

Massachusetts Highway

Association

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SPRING NEWSLETTER

Volume 49 2020



President's Message



I hope that everyone is well considering these challenging times. I'm beginning to feel like this is all a bad dream or maybe even a nightmare. For those of us who have been around awhile and thought we had seen it all; surprise, we get to live through and deal with a pandemic.

David P. Desrosiers Our town is doing alright at the moment but that could change quickly based on what is happening elsewhere. Hopefully, most of us will work through this without too much long-term disruption, although I am beginning to get concerned about getting the normal summertime work completed this year. I never would have expected to see most of our State and much of the entire Country shut down as it is for such a long duration. We can only hope that the shutdown doesn't go on for too much longer, otherwise the interruptions to the supply chains and damage to the economy will become much more challenging for us all to overcome.

Before all this happened, there was a bit of encouraging news from the legislature. The Transportation Bond Bill proposed by the House had a 50% increase to the "Chapter 90" program. Now, what happens after the pandemic is anybody's guess. We will have to sit back and wait to see how this all works out. On the bright side, the delays that will undoubtedly occur in executing roadwork this year could be a pretty good argument for a multi-year "Chapter 90" program in the future. There is no logical reason to hinder or impede New England construction work over and above what we already face due to normal winter seasonal limitations and extreme weather. We need to have the funding in place and the plans ready to begin our projects in sync with the seasons. We need to find political solutions that assist us in accomplishing this goal. Trying to develop plans for a summer construction season, with as much uncertainty as this year, will be no easy task for any of us. The only good news is falling oil prices should help a little.

Even though we cannot meet in person, the Board and the Mutual Aid Committee are working to keep things moving forward. There may be some delays in training and rolling out the program to the county coordinators but hopefully we can get everything ready to go when we finally get the all clear to resume business as usual.

Our Annual meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, June 25th. We will keep you posted if there are any additional changes. Until then, please stay safe. Thank you.

David P. Desrosiers P.E.
President MHA

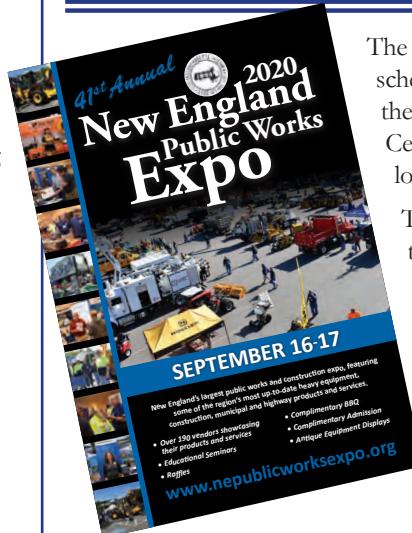
Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting scheduled for May 7th at the Wachusett Country Club in West Boylston has been postponed. The tentative rescheduled date is Thursday, June 25th depending on the Covid-19 conditions at that time.

Annual Election of Officers

Because of the Covid-19 interruptions, ballots for the Annual Elections will be mailed out in early May. Sealed Ballots must be returned and postmarked no later than midnight, May 29th. There will be no turning in your ballot at the rescheduled Annual meeting.

41st New England Public Works Expo



The 2020 New England Public Works Expo is scheduled to be held on September 16-17 at the Boxboro Regency Hotel and Conference Center in Boxborough, MA, conveniently located off Route 495.

This year will mark the 41st anniversary of the Massachusetts Highway Association's equipment and trade expo, long recognized as one of New England's largest equipment expos. The show features some of the region's latest heavy equipment, construction, municipal and highway products and services from top vendors.

The show was first held at the Marshfield Fairground and has been

at such venues as the Topsfield Fairground, Fort Devens, and the Central Massachusetts Expo Center at the Holiday Inn in Fitchburg, MA. The show has come a long way since its humble beginnings and has become the premiere heavy equipment and trade show in New England! Last year's expo was a sellout with over 200 vendors displaying their products and services. The expo was well attended with over 1,800 visitors passing through the trade center during the two-day show.

