DUI](#)**

Regarding Sam Janesch's March 7 article ("Pa's top fiscal officer: Legalize it"): Although I'm not opposed to the idea of legalizing recreational marijuana, I wonder how it would work in DUI

cases. With alcohol, a blood test determines the amount of alcohol in a person,... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)

- 03-22-2017 [House advances bill to expand vehicle registration discount for seniors](#)  
HARRISBURG — Rep. Martin Causer’s effort to expand eligibility for the state’s reduced-fee vehicle registration program was approved Tuesday by the state House and now awaits action in the Senate. “It’s been nearly two decades since the income limit for this... - [Bradford Era](#)
- 03-22-2017 [Group studies rail trail through Cumberland, York counties](#)  
A group is trying to figure out if it’s possible to build a 7-mile trail through Cumberland and York counties and if there is support. The trail would follow along the Dillsburg branch of the old Cumberland Valley Railroad that existed in the 19th and 20th centuries. Although the... - [Carlisle Sentinel](#)
- 03-22-2017 [House Transportation](#)  
*3/22/17, 9:00 a.m., Room 205 Ryan Office Building*  
By Jeff Cox, Pennsylvania Legislative Services The committee met to consider bills. HB 93 (PN 603) Act designating a portion of State Route 93 from the boundary line between Berwick Borough and Briar Creek Borough, Columbia County, to the boundary line between Orangeville Borough and Orange Township, Columbia County, as the Stuart Tank Memorial Highway. Effective in 60 days. - The bill was unanimously **reported as committed**.
- 03-21-2017 [Warren calls for toll tax credits for commuters, businesses](#)  
(Press Release)
- 03-21-2017 [Matzie: Automated vehicles discussed in Harrisburg.](#)  
(Press Release)
- 03-21-2017 [House adopts Schweyer resolution honoring Pa. transit workers](#)  
(Press Release)
- 03-21-2017 [PennDot: Online Public Meeting to be Held Tomorrow, Public Encouraged to...](#)  
(Press Release)
- 03-21-2017 [House & Senate Transportation - Department of Transportation \(PennDOT\)](#)  
(Testimony)
- 03-21-2017 [House & Senate Transportation - National Conference of State Legislatures](#)  
(Testimony)
- 03-21-2017 [House & Senate Transportation - Pennsylvania AAA Federation](#)  
(Testimony)
- 03-21-2017 [House & Senate Transportation - Mercatus Center](#)  
(Testimony)
- 03-21-2017 [House & Senate Transportation - Insurance Federation of Pennsylvania](#)  
(Testimony)
- 03-21-2017 [House & Senate Transportation - Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers](#)  
(Testimony)
- 03-21-2017 [House & Senate Transportation - General Motors](#)

(Testimony)

03-21-2017

[House & Senate Transportation - Self-Driving Coalition](#)

(Testimony)

03-21-2017

[House & Senate Transportation - Carnegie Mellon University](#)

(Testimony)

03-21-2017

[House & Senate Transportation - Ford Motor Company and ARGO AI](#)

(Testimony)

03-21-2017

[House & Senate Transportation - Pennsylvania State Police](#)

(Testimony)

03-21-2017

[House & Senate Transportation - NHTSA](#)

(Testimony)

03-21-2017

[House & Senate Transportation - Global Automakers](#)

(Testimony)

03-21-2017

[House & Senate Transportation - Uber](#)

(Testimony)

03-21-2017

[Most electronics being banned on certain U.S.-bound flights](#)

WASHINGTON — At least two foreign airlines and the Cairo airport said Tuesday it has not changed its policies regarding electronics in aircraft cabins, suggesting it has not received new directives from American authorities... - [AP](#)

03-21-2017

[Commission tables vote on extending Mon-Fayette Expressway](#)

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission on Monday put off a vote on the future of the \$1.6 billion extension of the Mon-Fayette Expressway to find out whether the money can be used for other projects in the region. For decades, the expressway has been viewed as the savior for the... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

03-21-2017

[Cooling it: Zappala's guidelines for police chases are sound](#)

New guidelines for police chases released last week by Allegheny County District Attorney Stephen A. Zappala Jr. promote common sense and public safety. While police departments are not required to follow them, any police force that cares for its citizens should incorporate the main idea... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

03-21-2017

[Uber president quits abruptly after string of company scandals](#)

SAN FRANCISCO — In another sign of the turmoil sweeping Uber, the company's president of ride-sharing has quit after less than a year on the job, following a string of scandals at the startup and CEO Travis Kalanick's promise to hire a new second-in-command... - [AP](#)

03-21-2017

[Mon-Fayette Expressway decision delayed](#)

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission members will wait before deciding whether to include the Mon-Fayette Expressway completion in their long range plan. The proposed project would connect I-376 near Monroeville with Route 51 in Jefferson Hills at an estimated cost of \$2.16 billion, according to... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)

03-21-2017

[Work on bridge, which Bell fire department can't cross because of weight limit, a long way off](#)

A bridge that forced firetrucks from Bell Township to take a 6-mile detour to a blaze across the Kiski River over the weekend is on PennDOT's radar to be repaired or replaced — but the work isn't expected to start for years. Trucks from the Bell Township Fire Department, only a mile away from the... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)

03-21-2017

**[Alle-Kiski Valley bridges, landslides on PennDOT's radar](#)**

PennDOT will replace three bridges and repair two landslides in the Alle-Kiski Valley's Allegheny County communities this year and next, the agency announced Monday. A few state roads in the Valley are scheduled to be resurfaced. They are included in 32 projects expected to cost \$220 million, intended to... - [Tarentum Valley News Dispatch](#)

