FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (June 25, 2020) - Port Authority of Allegheny County was informed today that an employee has tested positive for COVID-19, the agency's first case in more than six weeks.

The employee is an operator who works out of the West Mifflin garage. They last drove a Port Authority bus on Tuesday, June 23, and has been recovering at home since that time.

Port Authority has learned that the employee had been traveling out of state prior to being diagnosed. A contact tracing investigation is underway.

Port Authority has had 15 employees test positive for COVID-19 since the first case was reported on March. 26. This is the first case involving a Port Authority employee since May 5. All of those who tested positive have since recovered and have been medically cleared to return to work.

Upon learning of the most recent employee's test result, Port Authority mobilized a maintenance crew to perform a deep cleaning of the West Mifflin garage and the buses the operator most recently drove. These efforts were in addition to the enhanced facility and vehicle cleanings already taking place daily.

Port Authority also confidentially reported the information to the Allegheny County Health Department and has reached out to companies to solicit bids to further sanitize the West Mifflin garage, which is expected to take place Friday morning.

Earlier this week, Port Authority began testing use of an electronic temperature screening kiosk at the West Mifflin garage. Use of the kiosk had been optional but will now be mandatory for all employees entering the facility for at least 14 days.

Port Authority continues to follow the protocols and guidance issued by public health authorities in addressing potential and confirmed COVID-19 cases.

Port Authority continues to have more than 100 employees absent from work due to precautionary self-quarantine, pre-existing health conditions or other coronavirus-related issues.

Port Authority has more than 2,600 employees, including 1,300 operators and 800 mechanics.

###