Booth spaces are available for vendors on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets are available through vendors and online.

For more information about the Expo, please call Ann or Laura at 781-245-7070 or online at www.nepublicworksexpo.org.

House Ok's Landmark Transportation Bills before Covid Crisis

By Ariela Lovett, Legislative Analyst, MMA

Reprinted with permission from the Massachusetts Municipal Association (www.mma.org).

On March 4 and 5, the House voted to pass two landmark transportation finance bills just days before Gov. Charlie Baker declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The related bills would make substantial investments in transportation systems and infrastructure across the Commonwealth, including a boost for the Chapter 90 local road and bridge program. By vote of 150-1, the House approved an \$18 billion bond bill authorizing targeted spending on state and local transportation needs over 10 years. The House also passed, 113-40, a major tax bill projected to generate more than half a billion dollars per year in new revenue for transportation.

The House's bond bill would provide a 50% increase for Chapter 90, to \$300 million for a one-year authorization, a provision that was added by House leadership. Earlier versions of the bill, including the transportation bond bill filed by the governor last summer and those released subsequently by various legislative committees, would have level-funded Chapter 90 at \$200 million. An increase in state aid for local roads and bridges has been a top priority of the MMA for many years.

Before COVID-19 hit Massachusetts, Senate leaders had been planning to unveil their own transportation package. With state leaders now focused on the public health emergency, however, it is unclear when legislators will be able to return to transportation finance.

On March 5, members of the MMA Policy Committee on Public Works, Transportation and Public Utilities visited the State House to speak with legislators about the importance of Chapter 90 funding to maintaining and improving the 30,000 miles of roads and thousands of bridges that are the responsibility of local governments. During the visit, State House News Service interviewed the policy committee's chair, Mount Washington Selectboard Member Jim Lovejoy, and committee member and North Adams Mayor Tom Bernard.

"Bernard said at the current funding levels, it would take 73 years to repave every road in North Adams," State House News reported, "[while] Mount Washington, according to Lovejoy, receives about \$70,000 per year, according to the reimbursement formula, but faces costs of up to \$1 million to repave a single mile of roadway. 'For most communities, it's a lifeblood of funding for their municipal roads, Lovejoy said.'"

The single largest revenue source in the House's bill is a 5-cent increase in the state's gas tax, expected to raise between \$150 million and \$175 million. A 9-cent increase in the tax on diesel fuel would raise another \$32 million.

The bill would also raise revenue through changes to the minimum corporate income tax, fee increases for ride-hailing services, and elimination of a sales tax exemption for car rental companies.

A new special commission would study and make recommendations on the development and deployment of possible congestion pricing and variable tolling in the Commonwealth.

The revenue bill earmarks not less than \$160 million for the MBTA, \$15 million for regional transit authorities, and \$10 million for new rural transit assistance.

Gov. Baker has stated his opposition to proposals to raise taxes to fund transportation, specifically the gas tax, going so far as to say that he would decline to sign such a bill.

At the MMA Annual Business Meeting on Jan. 25, municipal leaders from across the state overwhelmingly approved a policy resolution on transportation that included support for an increase to the state gas tax.

The MMA resolution also aligns with other components of the House transportation package.

Around the time of the House vote, State House News reported that Senate leadership was planning to take a different approach, with an emphasis on policy over revenue and taxes. Senate Ways and Means Committee Chair Michael Rodrigues said, "We will let the policies dictate the revenues rather than let the revenues dictate the policy."

Despite a common understanding of the need to invest significantly in the Commonwealth's transportation systems and infrastructure, differences between the House and Senate could result in a long negotiation process between the two branches before the July 31 end to the current legislative session.



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Scott Turner Joins Environmental Partners



Environmental Partners has announced that Scott Turner has joined its Leadership Team as the Director of Planning.

Scott has over 25 years' experience in Civil Engineering, Planning, and Stormwater Management. He is a registered professional engineer, member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and LEED Accredited Professional in Neighborhood Development. He specializes in site development, permitting, green infrastructure design, and resilience. His diverse project experience includes

managing and directing complex land development, green infrastructure, and resilience projects.

