

Legislative Committee & Port of Pittsburgh Commission Report – Scott Harshman (Port of Pittsburgh), Chair; Legislative Committee: Scott Harshman, Pat Kelly, and George Petrus

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:

1. Priorities:

- Continue to support Upper Ohio River Navigation System & Lower Mon Projects
- Oppose additional taxation, tolling, and lockage fees
- Fully utilize and draw down funding from the Inland Waterways Trust Fund

2. Congressional Appropriations

- Request submitted for additional funding needed for the Lower Mon Project

PORT OF PITTSBURGH COMMISSION:

1. Grant funding opportunities

- PortPitt’s Senator Jim Ferlo Memorial Small Grants Program (closed)
- The Federal Highway Administration is accepting applications for the **Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities Grant Program** (open – due 7/26)
- **PA DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund** (open – due 7/31)

2. United States Marine Highway Program – *Application is pending and being reviewed by USDOT*

- Expect decision mid-July

3. Past Events

- Held “Lunch & Learn” at Ianni’s Pizza in Vandergrift on May 12th
- US Army Corps hosted another meeting focused on the Allegheny River on May 24th
- Participated in the Pittsburgh Safe Boating Council’s National Safe Boating Week Awareness Event held on May 26th in partnership and at the Carnegie Science Center
- Attended Inland Marine Expo in Nashville from May 31st – June 2nd
- Attended Showcase for Commerce trade show in Johnstown on June 2nd

4. Upcoming Events

- Pittsburgh Traffic Club is hosting a **tour of both PennDOT’s Traffic Management Center and the Fort Pitt Tunnel on Wednesday, June 27th from 10am – 2pm** with networking after at the Walnut Grill in Bridgeville
- The PA Fish and Boat Commission, in partnership with NASBLA (National Association of State Boating Law Administrators) and partnering agencies and organizations will hold a media event that will serve as the **national kickoff to Operation Dry Water, a nationwide effort to educate the public about the danger of Boating Under the Influence (BUI)** which includes enhanced BUI patrols on waters across the Commonwealth from July 1st – 3rd. **The live press event is scheduled for Thursday, June 29th and will begin at 10:30am at Point State Park.**
- Beaver County Chamber of Commerce’s **Legislative Cruise on the Gateway Clipper on Wednesday, July 26th from 5:00pm – 8:00pm** and leaving from the Rochester Boat Ramp
- Allegheny River follow-up meeting sometime this summer
- Future PortPitt “Lunch & Learn” in Brownsville

END