03-21-2017

**[Tuesday takes](#)**

Lock this down: The locks and dams on the lower Monongahela River offer a prima facie case for infrastructure investment. They're among the oldest facilities of their kind, dating back to the beginning of the last century. Yet funding to improve cargo navigation on the lower Mon has been declining... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)

03-21-2017

**[Long airport lines of spring break 2016 are not back](#)**

What a difference a year can make. Just ahead of the busy summer travel season, lines are shorter at U.S. airports getting through security screening. Although airlines and airports are urging fliers to get to the airport two hours early for domestic flights and three hours for international trips,... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

03-21-2017

**[Boeing seeks \\$30 million grant for V-22 mod workshop in Ridley Park](#)**

The Boeing Co. is seeking a state grant to help transform a vacant industrial building at its Ridley Park manufacturing plant into a massive aircraft-modification workshop, saying the site may be overlooked for a lucrative, job-sustaining military contract if the facility isn't... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

03-21-2017

**[Passengers at Lehigh Valley airport may no longer have to ditch water bottles](#)**

A way to keep the TSA off your back. For those who have had the frustration of having their water bottles snatched by airport security, Lehigh Valley International Airport might have a solution. The airport, with help from Easton Hospital, has installed water refilling... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)

03-21-2017

**[Concerns voiced before critical Mon-Fayette Expressway vote](#)**

The future of the \$1.6 billion Mon-Fayette Expressway faces a crucial vote Monday, and two top local leaders say they aren't convinced the project should move ahead. Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto say they are concerned about the huge price tag and expected 25-year build... - [State College Centre Daily Times](#)

03-21-2017

**[Unused rail line due to be sold](#)**

WEST PITTSBURGH — About eight miles of unused railroad line in Luzerne and Lackawanna counties is up for sale. The Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority is scheduled to vote today whether to approve a sale, but authority executive director Andrew Reilly said he will suggest the board table that action.... - [Scranton Times](#)

03-21-2017

**[Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority mulls selling rail from train tracks](#)**

If you go The Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority will meet at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday at the authority building, 16 Luzerne Ave., West Pittston. The Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority can make \$286,500 by selling approximately 8.11 miles of unused steel rail from train tracks to a... - [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#)

03-21-2017

**[SPC tables adding northern end of Mon/Fayette Expressway to transportation plan](#)**

Despite opposition from officials in counties served by the existing Mon/ Fayette Expressway,

the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission tabled a recommendation to build its fourth and final stage from Jefferson Hills to Monroeville. "We need to finish the Mon/Fayette Expressway," Fayette County Board of... - [Uniontown Herald-Standard](#)

03-21-2017

**[City dismissed from suit over Erie boy's traffic death](#)**

A judge finds no fault in the placement of a stop sign at East 10th and Wallace streets. Upset neighbors focused on a stop sign posted on a utility pole after a 6-year-old boy was killed when he biked into the intersection at East 10th and Wallace streets in June 2011.... - [Erie Times-News](#)

03-21-2017

**[Lehigh Valley road named for Marine Corps veteran who battled PTSD](#)**

U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Joshua B. Smith served for eight years, and was a veteran of Afghanistan. A year after his honorable discharge in 2011, Smith took his own life, on Nov. 5, 2012. His family attributed his death to post-traumatic stress disorder attributed to his time in the service, and he also faced a traumatic brain... - [Easton Express-Times](#)

03-21-2017

**[E-ZPass doesn't seem to be working? Pa. Turnpike explains why](#)**

It's become habit for E-ZPass users getting off the Pennsylvania Turnpike at a toll. Pull into an E-ZPass lane and wait for the green light to signal that your transponder's been read. Get on with your trip. But the lights are going away, and the turnpike commission wants to alert... - [Easton Express-Times](#)

03-21-2017

**[PennDOT to spend \\$55 million on local road, bridge projects this year](#)**

The first day of spring officially arrived on Monday, and with it came news of an abundance of road and bridge projects that will affect county residents through the summer and fall. PennDOT will spend an estimated \$55 million on 11 projects in Beaver County... - [Beaver County Times](#)

03-21-2017

**[Agency tables vote on Mon-Fayette project](#)**

Completion of the Mon-Fayette Expressway is on hold – still. Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission had planned to vote Monday on the future of the \$2.1 billion project, considered to be vital to the Monongahela Valley. But the agency, representing 10 counties, tabled that... - [Washington Observer-Reporter](#)

03-21-2017

**[PennDOT to rehab Elizabeth Bridge in Mon Valley](#)**

Construction crews will begin working this summer to repair the Elizabeth Bridge that will allow weight restrictions to be removed from the span that carries traffic on Route 51 over the Monongahela River in Allegheny County. Work on the \$32 million project is expected to start in late July and... - [Washington Observer-Reporter](#)

03-21-2017

**[PennDOT looking at 150 miles of bike trails on Rt. 6](#)**

PennDOT is aiming to improve "bicycle safety, accessibility and connectivity" along Route 6. And a set of guidelines — put together in the form of a design guide — describe how to do it along 150 miles of Route 6 and 6N from the Ohio border to the McKean/Potter county line.... - [Warren Times Observer](#)

03-21-2017

**[AOAA looking to move location of non-motorized trailhead](#)**

BY LARRY DEKLINSKI THE NEWS-ITEM larry\_d@newsitem.com BURNSIDE — A \$222,000 grant awarded in November 2013 to the Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA) for mountain bike trail development might be returned. - [Shamokin News-Item](#)

03-21-2017

**[Trail group sets clean-up](#)**

The Wampum Chapter of the North Country Trail Association will meet at 1 p.m. Sunday at the Wampum Depot Train Station, for the 2017 Great American Clean-up of Pennsylvania. The station is located at 303 Main St., Wampum. The trail's route into town runs along Route 18 from the west and the... - [New Castle News](#)



