

**American Society of Landscape Architects**  
**Summary of Legislation**  
**August 2010**

**DEP Publishes Permit Extensions Law (Act 46); Notice of Applicability**

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has published a Notice, pursuant to the newly enacted Act 46 of 2010, in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. As the Notice explains, Act 46 was passed by the General Assembly on July 6, 2010, to provide relief to the building industry impacted by the economic downturn and to that end is focused on land development for residential and commercial purposes. The Act automatically extends the expiration date of certain types of approvals, permits, decisions, agreements and other authorizations or decisions (hereafter "approvals") that were in effect, or issued, after December 31, 2008. The extension provided under Act 46 lasts until July 1, 2013. Act 46 does **not** apply to: (1) an approval issued to comply with federal law, the duration or terms of expiration of which is specified or determined by federal law; or (2) requirements that are necessary to retain federal delegation to, or assumption by, the Commonwealth of the authority to implement a federal law or program. For example, Act 46 does not extend any of the NPDES permits administered by the Department or County Conservation Districts, including those for construction activities, for both of those reasons.

To view the notice, go to the Bulletin website:

<http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol40/40-32/1440.html>

**Transportation Funding Discussions Continue**

The transportation committees of the House and Senate as well as the Governor continue to exam the need for additional funding to fix Pennsylvania's transportation network. Most recently, the Senate Transportation committee held a public hearing on the failed attempt to get federal approval for tolling Interstate 80. Penn Dot officials indicated that the law enabling the I-80 tolling would need to be amended to correct the defects that led to the rejection of previous tolling plans. Even if that occurred, the Governor's spokesman said that tolling I-80 and keeping the money restricted to projects on that road "could be a small piece of the transportation funding solution. It could no way be the entire solution". Senator John Rafferty, Chair of the Senate Transportation committee added that he doesn't expect any bills to be brought forward this session that seek to toll Pennsylvania highways. He said a comprehensive transportation funding bill could be considered next year.

**Legislative Activity**

**Very little legislative activity occurred the past month. The General Assembly is in recess until mid-September.**

**New Bills Introduced**

**NONE**

**Upcoming Meetings of Interest**

**NONE**

**2010 HOUSE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE**

**September 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29**

**October 4, 5, 6**

**November 8, 9, 10, 15, 16**

**2010 SENATE FALL SESSION SCHEDULE**

**September 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30**

**October 12, 13, 14**

**November 18 (Ceremonial Session to Elect an Interim President Pro Tempore)**

**Session ends officially at midnight on November 30**

*Copies of all bills of interest can be accessed via the Internet at:*

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/BI/billroom.htm>