



STATE REP. **PERRY WARREN** 31ST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



Happy New Year!

Throughout the past year, my staff and I have continued to provide services and access to state government resources for our residents. I have advocated for state funding and investments in infrastructure and programs in our communities. In addition, I have introduced, cosponsored, researched and voted on legislation designed to improve our commonwealth and our lives. This newsletter includes news and information on constituent services, state investments in our communities, legislation, local events and access to government resources. As always, my staff and I will be **WORKING FOR YOU IN 2022**. Please feel free to contact me and my staff throughout the year regarding state services and issues. It is a pleasure to help people in our community, and I welcome and value the participation and input of our residents on state issues.

As your state representative in Harrisburg, I provide periodic mailed newsletters. In addition, we send a biweekly email update to residents on our email list. If you would like to be added to our email list, then please email us at RepWarren@pahouse.net or subscribe on my website at www.pahouse.com/Warren/emailsSignup. My legislative Facebook account can be found [@RepPerryWarren](https://www.facebook.com/RepPerryWarren). Our staff is on hand Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at our district office in Yardley. We can be reached by phone at 215-493-5420.

Please contact us whenever we may be of service with any state-related matter, or if you would like to share a position or concern on any state legislative issue. We are here to listen and to help.

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State Funding for Our Community

There are many necessary and worthy projects, initiatives and organizations in our communities. One of my roles as state representative is to identify needs in our communities and to seek out and advocate for government grants to meet the needs, fund projects and support our organizations. 2021 was a terrific year in terms of grants awarded to fund impactful projects in our area, and this graphic describes some of the projects throughout Bucks County that received state funds in the past year.

If you are aware of a need, project or organization in our community that may benefit from a state grant program, please reach out to my office. I am always looking out for grant programs that may meet community needs, while also identifying projects and organizations that may benefit from grant programs.

Transportation and Infrastructure

Thanks to the temperature swings we experience here in Pennsylvania, a number of roadways need potholes patched and streets require repaving to keep drivers safe and their vehicles intact. Residents called my office about the need for Big Oak Road to be repaved, and when I brought those concerns to PennDOT, they heard you loud and clear. The project scheduled for 2021 got moved up and Big Oak Road was repaved in 2020. The work continues improving transportation infrastructure throughout our communities. PennDOT's Five Year Resurfacing Plan for Bucks County includes Yardley-Newtown Road from the I-295 interchange to Delaware Avenue in 2022 and five more roads in 2023 in Lower Makefield Township, Morrisville, Newtown Borough, and Newtown Township. In all, PennDOT plans to repave or extensively patch 11 stretches of state roads in the 31st Legislative District, bringing you a smoother ride whenever you leave home.

Funding Secured in 2021

January
February

March 11

\$262,558 to Improve Neshaminy Creek Water Quality – The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection awarded the Bucks County Conversation District funds from the Growing Greener grant program to improve water quality in the Neshaminy Creek.

April 16

\$462,147 for Yardley and Morrisville Boroughs – The Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development awarded \$312,147 to Yardley for the North Main Street sidewalk project and \$150,000 to Morrisville for traffic and pedestrian signal upgrades through the Multimodal Transportation fund.

April 22

\$675,000 for Lower Makefield Township, Newtown Township and Yardley Borough – Another round of Multimodal Transportation Grants was awarded for transportation improvements. \$353,000 went to Lower Makefield Township, \$227,000 to Newtown Township, and Yardley Borough received another \$95,000 for various transportation-related projects.

May

June 16

\$870,000 for Housing Programs – To support programs and services focused on affordable housing, the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Authority awarded \$350,000 to Bucks County Housing Services Department, \$200,000 to Bucks County Opportunity Council, \$200,000 to YWCA of Bucks County, \$100,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County, and \$20,000 to Bucks County Housing Group.

June 30

\$7,020 for Bucks County Community College – Through the federal CARES Act of 2020, Bucks County Community College was awarded funds in the PA Grants for Open and Affordable Learning to support faculty and continue its mission of providing affordable education.

Community Resources

SEPTA Senior Key Passes

Senior citizens 65 and older are eligible for a SEPTA Key Senior Fare Card. This card allows for free fares on all Transit Routes and Regional Rail for travel to and from stations in Pennsylvania, as well as half fares for travel to and from New Jersey and Delaware. My office can assist in filling out your application and getting your ID photo taken.

LIHEAP

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program provides families with cash grants to help pay heating bills in the cold winter months. The amounts of the grants are determined by household size and total income. If you or someone you know would benefit from this assistance, more information is available at <https://tinyurl.com/GetLIHEAP>.

Rent Assistance

The Bucks County Emergency Rental Assistance (BERA) program provides rental and utility assistance to tenants in Bucks County impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Tenants are encouraged to apply, and landlords can also apply and invite multiple tenants to participate in the program at one time. Call the BERA Helpline at 1-800-50-BUCKS for more information.

Slow Down for Work Zones!

