



2015 Multimodal Highlights





Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) Grants by the Numbers

- 264 applications submitted in two rounds of funding.
- Requests totaled \$358 million.
- 91 projects selected for funding:
 - 86 projects in 35 counties awarded \$84 million in MTF funding from Act 89.
 - Five transit projects that applied for MTF were awarded \$7.2 million in Act 89 transit funding.
- The project funding comes from three state fiscal years of Act 89 investments.
- PennDOT evaluated the applications and made selections based on criteria including safety benefits, regional economic conditions, technical and financial feasibility, job creation, energy efficiency, and operational sustainability.

Cover photos

- PHL aircraft ©iStock.com/mtcurado
- freight train, bus, pedestrians, bicyclist courtesy of Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

Sample Funded Projects

► Ports

Colona Transfer, LP, Beaver County – \$1.8 million for upgrades to river cells, dock, and rail turnouts and rehabilitation of track for the Colona Transfer facility originally built in the early 1930s.

► Passenger Rail

Drexel University, Philadelphia County – \$2.5 million to create a Joint Master Plan for the Philadelphia 30th Street Station precinct.

► Freight Rail

SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority, Clinton County – \$3 million to construct a new two-way industrial access road, realign a portion of the Nittany & Bald Eagle Railroad Main Line to accommodate the access road, and construct new sidings and operating tracks for First Quality Tissue's two existing facilities and a proposed new facility.

► Public Transportation

Montgomery County – \$3 million for improvements to two existing SEPTA stations (Noble Station and Crestmont Station) to enhance vehicular and pedestrian access to the area, which will act as a catalyst for future commercial and residential redevelopment projects.

► Bicycle and Pedestrian

Aspinwall Riverfront Park, Allegheny County – \$921,453 to realign the entrance of the park to the Brilliant Avenue intersection, replace existing traffic signals, configure a four-way intersection, and construct a westbound left-turn lane and pedestrian lane.

► Aviation

Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority, Lehigh County – \$1.75 million to construct an Intermodal Ground Transportation Center adjacent to the Airport Terminal for bus, taxi, shuttle, and rental cars. Construction includes improvements to the airport's existing roadways to accommodate the increase in vehicle volume.



Dear Fellow Pennsylvanians,

Multimodal access supporting Pennsylvania jobs, education, and commerce is being steadily strengthened as a result of PennDOT’s productive first year under Act 89 of 2013. This report highlights initiatives supported by our Multimodal Deputate in 2014 to enhance transportation modes beyond highways—ports, freight rail, passenger rail, public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian, and aviation.

Act 89 was visionary and transformational as it committed predictable funding to Pennsylvania’s multimodal transportation system. The long-awaited investment has allowed our state and local leaders to advance much-needed strategic projects that promote efficient and effective transportation.

PennDOT’s responsibilities vary by mode, but for all forms of transportation we provide state-level oversight and coordination as well as financial and technical assistance to our local partners, collaboratively advancing the following goals:

1. Improve freight and passenger mobility.
2. Maximize the benefits of capital investment.
3. Promote safety.
4. Spur economic development through transportation improvements.
5. Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the transportation network.

We are pleased to highlight the many ways in which Pennsylvania’s people and goods move, and some of the projects that are making those trips safer and more convenient. So often it is a multimodal transportation element—even as simple as a well-placed sidewalk—that connects and completes our journeys for work, school, and recreation.

We look forward to continuing the important work of building a connected and complete transportation system as the foundation of Pennsylvania’s future.

Sincerely,

Leslie S. Richards
Secretary
Department of Transportation



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Ports



2014 Highlights

The Port of Erie received a Pacesetter Award from the U.S. DOT's St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation for increasing its international cargo tonnage during the 2014 navigation season.

► Five-Year Planning Guides Strategic Investment

- Ports have prepared five-year strategic plans identifying capital improvement, technological innovation, productivity and efficiency, and operations needs.
- The Port of Philadelphia is identifying the capital needs of its tenants in light of marketing opportunities and future growth potential. The Philadelphia Regional Port Authority and Holt Logistics teamed to analyze the needs for the Packer Avenue Marine Terminal.
- The Port of Erie is working with Donjon Marine to upgrade its facilities to capture additional winter work and accommodate expanded shipbuilding and repair opportunities.
- The strategic plans target ways to attract and handle more exports through Pennsylvania's ports. Currently, the Port of Philadelphia handles the fourth-largest import volume of cargo among U.S. ports.

