



Ohio Township Association Legislative Alert

July 17, 2020

Legislative Action This Week

Red Counties Added

Seven counties have changed to red on to the new county-based color alert system for COVID-19: Allen, Athens, Delaware, Licking, Lucas, Richland, Scioto, and Union. At 6:00pm on Friday, face mask requirements will go in effect in these counties.

Counties that remain red include: Butler, Clermont, Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Franklin, Hamilton, Lorain, Montgomery, Pickaway, Summit, and Wood. This [sign](#) is available for use in level 3 or 4 counties. For a breakdown of each alert level, click [here](#).

Governor Signs SB 4

On Wednesday, Governor DeWine signed [SB 4](#). The bill includes provisions that:

- Fund OPWC programs for one year, including State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP), Revolving Loan Program (RLP), and Clean Ohio projects;
- Temporarily remove the threshold for competitive bidding for PPE;
- Allow townships and municipalities to divert up to 25% of unencumbered TIF funds to be used for police and fire services or road maintenance for up to two years from the effective date of the bill. This revenue is required to be replaced should a township or municipality receive funding for revenue replacement under an amended version of the CARES Act;
- Require a transportation improvement district to comply with prevailing wage law, unless the amount the district expends on a contract or project is below statutory thresholds.

Use of CARES Act Funding

The OTA sent additional information on use of CARES Act funding this week. You may view the email [here](#).

The Office of Budget and Management will be hosting another informational webinar on these funds. The webinar will provide an update on recent US Treasury guidance and will discuss examples of eligible uses of funds.

OBM CARES Act Webinar

Wednesday, July 22nd

12:30-2:00pm

[Register](#)

Additionally, OBM released [updated guidance](#) on these funds.

OPWC Funding Update

The Ohio Public Works Commission is pleased to announce that Governor DeWine signed [SB 4](#)

Tuesday afternoon. This legislation contains one year of appropriation authority for SCIP (Round 34) including Small Government and Emergency programs, RLP (Round 34), and Clean Ohio (Round 15).

OPWC will immediately post/release the SCIP and RLP project agreements on their [website](#). In addition, Small Government is poised for a virtual meeting on July 23rd with project agreements to be released at the end of the month, and OPWC will begin accepting Emergency applications. The SCIP and RLP project agreements are dated for July 1, 2020 but Small Government agreements, considering the Small Government Commission must still review/approve the recommended slate, will be dated August 1, 2020.

Local Roads Oil and Shale Program

The Local Roads Oil and Shale Program provides economic support for infrastructure repairs in counties, townships, cities, and villages impacted by increased vehicular truck traffic from oil and gas production.

This program will fund roadway repairs within villages and municipalities, as well as county and township roads, in Carroll, Noble, Belmont, Monroe, Jefferson, Harrison, and Guernsey counties not currently covered by a Road Use and Maintenance Agreement (RUMA) and will be funded at \$2.5M annually, with a \$500k per project limit.

The project solicitation process will begin August 1st of each year and close September 15th. This annual solicitation process will be for the FY 2022 program. The application form will be made available online through the Office of Local Programs' website. The program guidance document and the application link can be found [here](#).

For questions or more information, contact:
Jeff Peyton
Jeff.Peyton@dot.ohio.gov
(614) 466-2032

Federal Update



Congressional Action

The House and Senate were in recess this week but the House held "Committee Work Days" all week. No votes were scheduled in either chamber.

The House Appropriations Committee continued considering FY 2021 appropriations bills this week. The Full Committee marked up the seven remaining FY 2021 appropriations bills through Wednesday (the other five bills were marked up last week). House leaders are still aiming to pass all 12 FY 2021 appropriations bills on the floor by the end of the month, while Senate progress on appropriations continues to be delayed due to partisan disagreements.

NATaT has created a [Coronavirus Guidance webpage](#) to store NATaT letters, memos and briefs on the outbreak, as well as critical information and guidance released by Congress and the Administration.

2020 Census



All Your Information for the Upcoming 2020 Census

2020 Census Field Operations have resumed in Ohio as of June 3rd. Operations field staff will be hand delivering census packets as part of the Update Leave operation. These are the forms delivered to areas where they do not receive mail at their home address (P.O. Box Delivery). The operation does not require person to person contact. Census field staff will have mask and gloves and will leave the questionnaire packet at the door or on the

porch in a plastic bag. They will not knock on doors.

Currently, the planned completion date for data collection for the 2020 Census is July 31, 2020, but that date can and will be adjusted if necessary as the situation dictates in order to achieve a complete and accurate count.

It has never been easier to respond on your own, whether online, over the phone or by mail - all without having to meet a census taker.

Learn more about these updates and ways to be counted [here](#).

[US Census Website](#)
[Ohio Census Website](#)

Ohio Township Association

6500 Taylor Road, Suite A, Blacklick, OH 43004

614-863-0045 | OhioTownships.org

myers@ohiotownships.org