- 03-21-2017 [Repairs coming to Lebanon Valley Rail Trail](#)  
 An 8-mile portion of the Lebanon Valley Rail Trail will be getting some maintenance in the coming months. Lebanon County transportation planner Jon Fitzkee points out what parts of the Lebanon Valley Rail Trail will be repaired this spring as purchasing agent Dennis Firestone prepares to open bids at last week's Lebanon County... - [Lebanon Daily News](#)
- 03-21-2017 [PennDOT planning \\$70.1M enhancements to 150 miles of Route 6](#)  
 As part of its effort to improve bicycle safety, accessibility and connectivity along Route 6, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has completed a report outlining enhancements for the route's 150 miles from the Ohio border to the McKean/Potter county line, as well as Route 6N... - [Meadville Tribune](#)
- 03-21-2017 [U.S. unveils new restrictions on travelers from eight Muslim-majority countries](#)  
 Passengers traveling to the United States from 10 airports in eight Muslim-majority countries will be prohibited from bringing laptops, tablets and other portable electronic devices on board with them when they fly, according to new rules set to take effect Tuesday.... - [Washington Post](#)
- 03-21-2017 [Two more Uber executives call it quits](#)  
 The president of Uber and another prominent executive are leaving the company in the latest sign of tumult as the ride-hailing service continues to grapple with months of scandal. In the past three months, senior leaders in departments that oversee marketing, engineering, artificial intelligence and product development... - [Washington Post](#)
- 03-21-2017 [Ohio Senate directs more funds to local road projects](#)  
 More state fuel tax money would be diverted for local road and bridge projects, and county officials would need the OK from voters before approving a new vehicle registration fee under transportation budget changes Monday by the Senate. A Senate committee altered or scrapped several of the House-passed changes... - [Columbus Dispatch](#)
- 03-21-2017 [Columbia-based Department 13 develops software to thwart drone threats](#)  
 Drones have carried explosives for terrorists overseas, dropped contraband into prisons and even landed on the White House lawn. As the use of drones becomes more pervasive with businesses and hobbyists, the safety and security challenges associated with the unmanned aerial... - [Baltimore Sun](#)
- 03-21-2017 [Public comment period open for transportation plan](#)  
 HARRISBURG - The public comment period on transportation priorities for the state's Twelve Year Transportation Program update is open, according to PennDOT. The public may also register for and participate in an online public meeting from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. today.... - [Oil City Derrick](#)
- 03-21-2017 [Editorial: They're finally fixing the Killer Concheater](#)  
 That single word that appeared on the front page of Monday's Daily Times is the word that motorists who traverse Route 322 on a daily basis have been waiting to hear for decades. "Finally!" After years of planning, and even more talk, the project to fix one of the... - [Primos Delaware County Daily and Sunday Times](#)
- 03-21-2017 [PennDOT announces construction dates for 2 structurally deficient bridges in Lancaster County](#)  
 Construction will begin this week and next month to repair two structurally deficient bridges in Lancaster County. The two projects are part of Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's Pennsylvania Rapid Bridge Replacement Project, a plan to replace 558 structurally deficient bridges statewide.... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)

- 03-21-2017 [\*\*Wolf administration outlines biking improvements for 150 miles of Route 6\*\*](#)  
 HARRISBURG — As part of its effort to improve bicycle safety, accessibility and connectivity along Route 6, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has completed a report outlining enhancements for the route's 150 miles from the state line with Ohio to the McKean/Potter... - [Bradford Era](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*Wolf administration outlines biking improvements for 150 miles of Route 6\*\*](#)  
 HARRISBURG — As part of its effort to improve bicycle safety, accessibility and connectivity along Route 6, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has completed a report outlining enhancements for the route's 150 miles from the state line with Ohio to the McKean/Potter... - [Bradford Era](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*Nonprofit eyes purchase of Craighead Bridge\*\*](#)  
 A new organization could be what saves Craighead Bridge from demolition. Workin' Bridges, a national nonprofit dedicated to preserving greenbelts and historic truss bridges, submitted a request to Cumberland County two weeks ago to take ownership of the bridge in South Middleton... - [Carlisle Sentinel](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*Pittsburgh cyclists prefer self-driving cars\*\*](#)  
 Don't like driving next to a cyclist? The feeling is mutual. Most Pittsburgh cyclists feel safer pedaling next to a self-driving car than next to cars with human drivers, according to a survey from BikePGH released Tuesday. Between two-thirds and three-quarters of the survey respondents — both... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*'Light at end of tunnel' for Southern Regional negotiations?\*\*](#)  
 Ron Smeal, a police consultant based in State College, goes over his draft of recommendations for the Southern Regional Police Department. Photo by Christopher Dornblaser(Photo: The York Dispatch)Buy Photo With multi-municipality negotiations stalling and the deadline to withdraw... - [York Dispatch](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*Vote on future of Mon-Fayette Expressway extension delayed\*\*](#)  
 The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission has delayed a vote on the future of the proposed Mon-Fayette Expressway extension until members find out whether the money can be used for other projects in the region... - [AP](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*Pa. Senate passes Market Street Bridge renaming bill despite Harrisburg officials' opposition\*\*](#)  
 Despite the fact that only small portion of the Market Street Bridge over the Susquehanna River sits in Cumberland County, the state Senate voted on Tuesday to rename the bridge after a late senator from that county. The controversial bridge-naming bill, sponsored by Sen. Mike Regan, R-York... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*Sewer line break caused depression that sidelined bus near Capitol\*\*](#)  
 It could take a day or two to repair the broken sewer line that trapped a bus this morning on State Street in Harrisburg. While it was initially thought to be a sinkhole, the depression was actually caused by the broken sewer pipe, said Andrew Bliss of Capital... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*Driverless vehicles in Pa: State Legislature holds hearing on testing bill\*\*](#)  
 As highly autonomous vehicles -- or driverless cars in the common parlance -- begin to hit the streets of Pennsylvania for testing, the state House and Senate on Tuesday held a joint hearing on a potential framework for testing -- and possibly deploying -- those vehicles on the streets of the... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 03-21-2017 [\*\*House Transportation\*\*](#)

3/21/17, 9:30 a.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

By Jeff Cox, Pennsylvania Legislative Services The committees held a public hearing on highly automated vehicles (HAV) testing legislation.

