

**News Release**  
**Pennsylvania Township Supervisors Association (PSATS)**

Contact: Steve Miskin  
Director of Marketing and Communications  
717-7563936 / [smiskin@psats.org](mailto:smiskin@psats.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Quick Permitting Slated to Become Reality With SPEED, Sanko Says**

A long-standing priority of PSATS is set to become a reality next week, as the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announces the launch of an expedited permitting initiative for land, air, and water-related projects, PSATS Executive Director David Sanko said today.

Created by the General Assembly as part of last year's budget deal, the new Streamlining Permits for Economic Expansion and Development (SPEED) Program offers applicants the option to bypass the traditional permit line. Under this program, projects can be reviewed first by a qualified professional contracted through the DEP, with costs covered by the applicant.

"We are eager to see the SPEED Program in action," Sanko said. "Reducing the regulatory burden imposed by state government has long been a priority for townships. Excessive red tape hampers economic development and housing initiatives, but this new approach provided by the Senate and House, and implemented by DEP Acting Secretary Jessica Shirley, should provide meaningful support to townships, communities, and employers across the Commonwealth."

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The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors represents Pennsylvania's 1,453 townships of the second class and is committed to preserving and strengthening township government and securing greater visibility and involvement for townships in the state and federal political arenas. Townships of the second class cover 95% of Pennsylvania's land mass and represent nearly 6 million residents — more than any other type of political subdivision in the commonwealth.