Strategic Focus

- Maintain port infrastructure and expand capacity to attract additional imports and exports.
- Modernize information technology.
- Improve intermodal access to ports.

Investment

In FY 2013-14, PennPORTS administered \$9.3 million in state funding for Pennsylvania's ports and waterways, which included operating support and funding for capital improvements.

► **Fibria Cellulose Terminal Rail Upgrades Completed**

- The Port of Philadelphia has completed construction of the Tioga Terminal and the horizontal and vertical widening of the rail to the terminal, which will allow Fibria to discharge pulp for its North American markets.
- Full build-out will result in 350,000 metric tons of pulp arriving through Philadelphia to East Coast manufacturers.
- More than 200 direct stevedoring (dock worker) and terminal jobs have been created, along with other indirect jobs.

► **State Funds Seven Port Projects**

- The projects will support expansion efforts at Pennsylvania's ports, resulting in increased cargo handling capacity and employment, as well as improving port productivity and efficiency. Grant recipients by port:
 - Port of Erie: Donjon Marine
 - Port of Pittsburgh: Colona Transfer, LP; Three Rivers Marine and Rail Terminals, LP; Allegheny River Development Corporation; McKees Rocks Industrial Enterprises; and Georgetown Sand & Gravel, Inc.
 - Port of Philadelphia: Maritime Exchange of the Delaware River and Bay

► **PennDOT Launches Pennsylvania Intermodal Cargo Growth Incentive Program**

- The program will provide an incentive to ocean carriers that increase their container volume from one six-month period to the next.
- PennDOT estimates the program may attract as many as 200,000 new container moves over a five-year period.

The Port of Philadelphia experienced double-digit growth for the fifth consecutive year in 2014.



2015 Initiatives

- Advance Southport development of terminals and other distribution infrastructure on 200 acres of riverfront at the Port of Philadelphia.
- Pursue direct service from Veracruz, Mexico, to the Port of Philadelphia to expand the volume of perishable food handled.
- Upgrade existing infrastructure at several terminals in Southwest Pennsylvania to handle commodities related to the Marcellus shale industry.
- Deepen the main channel of the Delaware River to enable the Port of Philadelphia to handle larger ships.
- Conduct port economic competitiveness study.

Freight Rail



2014 Highlights

Pennsylvania rankings*
(national comparison) in
freight by rail:

- #1 in number of operating railroads
- #5 in railroad mileage
- #7 in carloads terminating within the state
- #8 in tonnage and number of carloads originating in the state

*2011 data

► Norfolk Southern Rutherford Yard Expansion Doubles Intermodal Capacity

- Expansion of the 200-acre Rutherford Yard in Dauphin County is needed to support the rapid growth of regional intermodal freight traffic as part of the Crescent Corridor.
- The expansion provides an additional four pad tracks with a total capacity of 12,000 feet, along with four storage tracks, concrete craneways, 400 additional trailer parking spaces, a crane and hostler maintenance facility, a modular administrative building to support Triple Crown Services, a new 287-space trailer parking lot for Triple Crown, a maintenance building for the intermodal site, and other site amenities.
- Work includes installation of 37 track switches, 46,000 feet of track, and 47,000 tons of ballast.
- Phase 1, the Triple Crown Services and parking expansion, was completed in 2013; Phase 2, the track and intermodal facility expansion, is on schedule for completion in October 2015.
- PennDOT provides oversight of the \$27 million project, which is funded with federal CMAQ and TIGER grants as well as Norfolk Southern monies.

Strategic Focus

- Increase 286,000-pound-compliant track.
- Expand track network and sidings.
- Maintain existing track and bridge infrastructure.
- Enhance safety at highway crossings.

Investment

PennDOT's Bureau of Rail Freight, Ports and Waterways provides financial assistance to railroads and related businesses. In FY 2013-14, PennDOT administered \$27.4 million in Rail Transportation Assistance Program (RTAP) funds, \$5.6 million in Rail Freight Assistance Program (RFAP) funds, and \$1.3 million in Marcellus Shale Impact Fee (Act 13) revenue.

► **Rehrig Pacific Company Side Track Rehabilitation Reduces Truck Traffic**

- The project rehabilitated a deteriorated side track to serve Rehrig Pacific Co., an injection mold plastic manufacturing plant operating in Erie since the early 1960s.
- The 2012 RFAP-funded project was completed in FY 2013-14. State share: \$236,253. Total project cost: \$337,505.
- With the installation of this rail service, approximately 496 trucks are removed from Pennsylvania roads each year.