Several constituents have come to my office with automated speed enforcement violations. In some active work zones, automated speed enforcement is in effect and will result in warnings and fines for drivers going more than 11 miles per hour over the posted speed limit in an active work zone. Please watch your speed and slow down in work zones.

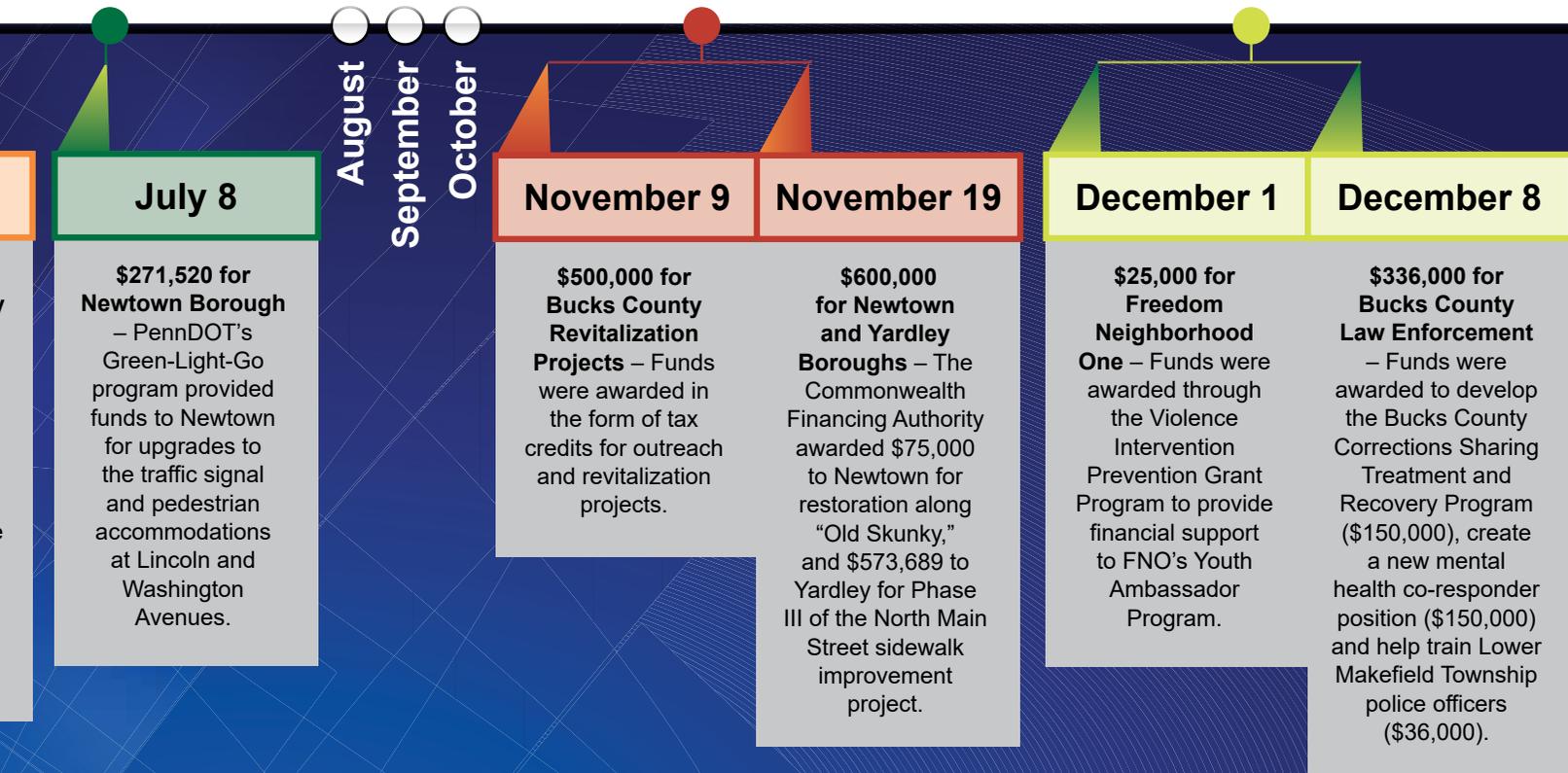
Automated Speed Enforcement in Work Zones

Going more than 11 miles per hour over the posted speed limit in a work zone may result in the following:

- First offense is a written warning.
- Second offense is a \$75 fine.
- Third offense is a \$150 fine.

*Automated speed enforcement came to Pennsylvania in 2018, and may be used only when a work zone is active.

#PATrafficLaw



Legislative Updates

Kayden's Law: In November, the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Family Law held a hearing on Senate Bill 78, the Senate version of Kayden's Law, and I joined members of Kayden's family along with supporters of the bill at a press conference after the hearing. This legislation is named after Kayden Mancuso, a 7-year-old girl from Lower Makefield Township who was murdered by her father during a court-ordered, unsupervised visit. I'm working with state Rep. Tina Davis and Senators Steve Santarsiero and Lisa Baker to move SB 78 to a vote on the House Floor and to the Governor's desk, ensuring the health and safety of children is the top priority in child custody proceedings.