Scott is currently active with the American Planning Association where he is the past National Chair of the Sustainable Communities Division, a committee member of the Water and Planning Network, and a member of the National Planning Conference Committee. He is also active with the Environmental Business Council and is a member of the Climate Change and Air Quality Committee.

Scott will work with clients in the institutional and commercial sectors, as well as with the company's municipal clients. He will also provide green infrastructure and general planning expertise that will complement Environmental Partners diverse transportation study and design projects.

MHA Mutual Aid - April 2020

By David Lane, MHA Secretary

The Mass Highway Association has made great strides reviving the Public Works Mutual Aid Program and developing processes which we can all use during an emergency or natural disaster. Five years ago, we successfully wrote, lobbied for, and received approval of State legislation which made it legal for us to aid other towns and cities, with our own municipal forces and equipment.

The latest efforts have been focused on recruiting mutual aid coordinators and designing a system where any municipality can contact their assigned County Mutual Aid Coordinator (CMAC) and request assistance. Mass Highway Association is providing training to the CMAC's so that they know the proper information to obtain when help is requested and how best to locate and assign mutual aid assistance. To organize and monitor assistance, both during and after an event, MHA has partnered with MassDOT and BETA Group to utilize the Mass DOT, GeoDOT software mapping system. We are very appreciative of the efforts from Tito Sanchez of BETA and Jose Simo of MassDOT who have been excellent partners in this development process and are allowing us to use the latest tools to keep our mutual aid system efficient and well run.

This year, MHA will be allocating a portion of the dues paid by all municipal memberships to fund the mutual aid program. This funding will provide for the equipment, training, education, and distribution of information, all of which is needed to make the program successful. Most importantly, on the 2020 dues form, we provided a space and asked each municipality to assign a person from their community to be the mutual aid contact. If you did not assign someone, or did not provide the up to date contact information, please email secretary David Lane, (dlane@danversma.gov) with the name and contact information so that we can keep the mutual aid mapping and database up to date.

The working committee is planning to have a tabletop, virtual mutual aid event at the beginning of May. Following this, each community will receive instructions on how to request aid and how to offer mutual aid assistance.



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Upcoming Training

Baystate Roads Workshops Postponed through May 7th

Following Governor Charlie Baker's announcement on March 10th declaring a State of Emergency, given the nature of COVID-19 in the Commonwealth, the UMass Transportation Center **will be postponing all classes scheduled between March 12 and May 7, 2020 to a future date, or providing a live streaming option.** This decision was made in response to the Governor's request that Executive Branch Agencies adopt precautionary measures.

We understand that there will be a lot of questions regarding new access options or rescheduling of training events and can assure you that we will provide additional class-specific information as available.

If a registrant is unable to attend a class on the rescheduled date or access the live stream, vouchers will be provided for another class or refunds will be issued on request.

Thank you for your understanding and for your continued support of the UMass Transportation Center and Baystate Roads.

"Stump the Instructor" A Weekly Series

Like all of you, Baystate Roads and the UMass Transportation Center are adjusting to new conditions at work and home. We are also exploring new ways to continue to support you in this time of social distancing. Over the next few weeks, we would like to hold a series of online "Stump the Instructor" sessions. Each week, we'll select a discussion topic and present a 1-hour on-line jam session.

So far, we have already had excellent discussions on "How DPWs Are Dealing with COVID-19" and "Gravel Road Maintenance". Please send mdsmith@umass.edu your Hot Topic ideas.

Join Zoom meetings every Wednesday at 10:00AM and follow Baystate Roads on Facebook or Twitter (@BaystateRoads) for weekly topics.

Join via web:

<https://umass-amherst.zoom.us/j/228256162>

Dial by your location:

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 228 256 162

Subscribe to the Baystate Roads Listserv

Baystate-roads-l Mailing List is an email message system to reach the municipal public works departments throughout the Commonwealth. We have seen an increase in usage during the COVID-19 situation. It provides a way that municipalities can pose questions and discuss topics among your public works peers.