03-21-2017

[Senate Transportation](#)

3/21/17, 9:30 a.m., Hearing Room 1, North Office Building

By Jeff Cox, Pennsylvania Legislative Services The committees held a public hearing on highly automated vehicles (HAV) testing legislation.

03-21-2017

[House Transportation & Recreational Development - DCED Tourism Office](#)

(Video)

03-20-2017

[PennDOT: Online Public Meeting to be Held Tomorrow, Public Encouraged to...](#)

(Press Release)

03-20-2017

[Joint Senate & House Transportation Committee Hearing Agenda for March 21, 2017](#)

(Press Release)

03-20-2017

[SEPTA Announces Proposed Fare Increases For Fiscal Year 2018](#)

(Press Release)

03-20-2017

[PennDOT: Wolf Administration Outlines Biking Improvements for 150 Miles of...](#)

(Press Release)

03-20-2017

[PennDOT begins two-year, \\$87.9 million I-279 project](#)

Traffic disruptions begin Monday for about 53,000 motorists who use inbound Interstate 279/Parkway North as road crews prepare for a two-year, \$87.9 million project to upgrade the highway between Camp Horne Road and the North Side. This year's work will be concentrated on an 8.5-mile area on the... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

03-20-2017

[Self-driving cars may offer market niche for Pittsburgh Glass Works](#)

Joseph Stas likes to see Uber's self-driving vehicles cruising through traffic on Pittsburgh's streets. With nearly four decades of experience in the automotive industry, Mr. Stas, president and chief executive of Pittsburgh Glass Works, believes the cutting-edge cars are safe and fuel-efficient... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

03-20-2017

[Allegheny Township agrees to maintain street PennDOT plans to build as part of Route 356 project](#)

Allegheny Township officials have agreed to maintain a cul-de-sac that is to be created as part of the Route 356 climbing lane project. Township supervisors last week unanimously agreed to adopt the cul-de-sac, which will run parallel to Route 356. Greg Primm, township manager, said the cul-de-sac is needed to provide... - [Tarentum Valley News Dispatch](#)

03-20-2017

[President of embattled Uber leaves after 6 months on job](#)

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Jeff Jones, president of the embattled ride-hailing company Uber, has resigned just six months after taking the job, the company confirmed Sunday... - [AP](#)

03-20-2017

[SEPTA proposes rate hikes starting July 1](#)

SEPTA is proposing higher fares on trains, subways, buses and trolleys starting July 1. SEPTA spokesman Andrew Busch called the increases modest and part of a typical three-year pattern. If approved, they would bring in \$25 million for a budget that exceeds \$1 billion in total.... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

03-20-2017

[Commentary: Jobs in suburbs are inaccessible to city residents who lack transportation](#)

**opportunities**

By John Dodds JUANITA BYNUM had the skills, the resume, and work ethic to support her family but she was missing the one thing that close to 50 percent of low-income residents in our city need to reach their workplace - a car. However, as part of a widely successful Commuter Options program run by the... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

03-20-2017

**Fighting the opioid crisis, 1 truck stop at a time**

One of the first lines of defense against New Jersey's opioid drug epidemic is a highway truck weigh station among the green hills of the state's rural northwestern region... - [AP](#)

03-20-2017

**How to keep chairs off city streets**

Recent weather has not been conducive to sitting outside, yet Scranton streets are riddled with chairs. It isn't due to sunbathing, of course. Chairs seem to be the favorite implement that people use to save for themselves the parking spots that they have carved out of the snow.... - [Scranton Times](#)

03-20-2017

**Abington Heights now recording on buses**

Abington Heights students now will be recorded while riding district buses. "Our thought is it will allow for us to have better information about any type of activity that occurs on the bus and it will be something that will ultimately benefit students and drivers," said Superintendent... - [Scranton Times](#)

03-20-2017

**Ron Southwick: Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission learns lessons from past storms**

A year after a blizzard left hundreds of motorists stuck on the Pennsylvania Turnpike for up to 24 hours, the toll road didn't see a sequel in last week's nor'easter. Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission officials said they were pleased with their response to the snowstorm last week.... - [Reading Eagle](#)

03-20-2017

**Week in review: The Pentagon wins big and the EPA takes a big hit**

Good week PennDOT: Road crews managed to keep all Pennsylvania interstates passable throughout last week's nor'easter, PennDOT Secretary Leslie Richards said. Dan Coats: A former Indiana senator, Coats will serve as President Donald Trump's national intelligence director. He easily won Senate confirmation,... - [Reading Eagle](#)

03-20-2017

**Boxcars parked a year near homes have N.J. residents cross with railroad**

The railroad is supposed to be a good neighbor. And that is what tortures David Rosenblum, who for a year has had the end of a line of 60-plus boxcars parked less than 100 feet from his front door. "I don't like corporate hypocrisy," he said. "We are the ones who suffer... - [Easton Express-Times](#)

