

March 30, 2020

All updates regarding COVID-19 will be distributed under this banner. Updates and resources are available on eNet at the Novel Coronavirus Update Page (to access from outside the PA network, visit <https://paenet.panynj.gov/covid-19/> and login with your agency username and password). Please see the above directory of important numbers for immediate support, including the agency's COVID-19 employee hotline, open 24/7, to speak to an agent in Human Resources, Medical Services, Labor Relations, agency Safety, Technology, Property Management, and Warehouse Services: 844-334-4850.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: If you are feeling sick, including experiencing any symptoms whatsoever, it is important that you **STAY HOME**. This applies even if you suspect it's related to the common cold or something other than COVID-19.

Latest News on COVID-19

As of this morning, there have been 73,132 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the bistate region, and 143,055 total cases in the U.S.

The thousand-bed U.S. Naval hospital ship Comfort is set to arrive in Manhattan today and will dock on the West Side, aiming to treat non-coronavirus patients in order to free up space in hospitals for coronavirus patients. Additionally, a commercial flight carrying 80 tons of gloves, masks, gowns and other medical supplies arrived at JFK Airport on Sunday, intended for distribution throughout the region.

Former Port Authority Executive Director and now-MTA Chairman and CEO Pat Foye has tested positive for the novel coronavirus. He is isolating at home and is reported to be feeling good and able to work remotely.

All of us at the Port Authority wish Pat Foye a speedy and full recovery.

Agency Update: Modified PATH Service

Yesterday PATH began modified schedules on all lines for both weekdays and weekends. Following emergency orders in New York and New Jersey, weekday PATH ridership has fallen by approximately 90 percent. PATH is committed to maintaining reliable service levels, both ensuring that the region's essential workers can get to their destinations and can maintain a safe social distance of six feet or more on the platforms and on the train.

Details on the new schedules are available on PATH's webpage and via the RidePATH app. The new PATH schedule is temporary and will remain in place during the period the emergency orders remain in effect. PATH will monitor its platforms and trains and is prepared to make any necessary schedule adjustments.

A Message from the Retiree Community:

We Appreciate Your Dedication and Offer Our Support

When we talk about the Port Authority's long history of service, it is not academic. The agency's strength has always come from its employees, with each new generation carrying on the legacy left by the one before. Members of the Port Authority Retiree Association (PARA) represent many of the women and men who lifted the region after the 1993 WTC bombing and the Sept. 11 attacks. And now in retirement, during this new crisis, they still have our backs.

We received the following message from PARA on Friday afternoon. We're including it here in its entirety, and we thank former Board Secretary Karen Eastman for sharing it with us.

To our PA and PATH friends and colleagues:

For all of us, both active and retired, the PA's mission is familiar and clear as we are called to manage during uncertain and perilous times. Goods and people must continue to flow through the agency's facilities, whether by air, land, rail or sea, to serve the region and its people.

As always, you are dedicated to the PA mission which in the present crisis means getting front line people - healthcare workers, first responders and other essential workers - and essential supplies to where they need to be to address people most impacted by the coronavirus and to keep the supply chain open and flowing throughout the region.

We know that this is not business as usual; in truth it is a situation not previously experienced by most of us, and experienced at this scale by none of us. Even during the '93 bombing or the attacks on the WTC on 9/11, while work was done around the clock, it was performed without all of the uncertainties and perils, both known and unknown, that you are facing today.

We understand that you, the staff of the PA, have embarked on this mission against the backdrop of huge personal concern and distress and under critical and varied challenges. As you worry about how to stay true to this clearly defined PA mission, you must also struggle with apprehensions about your own safety, your family's health and well-being, and all of the ongoing disruptions to your normal lives.

Your expected responses to these apprehensions are not set forth in a psychology manual, and there is no clear roadmap as to how you should be dealing with your emotions at this time. It is normal to be expressing your feelings, and to feel lost as to how to face and deal with them while getting the job done. During the 9/11 crisis, many of us were disoriented and fearful, had pangs of survival guilt, and expressed our feelings to family members. This is a normal human response and not a sign of weakness!

Despite all of these concerns, struggles and feelings, you carry on as best you can. As humans, we are built to survive through highly stressful situations. The PA retiree family acknowledges all of your efforts, many of which cannot be done from home. You are put in the crosshairs. You are on the frontlines.

We thank you immensely for your extraordinary efforts and commitment to the PA mission. We are confident that you will be successful as you bring the agency through this unprecedented time.

We have great respect for you and for the day-in, day-out work you do under clearly stressful conditions. It is noble work that is so worth doing. We are very grateful to you for your dedication.

As always, should you believe that our skills and experiences could aid in your efforts, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Stay safe. Be healthy. And be well.

- The Port Authority Retirees Association (PARA)

MLH

Mary Lee Hannell

Chief, Human Capital