The Baystate Roads Program Listserv is open to members of municipal highway departments throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as well as individuals from State and private agencies.

Subscribers can post a message to the listserv members by sending email to baystate-roads-l@engin.umass.edu.

To see the collection of prior postings to the list, visit the Baystate-roads-l Archives. (The current archive is only available to subscribers.) To subscribe, please follow this link: <https://list.umass.edu/mailman/listinfo/baystate-roads-lor> email donnelly@umass.edu

Online Trainings:

Online Traffic Signal Warrants: How to Perform, Assess, and Satisfy the Requirements of Each

Included are 12 bite-sized modules, with recorded instructor clips, PowerPoint PDFs and other course resources, brief quizzes to assess your knowledge, a final assessment, and course certificate.

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to determine whether a traffic signal is warranted for a specific location, given the requirement of each of nine signal warrants and traffic data.

Register: <https://www.umasstransportationcenter.org/assnfe/ev.asp?MODE=&ID=4268>

Online FAA Remote Pilot Certification Test Preparation

This UMTC self-paced online course is based on a recorded presentation by Aviation and UAS industry experts and is geared toward individuals who wish to earn their FAA Remote Pilot Certification. Students will also learn about UAS Safety Management Practices that insurance companies and risk managers encourage.

This 9-hour course covers all required knowledge content areas of the FAA's Remote Pilot Test including: Regulations, The National Airspace System, Weather, Aircraft Loading and Performance, and Flight Operations. Upon completion, students should feel qualified to take the FAA Remote Pilot Test.

Course Objectives

- To prepare attendees with minimal UAS experience for the FAA Remote Pilot Test
- To introduce attendees to FAA requirements for drone operations as they apply to both private and public entities.
- To introduce attendees FAA Remote Pilot Regulations
- To highlight some of the most common safety practices for both current and potential drone operators.

Register: <https://www.umasstransportationcenter.org/assnfe/ev.asp?MODE=&ID=4274>

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Safety Corner

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The topic of the times: Coronavirus. Covid-19. It's everywhere. And the goal is to try to avoid it. How does the public works sector accomplish this when jobs require teamwork and exposure and interaction with the public? From office personnel handling transactions to the crews keeping the roads and infrastructure going, the challenges faced over the past month have been trying. There are successful ways to reduce the overall exposure within the Highway Departments and Public Works as towns struggle to keep up with the demands of the services in these contagious times.

Workforce reduction is one way some towns are thinning their crews to minimize the amount of interaction. Whether it is a staggered workday shift, or one week on and one week off, adjusting the workforce can allow for decreased congregation during times where employees gather. Some towns may reduce workforce by asking the at-risk employees to stay home during this time. Planning for continued reduction may warrant some towns to cross-train as many workers as possible.

One of the challenges with workforce reduction may be management of the projects throughout the town and job completion without the full staff. It will no doubt be difficult to sustain town services with a reduced staff indefinitely.

A temporary cure to not only accommodating workforce reduction but also to reduce the public interaction, may be to change the operations or the town services offered through the Division. Many towns are taking this route while we are amid this outbreak. Services such as bulky waste transfer stations and trench permitting may be closed or grossly scaled down; collection days are cancelled; park maintenance and street repairs may be put on hold.

A huge factor in reducing the spread of the virus when isolation is not feasible is through distancing. Social distancing has been the new buzzword, and for good reason. Respiratory droplets potentially containing the virus are expelled through cough, sneeze, and even spittle while talking and some can travel distances greater than six feet. By creating distance between employees, the threat is reduced. Distancing for Public Works looks different from town to town- some have eliminated the punch clock for now so as not to gather in one place. Others have limited the number of employees who can congregate in the break/ lunchrooms or locker rooms or closed these areas entirely. One person/ one vehicle is another measure that other towns are implementing.