Water Bottle Filling Stations: To help reduce plastic waste in Pennsylvania, I have reintroduced my water bottle bill. House Bill 496 would require the installation of water bottle filling stations in new and renovated public buildings. The water bottle filling stations would replace or be installed alongside traditional water fountains. Discarded single-use plastic water bottles are among the largest sources of litter, clog our waterways and harm animals. HB 496 does not ban plastic water bottles, but rather encourages the use of a cheaper, healthier and environmentally friendly alternative.

The need for cleaner water was evident in March 2021 when I joined PennEnvironment to highlight the finding of high levels of microplastics in the Delaware River and other waterways in Bucks County. The staggering amount of these microplastics means the water in our local rivers and streams is less safe than it should be and more needs to be done to reduce pollution in our area.

Gun Safety: I have introduced several bills with the goal of ensuring safe gun ownership in the Commonwealth.

House Bill 235: Would implement comprehensive background checks when purchasing a firearm.

House Bill 237: Would require gun owners to safely store all firearms when residing with a person who cannot legally possess a firearm.

House Bill 1900: Would prevent individuals on federal terrorist watchlists from purchasing or possessing a firearm in Pennsylvania.

Lost and Stolen Firearms: I am working with community leaders and gun safety advocates on re-introducing my civil "Lost and Stolen" bill, which would require the reporting of lost and stolen firearms.

Flood Insurance: When FEMA revised its flood maps to require more properties in Pennsylvania to be covered by flood insurance, its goal was to mitigate the financial harm and help lessen the emotional devastation caused by floods. However, this action caused some flood insurance premiums to rise, property values to drop, and homeowners in flood plains were left to figure it out. My bill, House Bill 70, would establish the Flood Insurance Premium Task Force to help reduce costs through programs and flood mitigation incentives. The bill was approved unanimously by the House Insurance Committee and has been placed on the House voting calendar.

Parks Liability: I jointly sponsored a bill to protect land conservation volunteers from liability. The bill was unanimously passed in the House. House Bill 1694 would extend limited liability protections to volunteers and nonprofit organizations working to keep our parks and other outdoor spaces beautiful, like the Delaware Canal State Park and Tyler State Park.



Pennsylvania's Official Candy?

A group of Newtown Middle School students formed the "Hershey Kiss Committee" with the goal to make the Hershey Kiss Pennsylvania's official candy. They created a website and launched a social media campaign and have met regularly to continue their progress. Last spring, I met with the committee, and we discussed the process of how a bill becomes a law. Through their efforts, which included meeting with representatives of the Hershey Company and the state representative who represents Hershey, a bill to make the Kiss the official state candy has been introduced by Rep. Tom Mehaffie from Hershey! Congratulations to the committee, and I am excited for the upcoming bill's journey through the General Assembly.



In the Community

HOLIDAY PARADES



I attended the Yardley Olde Fashion Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting, the Newtown Holiday Parade, and the Morrisville Winterfest Parade to kick off the holiday season. It was wonderful to see so many residents of all ages (and their furry friends) celebrating the holiday season.

THE SHOW GOES ON!



The Newtown Theatre re-opened following recent renovations. Thanks to Newtown Borough Council and the Newtown Township Board of Supervisors for their support of this community treasure.

SUPPORTING STATE WORKERS

Retail workers are vital to our economy and the holiday season is their busiest time of year. I stopped by two of our district's Fine Wine and Good Spirits stores and talked with members of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1776.



SHOPPING LOCAL

Every day is a great day to buy local! I stopped by several small businesses throughout the district to shop and speak with owners and employees about their stores.



HONORING LOCAL SPORTS HEROES



I was honored to present my friend Peter Brill a citation to commemorate his induction to the Council Rock Sports Hall of Fame.



I was on hand to recognize three state championship-winning baseball and softball teams at the Pennsbury Athletic Association Awards.



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Stay Updated

To make sure you see the latest state legislative news from Harrisburg or to keep up with programs, services, or projects and events in the district, please use these following ways to connect with me. You can follow me on Facebook at [Facebook.com/RepPerryWarren](https://www.facebook.com/RepPerryWarren) and/or follow me on Twitter @RepPerryWarren.

You also can join my email update list. We send periodic email updates about public meetings, traffic alerts and community events. The periodic emails also include updates on legislative state and local programs and services. Use your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code below to join my email list.



My Office Can Help!

- Car registrations, special tags, disability placards, titles and driver's license applications
 - Information on financial assistance for higher education
 - Obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
 - Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
 - Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
 - Pennsylvania state income tax questions or problems
 - Complaints and problems with insurance companies
 - Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
 - Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
 - Property Tax/Rent Rebate forms
 - Problems or questions about the state lottery
 - PACE cards for senior citizens
 - Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
 - Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
 - Information about state and local government agencies
 - Questions about the Veterans Property Tax Exemption
- Any state government service or issue!