03-20-2017

**Cashless tolling offers safe, efficient travel**

Mark Compton, CEO Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission On behalf of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission, I want to thank your readers and staff for raising some important questions and issues regarding the cashless tolling pilot project on Interstate 376. This pilot project... - [Beaver County Times](#)

03-20-2017

**Bridge dedicated to 1st police chief**

A proud family lineage, years of research, legislative action and one high school junior culminated in the dedication of the Alexander M. McFadden Memorial Bridge, to honor the city's first police chief. "Not only do we want to honor Alexander this day, but we also thought... - [Williamsport Sun-Gazette](#)

03-20-2017

**Airport terminal project bids opened**

Bids were opened Friday for construction of the new passenger terminal at the Williamsport Regional Airport. The Williamsport Municipal Airport Authority opened the bids for

general construction, plumbing, heating and air conditioning, and electrical trades for the \$16.3 million project.... - [Williamsport Sun-Gazette](#)

- 03-20-2017 [Two Executives to Leave Uber, Adding to Departures](#)  
The number of executive departures from Uber is growing. Jeff Jones, Uber's president of ride sharing, has left the company after just six months, Uber said on Sunday. In addition, Brian McClendon, vice president of maps and business platform at Uber, also plans to leave... - [New York Times](#)
- 03-20-2017 [Trump budget would shut down Amtrak in Ohio](#)  
President Donald Trump's proposed budget would end Amtrak passenger train service in Ohio if it passes... - [AP](#)
- 03-20-2017 [Work begins Monday to widen Route 322 to four lanes](#)  
UPPER CHICHESTER > After nearly a half-century of planning, the work to widen Route 322 to four lanes will begin on Monday. But the project, which will feature grassy medians and left and right turning lanes at certain intersections, won't be completed for at least six years.... - [Primos Delaware County Daily and Sunday Times](#)
- 03-20-2017 [Roving DUI patrol nabs 43 vehicles for various offenses](#)  
A roving patrol by the Eastern County DUI Task Force was conducted on March 10 in seven participating towns, under the direction of Upper Darby Police Sgt. Steve Oreskovich. During the four-hour detail, officers engaged 43 vehicles for various violations of the Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Code and... - [Primos Delaware County Daily and Sunday Times](#)
- 03-20-2017 [Centre County Gets \\$6M for I-80 Ramp, I-99 Repaving, Penns Valley Corridor](#)  
Centre County is getting a \$6 million boost for a variety of major road projects, including repaving portions of Interstate 99, jump-starting the long-dormant Routes 322/144/45 corridor project and implementing safety improvements for Exit 161 at the I-80/99 interchange.... - [State College News](#)
- 03-20-2017 [E-Z Pass Users Forced To Slow Down At Mid-County Interchange Of PA Turnpike](#)  
PLYMOUTH MEETING, Pa. (CBS) — If you're accustomed to cruising through the E-Z Pass express lanes at the mid-county interchange of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, you'll have to slow down and divert to the regular E-Z Pass lane for the next couple of weeks. Pennsylvania Turnpike officials say they need to upgrade the electronics in... - [KYW News Radio 1060](#)
- 03-20-2017 [GPS tracking redefines bus safety for many Lancaster County school districts](#)  
Ready to take on the first day of kindergarten, 5-year-old Prince Oquendo, of Berks County, boarded the school bus with his older sisters and fellow busmates. - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)
- 03-20-2017 [PennDOT announces repair project on Route 23 starting March 20](#)  
The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) announced plans to repair and resurface a 5.26-mile stretch of Route 23, Marietta Avenue, from Race Avenue to Corporate Boulevard in West Hempfield Township. The project, scheduled to start today, March 20, is expected to include... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)
- 03-20-2017 [Gasoline prices drop 2 cents in Lancaster County in last week; increases 'nearly guaranteed' soon](#)  
Gas prices have been decline in Lancaster over the last month. Although gasoline prices typically rise this time of year, Lancaster County motorists continue to see some easing at the pump. The average price for a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline Sunday in... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)

- 03-20-2017 [\*\*Rural airports face bumpy ride\*\*](#)  
 President Donald Trump's proposed 2018 budget would eliminate federal subsidies for rural airports, throwing the future of the Altoona-Blair County Airport's services into uncertainty, officials said Friday. Trump's proposed budget, released this week, slashes funds for the U.S.... - [Altoona Mirror](#)
- 03-20-2017 [\*\*Passenger numbers up at Altoona-Blair airport\*\*](#)  
 MARTINSBURG — Altoona-Blair County Airport leaders say they are encouraged by the passenger numbers since mid-November's introduction of flights to the Baltimore-Washington International Airport. While January and February are traditionally months when passenger numbers... - [Altoona Mirror](#)
- 03-20-2017 [\*\*PennDOT to repair Route 11/15 in East Pennsboro\*\*](#)  
 The \$1.89 million contract was awarded on Dec. 27 to Blooming Glen Contractor Inc., of Bucks County. The project includes drainage work, base repair, removal of the top layer of asphalt, resurfacing the existing road, guiderail replacement and new signs and pavement markings.... - [Carlisle Sentinel](#)
- 03-20-2017 [\*\*E-ZPass users: Signal changes mean you'll need to pay closer attention to your account\*\*](#)  
 E-ZPass users will need to pay closer attention to their accounts as the Pennsylvania Turnpike removes the signal lights that currently tell drivers whether their transponders are working correctly. The familiar signals will be removed from toll stations along the 360-mile... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 03-20-2017 [\*\*Alburtis, Lower Macungie struggling with astray freight traffic\*\*](#)  
 A 102-inch wide tractor-trailer belongs in the Borough of Alburtis about as much as a tricycle belongs on Interstate 78. Yet Sharon Trexler couldn't get through a five-minute phone call last week about the tiny town's big freight problem before another truck drove past... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)
- 03-20-2017 [\*\*Passengers at Lehigh Valley airport may no longer have to ditch water bottles\*\*](#)  
 A way to keep the TSA off your back. For those who have had the frustration of having their water bottle snatched by airport security, Lehigh Valley International Airport might have a solution. The airport, with help from Easton Hospital, has installed water refilling... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)
- 03-20-2017 [\*\*Allegheny Co. roads, bridges and tunnels to get nearly \\$300M facelift, PennDOT announces\*\*](#)  
 PennDOT will invest an estimated \$295 million on roads, bridges and tunnels in Allegheny County during the 2017 construction season. The agency will bid 49 projects this year, District 11 officials said. Improvements are scheduled for 65 bridges, with 123 miles of road slated to... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 03-20-2017 [\*\*PennDOT announces nearly \\$220M in work for Allegheny County\*\*](#)  
 Drivers in Allegheny County will see some \$220 million this year in construction projects by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, including work on 65 bridges, the agency said Monday. More than 30 improvement, preservation and rehabilitation efforts in the... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Allegheny County Airport Authority CEO receives contract extension\*\*](#)  
 The Allegheny County Airport Authority has extended the contract of its CEO for up to five years. The authority hired Christina Cassotis in 2015 to increase the number of flights to Pittsburgh International Airport. On Friday, the authority announced that it extended her contract for three years with two one-year... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)



- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Proposed Amtrak cuts could affect Pittsburgh\*\*](#)  
 If the Trump administration's proposed budget cuts to Amtrak are passed by Congress, Pittsburgh could lose one of its two passenger routes that goes through the city. The budget, unveiled last week, calls for all long-distance trains to be eliminated so Amtrak can concentrate on improving the efficiency of its... - [\*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Allegheny County Airport Authority CEO receives contract extension\*\*](#)  
 The Allegheny County Airport Authority has extended the contract of its CEO for up to five years. The authority hired Christina Cassotis in 2015 to increase the number of flights to Pittsburgh International Airport. On Friday, the authority announced that it extended her contract for three years with two one-year... - [\*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Turnpike commission begins removing red, yellow, green lights from E-ZPass lanes\*\*](#)  
 The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission is removing feedback signal lights from E-ZPass lanes at turnpike toll plazas, beginning Friday with the Harrisburg West Interchange (Exit 242). The red, yellow and green lights provided feedback to let E-ZPass drivers know their transponders were properly read, but the lights are now... - [\*Pittsburgh Tribune-Review\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*PennDOT project aims to ease traffic snarls on Route 22 in Monroeville\*\*](#)  
 Drive. Stop for a red light. Drive. Stop for a red light. Drive. Stop for a really long red light. That's been the story along Route 22 in Monroeville for decades. But PennDOT says it's in the advanced stage of planning a project to cut significant time from the four-mile trip on the road through the... - [\*Pittsburgh Tribune-Review\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Pittsburgh International CEO gets raise, contract extension\*\*](#)  
 The Allegheny County Airport Authority approved a raise Friday for the highest-paid county-affiliated employee -- Pittsburgh International Airport CEO Christina Cassotis -- bringing her base salary to \$325,208. Cassotis will receive a 6 percent raise for each year of her contract,... - [\*Pittsburgh Tribune-Review\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Uber's self-driving cars still need some human assistance, documents show\*\*](#)  
 Safety drivers inside Uber's self-driving cars in Pittsburgh, Arizona and California had to take control of the car an average of every mile, according to documents obtained by the tech website Recode. The documents show that last week, Uber's 43 active cars drove 20,354 miles... - [\*Pittsburgh Tribune-Review\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Arnold Palmer Regional Airport briefly evacuated\*\*](#)  
 About 150 people were temporarily evacuated Saturday from the Arnold Palmer Regional Airport terminal because of a suspicious package. The package was discovered shortly after 1 p.m. as passengers were being screened to board a Spirit Airlines flight to Tampa, Fla.... - [\*Pittsburgh Tribune-Review\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*SEPTA proposes rate hikes starting July 1\*\*](#)  
 SEPTA is proposing higher fares on trains, subways, buses and trolleys starting July 1. SEPTA spokesman Andrew Busch called the increases modest and part of a typical three-year pattern. If approved, they would bring in \$25 million for a budget that exceeds \$1 billion in total.... - [\*Philadelphia Inquirer\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Heads of neighborhood groups call on residents to dig still-covered walks\*\*](#)  
 Relief from the worst blizzard in more than 100 years is coming this week in the form of warmer, sunny weather, but freezing temperatures at night could mean icy roads and sidewalks for morning commutes. With the first day of spring tomorrow, some normalcy is returning to... - [\*Scranton Times\*](#)
- 03-19-2017 [\*\*Letters to the Editor 3/18/2017\*\*](#)

Editor: I wish to extend special thanks to PPL, Verizon, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, tree-cutting services in Spring Brook Twp. and the workers who helped restore our lives after extreme weather. When a tornado struck in February, Route 502 and a good portion of the... - [Scranton Times](#)

03-19-2017

**[Our opinion: Winter storm brings out the good, the bad and the mindless](#)**

Diamonds to all those who heeded advice and stayed off the roads during this week's winter weather. Presumably, this was facilitated by the growing ability to "work from home" thanks to the ever expanding internet, though the speed of accumulation Tuesday morning may have been... - [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#)