Other ways to reduce infection include good ol' fashion hygiene: cover your mouth with your arm when you cough or sneeze, wash your hands regularly, do not touch your face, and sanitize your hands in the absence of washing (though wash hands at next opportunity to do so). Disinfecting commonly touched surfaces and equipment should be part of the cleaning routine. Tools and vehicles should not be forgotten in the cleaning operations once an employee is finished. And with new recommendations from the CDC that people should use a cloth face covering, the employees may opt to wear these coverings when out in public or working on a crew (please note that OSHA standards still apply to the use of respirators; however, loose-fitting cloth covering face masks of the type CDC recommends that resemble surgical masks, may not be considered respirators requiring medical evaluations or fit tests).

As always, when the DPW or any organization is faced with challenging times, it is important to stay as focused as possible on continuing safely. We cannot forget other aspects of safety as we focus on Covid-19 protection, though infection control must be in the forefront of our minds and incorporated in our present daily life right now. Equally important is the need to be prepared, whatever the emergency, and to understand our responses and resources. But that's a conversation for another day....

Stay Well. Stay Safe.

County Association News

Barnstable County – Roby Whitehouse

Retirement: Congratulations to John Peters who retired from PA Landers after 49 years of service.

Golf: Date TBD at New Seabury

Scholarship opportunities:

- Members who have children and grandchildren attending college are eligible to apply for a scholarship from BCPWA. For information, visit the BCPWA website at <http://www.bcpwa.info/scholarship-info/>. Completed applications can be submitted to Rich Waldo.
- George Allaire Scholarship applications are available at (www.bcpwa.info). This is a new scholarship to be given to members and family who are pursuing degrees in public works related curriculums.

Obituary:

It is with great sadness that we announce the untimely passing of one of our colleagues from the Town of Yarmouth, Bernie Malone. Bernie passed away on February 15th. Bernie worked for Yarmouth for 27 years. <https://www.ccgfuneralhome.com/obit/bernard-a.-malone>

Berkshire County – Curt Wilton

As the Berkshire County Highway Superintendent's Association concludes its 40th Anniversary we are eager to get started once this COVID19 pandemic allows us all to get back to our normal routines. Our 2020 events and dates have been set but due to the Virus we are certainly anticipating some of these events to change.

*April 23, 2020 - 1st Meeting/Workshop, CANCELED

*June 12, 2020 - 12th Annual Charity Golf Tournament, Skyline CC, Lanesborough

*Date to be determined - 2nd Meeting/Workshop, Skyline CC, Lanesborough (agenda tba).

*August 20, 2020 - 3rd Meeting/Workshop, Skyline CC, Lanesborough (agenda tba).

*September 11, 2020 - 37th Annual Equipment Show & Picnic, Hinsdale Volunteer Fire Grounds, Hinsdale.

*October 22, 2020 - 41st Annual Meeting, Election of Officers and Scholarship Awards, Skyline CC, Lanesborough, Ma. (agenda tba).

New positions and congratulatory kudos:

Williamstown: Craig Clough is their new Highway Superintendent
Chris Lemoine moves to their new DPW Commissioner

Florida: Jim White is the new Highway Superintendent

Becket: Christopher Bouchard has taken a position with the Town of South Hadley as Director of Public Works.

The Berkshire County Highway Association is a strong and financially sound organization because of all our members, vendors and very active Board of Directors. Our long time

Secretary, Jerry Coppola, and longer standing Treasurer, Bill Elovirta, are part of our great success. Thank you both for all your efforts, along with Chris Bouchard for all his commitment and tireless energy given BCHA throughout his many years in our association. By accepting his new position in South Hadley, he is leaving Berkshire County and moving to Tri-County Association. TCHSA is gaining one hell of an asset. Chris, good luck and thank you.

Essex County – Lisa DeMeo

See separate articles

Norfolk-Bristol-Middlesex – Robert Cantoreggi

The Spring Tech, equipment show, and golf tournament have been cancelled this year.

