

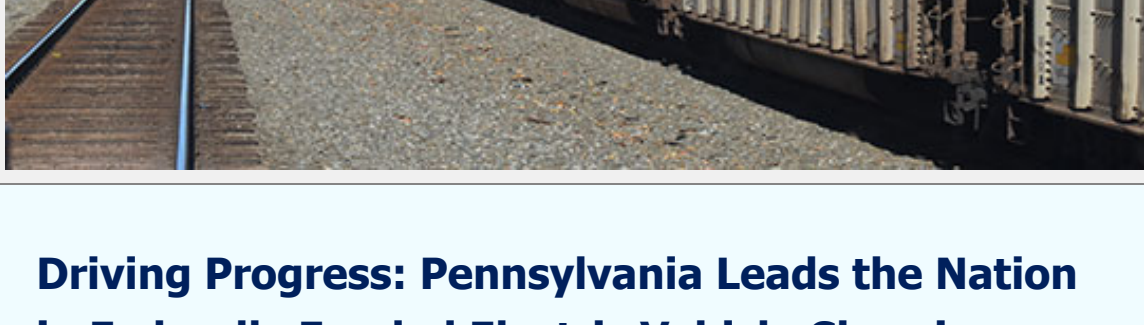


### Help Shape the Future of Rail in PA: State Rail Plan Available for Review, Comment until Oct. 24

The State Rail Plan focuses on improving the Commonwealth’s rail passenger and freight rail systems and identifies areas for growth. It is updated every four years, in collaboration with the Federal Railroad Administration, as well as stakeholders and the public.

The 2025 edition of the plan is now available for public review and comment through **Oct. 24, 2025**. PennDOT will hold a virtual public meeting on **Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025**, from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM to highlight key information and answer questions.

Visit the [Advancing PA Rail website](#) to view the draft plan and provide comments. Comments can also be submitted by email to [RA-PDPASRP@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PDPASRP@pa.gov).



### Driving Progress: Pennsylvania Leads the Nation in Federally Funded Electric Vehicle Charging Station Infrastructure

Pennsylvania now has 19 federally funded Electric Vehicle (EV) stations through the [National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure \(NEVI\)](#) program. With the addition of two new stations, we now lead the nation – alongside our Ohio neighbors – in the number of NEVI sites established. The latest stations are located at:

- Sheetz in Altoona, Blair County (Interstate 99 – Exit 32)
- Sheetz in York, York County (Route 30 along Interstate 83 – Exit 21)

These stations represent more than **\$10.5 million in federal investment** and underscore the state’s commitment to expanding EV infrastructure across the Commonwealth and ensuring that Pennsylvania drivers benefit from a reliable, accessible charging network.

In August, the Federal Highway Administration issued new interim guidelines for states to restart their NEVI programs. Pennsylvania submitted [an updated state plan](#) reaffirming its commitment to a competitive and comprehensive EV charging network under the revised federal framework.

A list of all NEVI awards in Pennsylvania is available on [PennDOT's website](#). For up-to-date national data on NEVI programs by state, visit the [EV States Clearinghouse website](#).



### Deadline Approaching – Final Opportunity for \$80 Million in Pedestrians and Cyclists Safety Grants

[PennDOT's 2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside \(TASA\)](#) program is still open for applications until **Oct. 31, 2025**. A total of \$80 million in funding is available to support projects that expand transportation options and improve safe access to schools across the state.

The TASA program funds a variety of projects, including:

- Pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Better access to public transportation
- Safe routes to school
- Improving neighborhoods by saving historic buildings and maintaining green spaces
- Protecting nature by managing rainwater or helping animals move around safely
- Useful trails that help people get where they need to go
- Making roads safer for pedestrians and bicyclists

#### Key Deadlines: What’s Next?

The draft application deadline for PennDOT’s two-step project submission process has passed (Sept. 5, 2025). Only applicants who submitted a draft and completed a review meeting with their district office can proceed.

Here’s what’s ahead:

- **Final applications due:** Oct. 31, 2025  
*(Only accepted from applicants who completed the draft review process.)*
- **Final project recommendations announced:** March 2026

If your organization submitted a draft, now’s the time to refine your final proposal and prepare for the next step. [PennDOT's TASA website](#) offers detailed program materials, comprehensive information on eligibility and how to apply, and a recording of an informational session held in July. Questions can be submitted to [RA-pdTASA@pa.gov](mailto:RA-pdTASA@pa.gov).



### Trailblazing Solutions: Two Stories of Rural Innovation

In rural Pennsylvania, two recent efforts—one expanding outdoor recreation and the other protecting the food supply—show how smart infrastructure and quick coordination are helping communities thrive.

In northern Pennsylvania, [a 3,700-foot section of Route 49 in Tioga County](#) has been officially opened to All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), connecting riders to local businesses and scenic trails. Route 49 is the first in the state to receive this designation under a new PennDOT policy — a move aimed at energizing rural economies through outdoor recreation. The surrounding trail network [has generated over \\$13 million in economic impact](#) for the region, drawing nature lovers to the Pennsylvania Wilds — a vast, Yellowstone-sized landscape filled with wildlife, history, and small-town charm. Building on this momentum, [\\$2.1 million in new funding is now available](#) to expand and improve ATV and snowmobile trails statewide.

Meanwhile, when a dairy processing facility in New York temporarily paused operations, millions of pounds of milk were rerouted to Pennsylvania processors. [Because of rapid coordination between PennDOT](#), agriculture agencies, and industry partners, necessary permits were issued within 24 hours — preventing waste and keeping shelves stocked. The effort showcased how responsive infrastructure and cross-state collaboration can protect farmers, consumers, and the regional food supply chain.

Whether opening new trails or rerouting critical goods, these wins show how Pennsylvania is a trailblazer — by investing in infrastructure, collaboration, and rural communities.







# Does Your Community Need Funding Support for Important Local Projects?

[PennDOT's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\) website](#) is a valuable resource for communities seeking federal funding. It offers tools and assistance for developing competitive grant proposals, planning infrastructure projects, and navigating the grant application process.

## Key features:

- [Guide for Developing Grant Proposals](#)
- Technical Assistance and Resources
- Checklist for Local Governments
- Funding Opportunities

## Stay Updated on Federal Grants

[PennDOT's IIJA website](#) offers the latest news on federal grant opportunities and awarded projects. Check back regularly for updates that could benefit your community.

**There are currently no federal grant programs accepting applications.**

For more information about PennDOT Pathways, visit our website at [penndot.pa.gov/funding](https://penndot.pa.gov/funding).

Want to share information on your social or digital platforms? Find images, videos, and other resources in the [Funding Media Center](#).

## Contact Us



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