03-19-2017

**[Luzerne starts process for federal reimbursement for snow expenses](#)**

Luzerne County has already started the process to secure federal money for some Winter Storm Stella cleanup expenses. "We want to do everything we can do to get funding for these municipalities," said county Emergency Management Agency Director Lucille Morgan, noting many municipalities were financially stressed before... - [Wilkes-Barre Times Leader](#)

03-19-2017

**[Many to thank for storm-related deeds | Turkeys and Trophies](#)**

A mid-March snowstorm that delivered high winds and more than a foot of snow to the Lehigh Valley and northwest New Jersey made life difficult for some people and created medical emergencies for a few. Thanks to those who went above and beyond to help people in dire straits, and to the thousands... - [Easton Express-Times](#)

03-19-2017

**[PennDOT secretary honored in Reading](#)**

Schuylkill River Heritage Area presents award to Leslie Richards - [Reading Eagle](#)

03-19-2017

**[Greene commissioners approve drawings for airport project](#)**

The third and final phase of a multimillion-dollar infrastructure overhaul at the Greene County Airport is on track to be completed this summer. - [Uniontown Herald-Standard](#)

03-19-2017

**[E-ZPass signal lights to disappear from the Pa. Turnpike](#)**

The Pennsylvania Turnpike will be getting rid of the familiar red, yellow and green traffic lights used to tell E-ZPass drivers that their transponders are working correctly. Starting March 17, the Turnpike Commission will gradually replace the lights with more simplified signage due to a change in federal guidelines.... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)

03-19-2017

**[SEPTA plans fare increase this summer](#)**

Philadelphia area transit riders have a new fare increase to look forward to this summer. The SEPTA fare hike, scheduled to go into effect July 1, is the first since 2013, and was postponed to allow rollout of the new Key payment system March 13. The increase also follows a week-long strike last November.... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)

03-19-2017

**[Politics as Usual: What to watch as Legislature returns](#)**

The House and Senate return this week to the state Capitol for three session days: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. It's the first time both chambers will be in at the same time since Gov. Tom Wolf presented his 2017-18 budget proposal in early February. Here's a list of items to watch.... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)

03-19-2017

**[As Uber Woos More Drivers, Taxis Hit Back](#)**

The upending of the traditional taxi business across the United States and around the world by Uber, Lyft and other ride-hailing services has given consumers new and sometimes cheaper options and forced cities to re-examine their transportation policies. Uber, in some places, has employed... - [New York Times](#)

03-19-2017

**[For Refugee Agencies, a Court Stay Only Adds to the Confusion](#)**

But one thing was clear, he said: "You can't just play games with people. You can't just lay off 500 people and then hire them back and lay them off again. We're going to need some answers from the federal government." The judge's decision was just the latest dramatic twist in six weeks of... - [New York Times](#)

03-19-2017

**[Obama-era fuel-economy regs are driving me nuts; time for Trump to ditch them | Mulshine](#)**

I grew up at the Jersey Shore, where every place of interest is about 10 miles from every other place of interest. For guys like me and my mechanic friend Zeke, cars are a religion. And here is my religious belief: There are only two types of cars worth owning: the sports car and the... - [Trenton Times](#)

03-17-2017

**[Senate and House Committees Announce Hearing on Autonomous Vehicle Testing](#)**  
(Press Release)

03-17-2017

**[As Mon-Fayette Expressway faces critical vote, Peduto, Fitzgerald voice concerns](#)**

The future of the \$1.6 billion Mon-Fayette Expressway faces a crucial vote Monday, and two top local leaders say they aren't convinced the project should move ahead. Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto say they are concerned about the huge price tag and expected 25-year build... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

03-17-2017

**[Monroeville's success has DA looking to expand surveillance camera program](#)**

Citing Monroeville's recent success in catching criminals using newly installed surveillance cameras, the Allegheny County District Attorney's Office now wants to expand the program. District Attorney Stephen A. Zappala Jr. has been meeting with North Versailles, Penn Township, White Oak, McKeesport and Turtle Creek officials... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)

03-17-2017

**[Appraisal to gauge Rostraver Airport's economic viability](#)**

The future of Rostraver Airport is up in the air. The Westmoreland County commissioners on Thursday approved an appraisal of the 300-acre airport's economic viability and a market analysis. "Whatever you have ... you need to know what your assets are worth, and... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)

03-17-2017

**[Phila. port is poised to get new cranes, bigger ships, more cargo, and more jobs](#)**

More cars, more containerized freight, and more cargo such as wood pulp and lumber will all be arriving on larger ships and creating more jobs. The Port of Philadelphia is getting its first major capital investment in four decades for terminals, wharfs, and cargo cranes, with a \$300 million... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

03-17-2017

**[Quick work: Car painting and body repair go high-tech in Conshohocken](#)**

Uh-oh. How did that nasty dent and ugly scrape get onto the door of the previously immaculate family car? Your spouse or parent is going to kill you! Or so this sad story used to play out. Today, maybe not, thanks to auto-body refinishing technology making its... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

03-17-2017

**[Trump budget proposes privatizing air traffic control, hiking TSA fee](#)**

President Trump's budget proposal to Congress calls for shifting the air traffic control system from the Federal Aviation Administration, and giving it to an independent, nongovernmental organization. The spin-off would make managing the nation's airspace "more efficient and... - [Philadelphia Inquirer](#)

03-17-2017

**[Hamilton Crossings fuels increase in LANTA ridership](#)**

Take the bus to Hamilton Crossings? LANTA says more riders do just that LOWER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP — Shoppers and employees heading to Hamilton Crossing Shopping Center are riding LANTA, so much so that ridership rose nearly 20 percent in the first three months since

major stores have opened... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)