Plymouth County – John Haines

Plymouth County Highway Association has found itself in a situation that is very unfamiliar. We are a group that was founded to bring people with a common interest together and support each other. Even though right now we cannot physically come together, in an effort to do our part for a greater good, it is absolutely the time to support each other. With regular meeting and events being postponed and canceled I want to remind everyone that we can still stop and take that minute to call your neighboring town's superintendent or director and check in. I can assure you you'll learn something or at least have a laugh.

Now also is the time to support our vendors who support us and our organizations to whatever extent you can.

Tri-County – Rob Colson

Congratulations are in order for several well deserving Tri-County area DPW people that have retired and to those that have filled their positions.

Ed Miga retired on January 17th, 2020 from his position as Wilbraham Director of Public Works after 36 years of service. He started out working in heavy construction drilling and blasting with Caldon Construction Drill & Blasting of Hampden, MA for ten years until he decided to go to college. He earned a degree in civil engineering from the University of Massachusetts and then went to work with the Town of Wilbraham where he earned his P.E. License. Ed also held a hoisting, grade 4 wastewater and soil evaluator and title 5 inspector's license. A few memorable career accomplishments include design and closure of the Grassy Hollow landfill which enabled a 750 watt solar field to be built on the flatter sections; working with MWRA to supply drinking water; water and sewer expansion projects; street improvement projects; and dealing with the 2011 tornado, microburst and Halloween ice snow storm.

Proud parent moments include getting his three sons through college and onto successful careers. He is a past President of both Tri-County and Mass Highway and was part of the Mass Highway Western Mass homeland security advisory board.

Ed was able to pass his knowledge onto Wilbraham Town Engineer Tonya L. Basch, P.E. who now holds the position of Director of Public Works / Town Engineer. Congratulations to both Ed and Tonya.

David Blakesley retired from Superintendent of the Westhampton Highway Department on February 13, 2020. David began work in the department in 1986 and moved up to Superintendent upon the retirement of Richard W. Tracy. David continues to serve on the Board of Health and as a town representative on the Hilltown Resource Management Coop. He also serves as a member of the newly formed Town Property & Energy Assessment Committee. Congratulations

to David and to the new Superintendent, Bill Jablonski who has many years of experience in the department as foreman and will have David to rely on for support and assistance where needed.

James M. Reidy retired from Superintendent of the South Hadley Department of Public Works at the end of February 2020.

Before coming to South Hadley, he served in the U.S. Army for seven years and attained the rank of First Sergeant. He was a member of the Massachusetts Army National Guard from 1983 to 2004. From 1995 to 1999 Jim was a water works Superintendent for the Windham Water Works down in Mansfield Center, CT. Then he served as the DPW Director for the Town of Hatfield from 1999 to 2007 at which time he came to South Hadley. During his 12 years in South Hadley they were able to develop a very strong DPW team.

He holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a master's degree in business administration from Anna Maria College in Paxton. Jim met a lot of great people in South Hadley and enjoyed working for the town. The Select board search panel has selected Christopher Bouchard, current Becket Highway Department Superintendent as Jim's replacement. Congratulations to Jim and Chris.

Joe Pipczynski retired with 48 years of service on April 6, 2020 as the City of Easthampton Director of Public Works. He graduated from Springfield Technical Community College, (then Springfield Institute of Technology) with a degree in Civil Engineering.

In 1972, he began working with the Town of Hadley DPW as a laborer/equipment operator/truck driver. After two years he was promoted to Assistant Water Superintendent, and two years later to Assistant Highway and Water Superintendent. In 1984, he was appointed as Highway and Water Superintendent for Hadley, and in 1985, he became the Supervisor of Utilities (sewer collection and water pumping and distribution) for the Town of Easthampton (now the City of Easthampton). He was appointed to the Director of Public Works position in 1988 where he worked under three forms of government including the elected Board of Public Works, the Board of Selectmen and the Mayor. During his career he also earned his CDL, hoisting, drinking water grade C3 and WWTP grade 4 licenses. Joe was Tri-County President at least three times and possibly four!! He is a past Mass Highway President. Congratulations to Joe on a long career and retirement.