► **Central New York Railroad Bridge Rehabilitation Improves Safety and Operations**

- Work increased the track rating to 315K on a rail bridge crossing the Lackawaxen River in Pike County. The project included improvements to the bridge approach alignment.
- A new safety walkway was constructed for maintenance-of-way personnel (see photo preceding page, center).
- The 2011 RTAP-funded project was completed in FY 2013-14. State share: \$3 million. Total project cost: \$4.5 million.
- Five rail customers along the CNY line with 20,000 annual carloads; 219 jobs retained.

► **CSX National Gateway Project Advances**

- Seventeen double stack clearance projects were completed in Pennsylvania (Allegheny, Bedford, and Somerset counties) between August and November 2014.
- State share: \$35 million for National Gateway Clearance Initiative.
- The initiative aims to achieve a minimum of 21 feet vertical clearance to accommodate double stack trains between northwest Ohio and Mid-Atlantic ports.

Statewide, the number of incidents at rail crossings has decreased 10 percent over the past decade.



2015 Initiatives (2014-funded RTAP and RFAP projects)

- “Navigating to New Castle” 286K Siding Capacity Project (Armstrong, Butler, and Lawrence counties) – Buffalo & Pittsburgh Railroad, \$1,988,840 state share.
- Rail Yard and Mainline Expansion Project (Lancaster County) – Columbia & Reading Railway, \$732,200 state share.
- Modena Railroad Bridge Rehabilitation Project (Chester County) – \$2.8 million state share.
- Keystone Industrial Port Complex Rail Expansion Project (Bucks County) – \$1,154,300 state share.
- Develop rail-served properties economic development tool.

Passenger Rail



2014 Highlights

Keystone Corridor improvements over the past decade have reduced travel time between Harrisburg and Philadelphia from 120 to 95 minutes.

► State Interlocking to Allow Higher Train Speeds

- Interlockings allow trains to change tracks to access stations or pass slower trains. Older interlockings require trains to slow significantly, adding to overall travel time.
- The State Interlocking at Harrisburg is being rebuilt to allow trains to approach the station 20 mph faster than is currently possible.
- The project, which is under construction, will improve service reliability and decrease trip times.

► Keystone Corridor East “Sealed” for Safety

- The new Eby Chiques Bridge over the Keystone Corridor tracks in Lancaster County opened in October 2014.
- This allowed the closing of the last remaining public at-grade crossing on Keystone East between Harrisburg and Philadelphia.
- The \$7.86 million project enhances safety and prepares the way for train speeds up to 125 mph.

Strategic Focus

- Accommodate faster train speeds.
- Increase safety and reduce potential train/vehicle conflicts.
- Enhance stations and improve ADA accessibility.
- Improve intermodal access.

Investment

In FY 2013-14, PennDOT provided a \$15.5 million subsidy to Amtrak for passenger rail service on the Keystone Corridor. The Bureau of Public Transportation invested \$9.5 million in passenger rail station improvements and other infrastructure.

► **Station Improvements Enhance Capacity, Access, and Promote Revitalization**

- Mount Joy – Design and preconstruction work completed in 2014 for new level boarding platforms, towers, and covered walkway for parking access.
- Coatesville – Conceptual design for new station completed, under review by Amtrak. Project includes station-area redevelopment.
- Downingtown – Preliminary conceptual design and environmental assessment for new station underway, including traffic impact study and intermodal coordination.
- Exton – New station design complete; anticipated construction start in 2015.
- Paoli – Restroom and parking improvements completed in 2014; planning continued for intermodal station access projects and local roadway improvements.
- Philadelphia – 30th Street Station signage installed to improve wayfinding within and surrounding the station.

► **Improvements to Keystone West Evaluated**

- The Keystone West High Speed Rail Study analyzed—at a conceptual level—options for increasing train speeds and frequencies between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh.
- Potential improvements to modify curves and add and improve track were analyzed in packages, ranging from lower-cost alternatives with limited benefits to larger, long-term investments.
- Detailed technical analysis and design would be required before undertaking any of the recommended actions.

Rail station projects include improving intermodal access such as the bicycle and pedestrian pathway linking Elizabethtown Station to downtown.



2015 Initiatives

- Develop strategic plan for service expansion.
- Launch construction of Mount Joy Station tower and platform improvements.
- Complete design of new multimodal Middletown Station.
- Complete design of new Ardmore Station, including new level boarding platforms.
- Continue construction of State Interlocking improvements.

Public Transportation



2014 Highlights

Consolidation of BARTA and RRTA will save county taxpayers an estimated **\$4.7 million** over five years.

