

PAPD and GOCOR Host Community for 'National Night Out'

Each year, the Port Authority Police Department and Government and Community Relations (GOCOR) host the community and traveling public for *National Night Out*, a community-building campaign that promotes community partnerships and fosters a stronger sense of community in the neighborhoods that we serve.

On August 6, PAPD officers, GOCOR representatives, and facility operations staff greeted travelers across our facilities to raise awareness of the importance of public safety and security. There were also giveaways on hand for children and grown-ups alike, including crayons, coloring books, brochures, and much more.

On the first Tuesday of every August, tens of thousands of police departments across the country join together with their neighbors and community members to promote neighborhood camaraderie, enhancing the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community.



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Ensuring Accessibility for All



Last month, the agency recognized Disability Pride Month. See July's weekly Broadcast Expresses for more on this important observance, courtesy of the [Port Authority Abilities Network](#).

By way of the [Port Authority Social Media](#) team, see this [video message](#) from PAPD Detective **Dana Fuller**, done entirely in American Sign Language. Det. Fuller has often served as the official ASL interpreter at agency events.

Now more than ever, the Port Authority is working to ensure our facilities and information are accessible to all.

PA Staff Excite Local Students About Engineering and Architecture

Agency staff recently welcomed a group of 7th grade students from NJIT's Pre-College Program for a tour of the World Trade Center campus and an introduction to the role that engineers and architects play at the Port Authority.

On Tuesday, July 23, the 58 students began their exciting field trip with a visit to the Skyscraper Museum in Battery Park City, where they learned about the rebuilding of the WTC campus, followed by a trip to the One World Observatory. The students were then greeted at the Performing Arts Center Plaza by Chief of Staff to the Executive Director **Lisa Dewey-Mattia**, Engineering's **Alexa Beach** and **Amir Hassan**, and World Trade Center's **Jake Fry**, **Seth Kerr**, **Sean Chew**, and **Risa Sundu**.

The PA staff introduced themselves to the students and spoke about the roles they play across the agency to keep the region moving. After Lisa provided an overview of the agency, Jake and Seth led the students on an engaging tour of the WTC campus. As the students soaked in the sights, Alexa, Amir, and Jake spoke about the wide variety of work that engineers and architects can do at the agency.



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GOT NEWS FOR NEXT TIME?

Do you have news from your team, department or employee group to share in the next *PA News*? Send it to panews@panynj.gov by August 16 to be included in the August 23 issue.

PA Staff Excite Local Students About Engineering and Architecture

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The students left the trip excited about the engineering industry and inspired by the agency's work. This event exemplifies the commitment of the agency to educating the future generation of engineers and architects that may one day serve the Port Authority. A special thanks to all staff who participated!

PATH Performs! Provides Platform for Local Talent

Originally published in [Now Arriving](#), written by Elena May.



Local band Off the Bar Brass performing

As busy travelers and workers scurry through PATH stations to catch their trains this summer, many might be stopped in their tracks by a show-stopping performance in the station.

PATH Performs! is a partnership with the Hudson County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs that helps bring a vibrant experience to everyday commutes by featuring local bands, solo musicians and spoken-word artists. Performances are set to be staged at Journal Square and Harrison stations two to three times per week through October.

This summer's schedule of shows marks the third year for PATH Performs!, after launching in 2019 and returning from a pandemic pause in 2023.

Keep reading in [Now Arriving](#).

PAPD's Youth Services Unit Celebrates Renovated Space at Midtown Bus Terminal

In the past few months, agency staff have been hard at work transforming the PAPD's Youth Services Unit's (YSU) office at the Midtown Bus Terminal from an outdated office space to a welcoming environment for the youth the unit serves. To celebrate the transformative renovation, YSU held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Midtown Bus Terminal on Thursday, July 11.



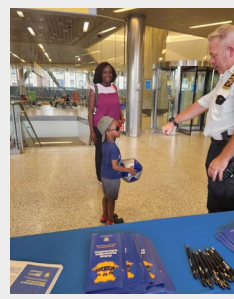
At the ceremony, Chief Security Officer **Gregory Ehrle**, Director of Public Safety and Superintendent of Police **Edward Cetnar**, Inspector **Charles O'Connor**, and Director of Resource Management and Planning **Carissa Roloson** commended the contributions of multiple departments, including Operations Services Office Space, PABT Structural Maintenance, PABT Electrical Maintenance, TEC, Print Shop, and SEMAC. These departments collaborated to completely renovate the space, which had not been updated since the unit's inception in 1972, in less than six months.

