



The Airport Corridor Transportation Association (ACTA), a non-profit transportation management association, presents our semi-annual newsletter to keep you informed about all the latest transportation news in and around the airport corridor. In every issue, we update you on construction projects, spotlight an employer, offer commuter options for working and living in the airport corridor and much more.

We hope you enjoy *Smart Moves* and we look forward to receiving your comments and feedback.

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## SMART MOVES

## SMART MOVES



AIRPORT CORRIDOR  
TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION  
WINTER 2016

## WHAT'S NEW

### RIDEACTA LAUNCHES NEW SMARTPHONE APP

RideACTA's new smartphone app makes riding the shuttle even easier. Currently available for both Apple and Android users, the app is quickly and easily downloaded to your mobile device. With the RideACTA app, riders are now able to access a customized

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### BUSWAY SERVICE REINSTATED

ACTA is excited to announce that our West Busway service has been reinstated.

Commuters who utilize the G2 bus from downtown to the Carnegie West Busway station will once again be able to take the RideACTA shuttle from the adjacent bus shelter on Mansfield Boulevard to multiple stops along Campbells Run Road including Penn Center West and Vista Park Drive. The route terminates at Business Center Drive in Robinson. Multiple morning and evening departure times make it convenient for commuters. Since its reinstatement in July, RideACTA has provided 3,300 rides on this

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### ACTA WELCOMES RMU PRESIDENT DR. CHRISTOPHER B. HOWARD

ACTA welcomes Robert Morris University's new president, Dr. Christopher B. Howard, to the airport corridor. Howard, one of the youngest college presidents in the United States, is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, holds an MBA from Harvard, and a doctorate in politics from the University of Oxford. "Robert Morris University wants to be the preferred

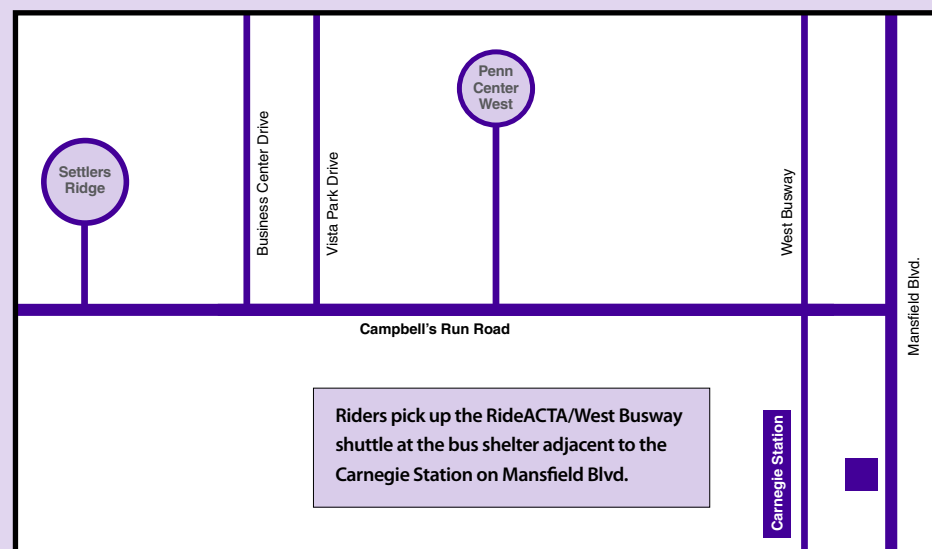


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### BUSWAY SERVICE REINSTATED [continued from front]

route. "[It] is a great transportation addition for our businesses located in the Penn Center West, Parkway View and Vista Park business parks," Deb Gray, Owner of the Pittsburgh West location of Express Employment Professionals, explains, "This allows our associates without a car to accept jobs that start at 8 or 9 am. We are excited to share this new ride option in our office to help more workers have access to more work opportunities."