- ▶ **BARTA/RRTA Consolidation to Save Counties Millions**
 - Consolidation of the Berks Area Regional Transit Authority (BARTA) in Berks County and Red Rose Transit Authority (RRTA) in Lancaster County was finalized in December 2014.
 - A locally-led regionalization study determined that consolidating administrative functions of the two agencies could yield substantial savings for the counties, while maintaining or enhancing service levels.
 - Consolidation and regionalization studies are currently underway in Washington County, South Central, North Central, Northwest, and Southwestern Pennsylvania counties.
- ▶ **www.FindMyRidePA.com Pilot Program Launched**
 - Pilot program launched in York County in June 2014.
 - Users can enter trip details and see options for bus, taxi, shared ride, and volunteer services; registered shared ride users can book their trip online.
 - System to be expanded to cover Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon, and Franklin counties.

Strategic Focus

- Strengthen transit agency performance.
- Support fuel efficiency.
- Enhance financial sustainability of transit.

Investment

In FY 2013-14, PennDOT's Bureau of Public Transportation (BPT) administered \$35 million in federal funding and \$1.26 billion in state funding for Pennsylvania's transit agencies.

► **Transit Agency Performance Reviews Lead to Improved Bus Service**

- FY 2014-15 site visits were conducted at eight Pennsylvania transit agencies.
- Reviews help agencies identify best practices and areas in need of improvement, establish five-year performance targets, and develop action plans.

► **MCTA Upgrades Shared Ride Fleet, Improves Efficiency**

- Monroe County Transportation Authority (MCTA) procured nine new shared ride vehicles in FY 2013-14.
- The purchase included compressed natural gas (CNG) conversion kits, enabling the use of lower-cost fuel without retrofitting the entire vehicle.

► **SEPTA Replacing 120-Year-Old Viaduct**

- Crum Creek Viaduct on the Media/Elwyn commuter rail line in Delaware County was built in 1895. It is 925 feet long and more than 100 feet high (see photo, right).
- Design of a replacement bridge was completed in 2014; construction began in 2015, slated for 2017 completion.
- PennDOT funded \$85 million of the \$89.9 million project.

► **CATA Maintenance Agreement Produces Positive Results**

- Crawford Area Transportation Authority (CATA) formerly contracted most bus maintenance work to private contractors; expertise for major repairs was often not locally available.
- In FY 2013-14, CATA formalized an arrangement with the Erie Metropolitan Transportation Authority (EMTA) to have CATA buses serviced by EMTA transit mechanics.
- Results are higher quality, lower costs, and faster turnaround for repairs.

PennDOT developed a customer satisfaction survey for use by transit agencies to help them better understand and meet the needs of their passengers.



photo courtesy of SEPTA

2015 Initiatives

- Provide technical assistance to help transit agencies implement their performance review action plans and provide better, cost-effective service.
- Begin construction of \$25 million facility to support maintenance, operations, and CNG fueling of York Adams Transportation Authority's 100+ vehicle fleet.
- Encourage innovation in providing sustainable, cost-effective shared ride services through the Shared Ride Community Transportation Pilot Program.
- Issue a Request for Proposals to build CNG facilities across the state for transit and private use.

Bicycle & Pedestrian



2014 Highlights

► Pedestrian Safety Outreach Launched in Philadelphia

- Philadelphia was selected in 2014 to receive federal safety funding as one of three “pedestrian focus cities.”
- Safety efforts implemented since the October 2014 kick-off:
 - Continuous enforcement in three pedestrian high crash zones
 - Geo-targeted social media outreach at and around crash zones
 - Campaign-themed outreach—website (www.itsroadsafety.com), bus and shelter advertising, and community outreach materials
 - Police pedestrian enforcement training video
 - Training video for new taxi drivers
 - Educational programs for students in elementary school through high school

► PennDOT District Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinators Convene

- The bicycle and pedestrian coordinator from each of PennDOT’s 12 districts attended the Pro Walk/Pro Bike/Pro Place national conference in Pittsburgh in September 2014.
- While at the event, PennDOT convened a meeting of the district coordinators—their first in-person collaboration in many years.

PennDOT provides “Yield to Pedestrians” signs to municipalities.

Strategic Focus

- Improve safety, reduce crashes, and lower fatality rates.
- Enhance pedestrian connectivity.
- Expand networks of bicycle lanes.

Investment

In FY 2013-14, PennDOT’s Multimodal Deputate awarded \$23,482,568 to 32 pedestrian and bicycle facilities projects statewide.

