



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

June 15, 2020

Dear Senators:

Thank you for your letter regarding the toll collector positions at the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (Turnpike). The entire Commonwealth has faced public health and economic challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, the Turnpike is unable to return to cash collections due to public health concerns and financial challenges that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

To that end, the Office of Administration (OA) is assisting with alternative employment opportunities. Impacted Turnpike employees will continue to be able to bid on internal non-civil service Commonwealth employee-only postings. OA is assisting by hosting web training seminars for employees where they can learn about Commonwealth employment. Additionally, OA will email specific job posting links for Driver's License Center positions as the Department of Transportation increases their staffing.

As the Commonwealth continues to respond to the pandemic, new employment opportunities will arise as well. My administration has undertaken a measured and deliberate effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and contact tracing is key to continue our efforts to stop the spread of the virus. Pennsylvania is currently deploying a team of contact tracers to identify and contain the spread of COVID-19 in the Commonwealth, and we will be building a larger team of contact tracers as we prepare for a resurgence of COVID-19 in the fall. In the upcoming weeks, we will be establishing a centralized resource for hiring individuals interested in contact tracing. Given the difficult decision made by the Turnpike, we will prioritize impacted employees in the hiring process if they are interested in this type of work, and we will provide a free 45-hour training program through Harrisburg Area Community College.

I look forward to continuing to work together as we respond to the pandemic and recover from the economic challenges we are facing.

Sincerely,


TOM WOLF
Governor