The West Busway service is one of the ways ACTA continues to provide necessary "last mile" assistance to commuters who work in the airport corridor. ●



### ACTA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### OFFICERS

**President**  
Robert Dudash, *Robinson Township Resident*

**Vice President**  
Jim Foringer, *PennDOT District 11-0*

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Ruth Delach, *Pittsburgh Technical Institute*

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mike Baker, *PennDOT Central Office*  
Darrin T. Berger, *FedEx Ground*  
Eric Buncher, *Allegheny County Airport Authority*  
Tom Donatelli, *Michael Baker International*  
Jim Hassinger, *Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission*  
Ted McConnell, *K&L Gates*  
Mal Petroccia, *Moon Township*  
Jonathan Potts, *Robert Morris University*

#### ACTA STAFF

**Executive Director:** Lynn Manion  
**Assistant Director:** Amy Mathieson  
**Financial Manager:** Christine Miller  
**Mobility Management Manager:** Christine Bell

## MEMBERSPOTLIGHT

### ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY

Begun in 2013, Robert Morris University's Moon Economic Group was initially developed to "promote economic development and improve the quality of life along University Boulevard and throughout Moon Township by working with township government, neighboring communities, developers, retailers, and civic and business organizations." According to Jonathan Potts, RMU's Vice President, Public Relations and Marketing, the university is "very



proud to call Moon Township home, and we believe that our proximity to the airport is a real competitive advantage for us. We want to be good neighbors, and we also want to be sure the community understands the positive impact that we have in the region."

During the past year and a half, the group has added airport corridor transportation to their initial focus, with a subgroup dedicated to address this

specific issue. The subgroup's first priority was to work with the Port Authority of Allegheny County to expand service in the airport corridor, which they successfully accomplished — the G3 bus now runs between downtown and the University Boulevard park-and-ride. Next on the group's agenda is the "last mile" service from the park-and-ride. "It's critical for residents, but also for businesses that need to attract employees," Potts explains.

Lynn Manion, ACTA Executive Director, is a member of the economic group, as well as Jim Vitale, Chairman of the Moon Township Board of Supervisors, and other businesses and organizations such as Robert Morris University, the Pittsburgh Area Chamber of Commerce,

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# CONSTRUCTION&DETOURS

## NEW PUBLICATION: GUIDE TO ROAD CONSTRUCTION



ACTA produced and distributed its first ever *Guide to Road Construction* pamphlet this year. The publication provided users with a snapshot of all construction projects that could impact airport corridor commuters this season.

The guide’s streamlined design made the information accessible to everyone and easy to understand. It detailed smaller projects such as road paving, as well as larger ongoing projects such as the Liberty Bridge work and the I-376 Parkway West project that began in 2014.

Approximately 2,500 copies were distributed to businesses and organizations in ACTA’s service area. The publication was a success, receiving praise from PennDOT, and appreciation from readers. ACTA plans on annually updating and distributing the publication. ●



## Still haven’t signed up for ACTA’s Traffic Advisories? Here’s How:



- 1 Register online at [actapgh.org](http://actapgh.org) or send your email address to [amy.mathieson@actapgh.org](mailto:amy.mathieson@actapgh.org). Write **Traffic Advisories** in the subject line. Please note: ACTA does not sell or distribute your email address to any third parties.
- 2 You will receive a confirmation from us that your email address has been added to our database.
- 3 Traffic alerts will then be delivered to your mailbox as they are received.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact ACTA at 412.533.4602.

## SAFETY IS EVERYONE’S RESPONSIBILITY

Summer might be coming to an end, but road construction season is still in full swing. This means that drivers should continue to practice safe driving techniques and be cautious and aware of their surroundings when driving through construction zones. According to PennDOT, work zone crashes are rising at an alarming rate in Allegheny County, with **273 crashes reported in 2015** — a significant increase from 164 crashes reported in 2013. “Two of the most common contributions to work zone crashes are aggressive driving and distracted driving. Aggressive driving includes behaviors such as tailgating, improper passing and, worst of all, speeding,” explains Yasmeen Manyisha, Safety Press Officer for PennDOT District 11-0.