► Capitol Pedestrian Project to Enhance Safety

- The project addresses pedestrian safety and access around the Capitol Campus in Harrisburg.
- Improvements are primarily intersection corner bulb-outs (shorten the crossing distance) and raised crosswalks/intersections (elevate the pedestrian for greater visibility).
- Work will improve access to and accommodations for multimodal facilities (bus stops and train station).
- Design began in 2014; construction completion expected in 2015.

► Manayunk Bridge Trail Construction Underway

- An abandoned rail bridge owned by SEPTA is being converted to a bicycle and pedestrian bridge.
- The bridge will connect the Cynwyd Heritage Trail with the Schuylkill River Trail network and Manayunk as part of “The Circuit,” a 750-mile network of bicycle and pedestrian trails.
- Several partners involved including PennDOT, SEPTA, the City of Philadelphia, the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia, and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.
- Under construction in 2014; completion expected in late 2015.

► Indego Bike Share Launched in Philadelphia

- After years of planning and coordination, Indego Bike Share was launched in April 2015.
- Special consideration was given to making the program accessible to low-income residents.
- PennDOT partnered with the Philadelphia Mayor’s Office of Transportation and Utilities on the project and provided state funding for a portion of the planning and implementation.

More than 600 bicycles are available at 60 bike share stations throughout Philadelphia.



2015 Initiatives

- Launch statewide complete streets initiative.
- Hire a full-time statewide bicycle and pedestrian coordinator.
- Advance a study of bicycle and pedestrian policy by the Pennsylvania Transportation Advisory Committee.
- Conduct statewide training on bicycle and pedestrian safety considerations for infrastructure planning and design practitioners in partnership with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Aviation



2014 Highlights

Pennsylvania has:

- 130 public-use airports:
 - 15 scheduled service airports
 - 103 general aviation airports
 - 6 public heliports
 - 2 ultralight facilities
 - 2 seaplane bases
 - 2 gliderports
- 278 private airports
- 281 private heliports

► Brandywine Airport Vertically Guided Approach Feasibility Study Underway

- The project is evaluating the feasibility of implementing a poor weather approach to this Philadelphia reliever airport.
- The approach would providing vertical as well as horizontal guidance using satellite-based GPS as part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) NextGen technology.
- Enabling this general aviation airport to handle flights during poor weather would improve access to the Philadelphia region.
- Currently pilots must divert to Philadelphia International Airport, which is prone to extensive delays and limited accessibility to general aviation during poor weather conditions.

► Schuylkill County Airport New Corporate Hangar Completed

- Facility accommodates increased jet activities and demand for hangar space.
- PennDOT funded \$475,000 of the \$950,000 project.

Strategic Focus

- Prioritize airport safety.
- Enhance airport access.
- Promote infrastructure preservation and sustainability.

Investment

In FY 2013-14, PennDOT's Bureau of Aviation administered \$12.6 million in federal funding and \$11.2 million in state funding for Pennsylvania's airport system.

▶ **Jake Arner Memorial Airport Mitigating Airspace Obstructions**

- The project is improving safety by clearing vegetation that has grown into the airspace needed for take-offs and landings.
- Work involves clearing obstructions on 24 acres of airport property and easements in Lehighton, which are 70% wetlands, adding complexity.
- The project received \$600,000 in Block Grant (federal) funding administered by PennDOT.

A \$1.6 million project at Pottstown Municipal Airport saved a deteriorating runway and improved the runway safety area.

▶ **Mifflin County Airport New Taxiway Constructed**

- The new 305-foot-long taxiway allows aircraft to access the new corporate hangar area.
- Work included stormwater management infrastructure to accommodate future development.
- The project received \$546,000 in Block Grant (federal) funding administered by PennDOT.



▶ **Arnold Palmer Regional Airport Public Safety Building Opened**

- This development on airport property provides a Regional Emergency Operations Center.
- It includes a new 10,023-square-foot building with offices, garage, and parking lot adjacent to SR 981.
- The project provides space for emergency operations of state, county, and local agencies.
- PennDOT funded \$700,000 of the \$2.5 million project.

2015 Initiatives

- Conduct runway extension feasibility and justification studies at three Pittsburgh-area airports.
- Complete South Apron construction at Chester County Airport.
- Rehabilitate and widen runway at New Garden Flying Field.
- Complete obstruction mitigation projects at seven airports statewide to protect approach airspace.

Tom Wolf
Governor

Leslie S. Richards
Secretary of Transportation



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