Worcester County – Scott Crisafulli

WCHA kicked off the year with a well attended, successful March 10th meeting at the Italian American Club in Shrewsbury. Two \$1,000 scholarships were awarded at the meeting. The April meeting was cancelled because of the ongoing risk of the COVID-19 virus, and a decision on the June meeting has not been made. We wish health and safety to all our members and their families in these uncertain times and look forward to normality and prosperity soon.





By Lisa DeMeo



On January 15, 2020, Marcos (Tony) Ruiz was shot to death while filling potholes on the street in Lawrence. Mayor Dan Rivera said, "These are some of the hardest working city employees who often times do some thankless work—pushing snow, picking up trash, picking up needles. To see a fellow employee, die in this manner is unsettling to say the least.

We want to put our arms around them, make sure they are safe, supported and loved and so they know they are not alone. The investigation by the Lawrence Police Department State Police and District Attorney's office is ongoing." The shooter was caught and is in custody. The legal process is continuing.

Members of Essex County Highway Association and the New England Chapter APWA Bereavement Committee coordinated a tribute to Tony. The funeral procession passed through a large honor guard consisting of over 250 trucks and staff from Public Works Departments across the Commonwealth as well as Connecticut, Vermont, and New Hampshire.



Some information about Tony

- Tony was born on June 13, 1976 in Guayama, Puerto Rico, the son of Juan Ruiz and Adela Rodriguez.
- Tony attended Lawrence High School and was employed 20 years as a Heavy Motor Equipment Operator with the Lawrence Public Works Department, where he was known as a "jack of all trades", performing any task that was needed.
- Tony was the captain of the eight-ball team at his local club under the American Poolplayers Association, enjoying playing time with family and friends.
- More than anything else, Tony loved to spend time with his family; his wife Ivonne; his children Anaseidy and Marcos; his siblings; and his many nieces and nephews.
- Tony will be dearly missed by his coworkers at the Lawrence Department of Public Works.

Newsletter update

This Spring 2020 newsletter is distributed digitally only and is on the MHA website at masshwy.org. If you are a member of MHA and not receiving the newsletter, please contact the editor, Bill Elovirta, at bille@msn.com and give him your email address. All advertisers have a link to their websites. Please support our advertisers. All news items should be sent to your MHA County Director or directly to the editor. The next issue will be distributed in Fall 2020.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT POSITION

The Town of Becket is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Highway Superintendent. Position has an annual base salary of \$65,000 to \$75,000 plus overtime depending on qualifications. Requirements include a minimum of a high school diploma, with an engineering degree desirable; minimum CDL Class B and Class 2A Hoisting licenses, at least five years of progressively responsible experience or supervisory experience at the level of general foreman or above. The Town of Becket has a year-round population of approximately 1800 with a significant second home population. The town has approximately 60 miles of road, including 30 miles of gravel. A full job description is available on the Town's website www.townofbecket.org. Send resume, including at least three references with cover letter to Office of Town Administrator, 557 Main St., Becket, MA. Priority deadline of May 8, 2020, however position will remain open until filled. The Town of Becket is an EOE.



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Public Works Directors meet with Young Professionals

By Lisa DeMeo

Directors from Eastern Massachusetts get together each month for breakfast and fellowship. We discuss issues of the day, tips/tricks for operations, networking, and some great trivia quizzes. In January, the Young Professionals group of New England Chapter APWA joined with us. There were some ice breaker activities and both groups learned a lot. This joint meeting will continue on an annual basis.



Driver Skills and Safety Training Event (aka Snowplow Roadeo)

By Chris Bouchard, Chair

The Driver Skills and Safety event is scheduled for Wednesday, July 15th at the Wachusett Ski Area.

Watch for further information on whether the event must be rescheduled or cancelled because of Covid-19.

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Annual Mass Highway Charity Golf Tournament

By Ryan Bartlett, Charity Golf Chairman

Charity golf tournament chairman Ryan Bartlett and the committee will meet in the coming weeks to discuss the Covid-19 conditions and how they may affect this year's golf tournament.

Thank You for Your Many Examples of Excellence



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