The YSU is a dedicated team of police officers and social workers who assist runaways, missing children, or any child found in distress while traveling through the bus terminal without adult supervision. YSU staff refer children in need to social service agencies, help initiate police investigations, and contact a child's parents or legal guardians, as necessary.

The newly renovated space will enable the YSU to continue its mission of combatting child human trafficking and supporting at-risk youth in our region in a revitalized and welcoming environment for years to come.

PAPD Hosts Community for 'National Night Out'

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PA Transit Tech Lab Greenlights Seven Innovative Pilots

The Port Authority's [Transit Tech Lab \(TTL\)](#) provides a pathway for early and growth-stage companies to pilot their technologies at the Port Authority. Each year, the PA TTL formulates challenges relevant to the agency's most pressing needs, issues a call for companies across the world to present solutions, and evaluates the respondents to advance those that provide the most value and the best fit for the agency.

Seven companies working with the TTL Team to solve this year's challenges have successfully moved forward into one-year pilots after having their solutions trialed in agency facilities for an eight-week proof of concept.

These seven innovative companies, listed below, brought forward creative solutions to solve this year's challenges in resilience and customer experience.



- **Velocia** is a mobility rewards platform that offers incentives to truckers for completing surveys.
- **GoodMaps** is a wayfinding app that was tested at the Hoboken Station.
- **Advanced Rail** is a company that tested using AI technology to count passengers and optimize fare evasion detection at Newark Penn Station.
- **Convo Communications** is a company that offers flexible, on-demand sign language interpreting services for the Deaf community and hard of hearing individuals.
- **ISS** is a company that provides an under-vehicle surveillance system that was tested at WTC.
- **Irmos** is a company that worked with PATH to test the integrity of bridges by evaluating vibrations through the structures.
- **QEA** is a company that conducted its proof of concept providing energy audits of buildings at an administrative building at the Holland Tunnel.

For more information, visit the [Port Authority's Transit Tech Lab website](#).

Engineering Department Celebrates Success at 2024 Chief Engineer Forum

Members of the Engineering Department recently gathered at 4 WTC to celebrate successes and look forward to the future at this year's Chief Engineer Forum. Hosted on July 9 and July 11 by **Tyson Davis**, Senior Advisor to the Office of the Chief Engineer, the event brought together staff from across the Engineering Department for a morning of inspirational remarks and building connections.



Executive Director **Rick Cotton** began the program by expressing his appreciation for the Engineering Department's role in keeping the region moving. Chief Engineer **Rizwan Baig**, Deputy Chief of Engineering **Amanda Rogers**, and all six division chiefs gave meaningful remarks showcasing their commitment to building the future of our region and appreciation for the Engineering Department's staff of over 530 engineers and architects.

This year's Chief Engineer Forum demonstrated the commitment of the agency's engineering professionals to building not just infrastructure, but also connections, opportunities, and a brighter future for the region.

CALENDAR

[NET and PAWC-WIT: Intro to Excel Training](#)

Wednesday, August 14 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Thursday, August 15 from noon to 2 p.m. Virtual. The Network of Emerging Talent (NET) and PAWC Women in Technology (WIT) will host a two-part Intro to Excel Training Workshop. Learn the fundamentals of Excel and enhance your data analytics skills. To RSVP, please email NET@panynj.gov.

[APNG: The Hidden Matters](#)

Wednesday, August 21 from noon to 1 p.m. Virtual. The Administrative Professionals Networking Group (APNG) will host its monthly virtual roundtable discussion on the topic of *Navigating Conflict in the Workplace*. Receive insightful tips for navigating conflict such as bullying, microaggressions, favoritism, and more. Members will receive an invitation. Non-members can RSVP to PA_APNG@panynj.gov.

[PAWC: Making Connections](#)

Thursday, August 22 from 1 to 2 p.m., 4 World Trade Center, 16th Floor, Conference Room F. The Port Authority Women's Council (PAWC) will host *Making Connections*, an ongoing series that connects members with leaders across the agency with the goal of fostering professional networks and learning about various career journeys, featuring **Mary K. Murphy**, Director of Planning and Regional Development. To attend, [please complete the interest form](#).

[PAHS: Back to School Celebration](#)

Saturday, August 24 from 1 to 4 p.m., Astoria, Queens. Together with the Port Authority Hispanic Society (PAHS), volunteer for a community outreach event to distribute school supplies to school-age children in the Port District who might not otherwise be able to afford them. For more information and to sign up to volunteer, please email us at PAHS@panynj.gov.