**Observing the posted speed limit** improves your chances of safely traveling through a

work zone. “Driving through a work zone should slow traffic and will sometimes cause delays, but it is important that motorists remain patient, give themselves plenty of time to travel, and allow plenty of space between vehicles.”

Manyisha continues, “**Distracted driving** is also a major problem on the road. Too often motorists are talking on cell phones, texting, reaching for items, or even just changing the radio station. All of these things take your concentration off of the road. When driving through a work zone, motorists need to expect the unexpected, because a couple of seconds of distracted driving can take a life. Oftentimes, vehicles need to make quick stops, and if you are distracted or driving aggressively, you

may not be able to react quickly and in a safe manner, and consequently cause a crash.”

Many motorists are under the misconception that hazardous road conditions and decreased visibility play a significant role in work zone crashes. Surprisingly, over **80 percent of crashes occur during clear weather**, with dry road conditions, and **over 60 percent occur during daylight hours**. This is why it is important to slow down and drive cautiously in work zones all of the time, not just during decreased visibility or at night.

“Another misconception is that people think ‘This couldn’t happen to me.’ Crashes can happen to anyone. That is why it is important for motorists to practice good behaviors on the road, to help keep the public safe. Safety is everyone’s responsibility,” Manyisha says. ●

## ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY [continued from front]



the Allegheny Airport Authority, and Walmart. Their quarterly meetings allow a dedicated time and place for discussing airport corridor transportation issues. “I am very grateful to RMU and Moon Township for taking the lead sponsoring a forum for discussing economic development in the airport corridor. I meet new people and learn something new at every meeting,” Manion says.

All members of the group acknowledge that transportation is one of the most critical challenges in the airport corridor. This shared viewpoint and common goal enables the group to communicate and collaborate on problem solving, improvements, and plans for the future. “This is the next big growth area for the Pittsburgh region, but many of the communities in the airport corridor are auto-centric, so making them more pedestrian and bicycle friendly is important. And of course we still need to find ways to provide more mass transit, and I think we will have to pursue some creative solutions,” Potts says. ●

## DR. CHRISTOPHER B. HOWARD [continued from front]

partner for corporations, organizations, and professionals in the Pittsburgh region,” Howard said at a recent economic development meeting, highlighting the university’s commitment to the area.

Since RMU is an active participant in the development of the airport corridor community, and a supporter of ACTA initiatives, we look forward to working together to improve the airport corridor. ●



## NEW SMARTPHONE APP [continued from front]



map that shows the demand-responsive shuttle service in real time. The app details the shuttle’s current location, illustrates each of the 200 stops served, and the name of the business where the stop is located. Arrows on the vehicle icons illustrate which direction the shuttle is travelling.

This app also includes Port Authority bus route information for the area. Users can view both bus and shuttle information simultaneously or change settings to view the services separately. While the map will still be available on ACTA’s website, this app is a must-have for frequent riders. ●

# WORK ZONE SAFETY

## PENNDOT’S WORK ZONE SAFETY TIPS

- Stay alert and pay attention to flaggers and signs
- Avoid all distractions
- Don’t tailgate
- Allow yourself extra time
- Exercise patience
- Expect the unexpected



## WHAT COULD IT COST YOU?

In addition to vehicle damage or personal injuries, the cost of unsafe driving in work zones is steep:



Drive 11 mph or more above the posted speed limit in a work zone, and you will **automatically lose your license** for 15 days.



**Fines for traffic violations are doubled** for active work zones. This includes speeding, driving under the influence, and failure to obey traffic devices.



The law allows up to **five years of additional jail** time for individuals convicted of homicide by vehicle for a crash that has occurred in an active work zone.

ROAD  
WORK