- 03-17-2017 [\*\*Rockview DMV set to reopen after facility issue\*\*](#)  
 The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation announced Thursday in a release that the Rockview DMV will reopen Friday. The center was closed March 9 due to a “facilities issue,” though officials anticipated about a three-week closure. The DMV facility closed without warning, prompting questions on social... - [State College Centre Daily Times](#)
- 03-17-2017 [\*\*PennDOT opens road work season\*\*](#)  
 Major projects this season include widening Interchange Road and building bridges over the railroad tracks on Millfair Road. It's officially road work season. Several Pennsylvania Department of Transportation construction projects are in progress in the Erie region. Others will start soon.... - [Erie Times-News](#)
- 03-17-2017 [\*\*Route 65 off-ramp in Freedom to close until June\*\*](#)  
 FREEDOM -- The ramp from southbound Route 65 to Third Avenue will close to traffic Monday, and it will remain closed until June. PennDOT said the off-ramp will close to allow for ramp reconstruction and bridge deck work. The ramp will close at 7 a.m. Monday and remain closed... - [Beaver County Times](#)
- 03-17-2017 [\*\*Greene Co. Airport business park to be ready for tenants this summer\*\*](#)  
 WAYNESBURG – The long-awaited business park development at the Greene County Airport is expected to be completed this summer after the county commissioners Thursday approved engineering design drawings for the project's final phase. The commissioners approved drawings prepared by Pennoni Associates for an... - [Washington Observer-Reporter](#)
- 03-17-2017 [\*\*DUI patrols planned for St. Patrick's Day weekend\*\*](#)  
 Planning to party for St. Patrick's Day this weekend? Law enforcement in Adams, Lancaster and York counties will be patrolling for impaired drivers this weekend, according to the Center for Traffic Safety. It wants to reach drivers with this message: "Drive Sober or Get... - [York Daily](#)
- 03-17-2017 [\*\*Icy missiles damage cars, injure drivers\*\*](#)  
 Local resident Keith Burkhardt closed his eyes and ducked his head when ice flew off of a nearby tractor-trailer while he was driving his car on Route 30 in Maryland on Thursday. The ice smashed into the driver's side of Burkhardt's windshield, shattering it. He felt something hit him in the shoulder.... - [York Daily](#)
- 03-17-2017 [\*\*Rockview Driver License Center Ready to Reopen\*\*](#)  
 The Rockview Driver License Center, 812 W. College Ave. in Pleasant Gap, is set to reopen after closing last week. The center will be open for business at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation said in a release. The center closed unexpectedly on Thursday, March 9, for what was described... - [State College News](#)
- 03-17-2017 [\*\*Train Collides With Vehicle On Tracks In North Philadelphia\*\*](#)  
 PHILADELPHIA (CBS) — A freight train slammed into an abandoned car in North Philly this morning. Police say unoccupied vehicle was just sitting on the tracks in North Philadelphia. A CSX train was unable to stop before slamming into it head on. This happened on the tracks behind rowhomes near 34th and Westmoreland.... - [KYW News Radio 1060](#)
- 03-17-2017 [\*\*Lancaster County law enforcement officials heightening DUI patrols this weekend\*\*](#)  
 Lancaster County Law enforcement officials are heightening DUI patrols and urging residents to not drink and drive over the holiday weekend. Sobriety checkpoints are planned, as well as roving patrols, for St. Patrick's Day and throughout the weekend, the District Attorney's office... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)

- 03-17-2017 [AAA rescues nearly 3,000 motorists after Tuesday's storm](#)  
Dead batteries topped the list of record-breaking daily calls that AAA Mid-Atlantic had to deal with a day after Tuesday's snow storm. The motor club's spokeswoman, Jana Tidwell, said emergency roadside assistance calls in the five-county Philadelphia region hit 3,000 on... - [Levittown Bucks County Courier Times](#)
- 03-17-2017 [ROSES AND THORNS](#)  
ROSE: Is there any agency of state government that's the butt of more jokes than PennDOT? During construction season, don't we Pennsylvanians love to let the... - [Bloomsburg Press Enterprise](#)
- 03-17-2017 [Bill tracker: Curbing distracted fuel pumping](#)  
Each legislative session, thousands of bills and amendments are introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature. Only a fraction become law, and an even smaller portion receive wide media coverage. These bills impact the lives of people living in Pennsylvania every day.... - [Carlisle Sentinel](#)
- 03-17-2017 [PennDOT trucks to help city do some heavy lifting](#)  
Streets department crews in Hazleton will begin large-scale snow removal operations along Diamond Avenue and Broad Street this morning, a pair of administrators announced. Motorists are asked to continue abiding by the snow-parking ban as crews gear up to clear snow along Broad Street and Diamond Avenue where parking... - [Hazleton Standard-Speaker](#)
- 03-17-2017 [Rail trail bridge goes up at SU on Tuesday](#)  
SHIPPENSBURG – Two bridges are to be installed on the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail on Tuesday, March 21, weather permitting. “The placement of the two bridges represents the culmination of more than a decade of work by dedicated volunteers,” said Dr. Jerry Angulo,... - [Chambersburg Public Opinion](#)
- 03-17-2017 [Five state legislative issues to watch next week](#)  
The House and Senate return this week to the state Capitol for three session days: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. It's the first time both chambers will be in at the same time since Gov. Tom Wolf presented his 2017-18 budget proposal in early February. Here's a short list of items to watch.... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)
- 03-17-2017 [Turnpike starts removing interchanges' E-ZPass signal lights](#)  
HARRISBURG, Pa. The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission is starting to remove or cover up the red, yellow and green lights that indicate if a driver's E-ZPass has been properly read... - [AP](#)