

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC MEETINGS

**PLEASE
JOIN US!**

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation investments and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives identified in the current plan and identify any recommended changes needed for the new plan. The goals and objectives provide the framework for the plan. Your participation will help direct these revisions and provide insight on current and future issues and needs of Berks County's transportation system.



If unavailable to
attend any meetings,
please consider taking our survey.
survey link: bit.ly/LRTP_Survey



Encuesta sobre Metas y Objetivos del
Plan de Transporte a Largo Plazo

bit.ly/LRTPencuesta

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGION MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024
6PM-7PM

Robeson Township Municipal Building
2689 Main Street · Birdsboro

TULPEHOCKEN REGION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2024
6PM-7PM

Jefferson Township Municipal Building
5 Solly Lane · Bernville

METRO REGION MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024
6PM-7PM

Muhlenberg Township Municipal Building
210 George Street · Reading

HAWK MOUNTAIN REGION MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024
6PM-7PM

Perry Township Municipal Building
680 Moselem Springs Road · Shoemakersville

OLEY HILLS REGION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2024
6PM-7PM

Washington Township Municipal Building
120 Barto Road · Barto



Registration is required as a
light meal will be provided.

REGISTRATION LINK:
bit.ly/LRTP_Registration

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND OUR IN-PERSON MEETINGS,
PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US FOR OUR VIRTUAL MEETING!

COUNTYWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024
1PM-2PM

Via Microsoft Teams

Reading Area Transportation Study

(Estudio de Transporte del Área de Reading)

FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives Public Meetings

(Reuniones públicas en torno a las Metas y Objetivos del Plan de Transporte a Largo Plazo)

El estudio Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS, por sus siglas en inglés), encomendado para el condado de Berks por la Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO, por sus siglas en inglés), está actualizando su plan: Long Range Transportation Plan, (LRTP, por sus siglas en inglés).

El LRTP ayuda a encaminar las decisiones en torno al transporte y uso del suelo dentro de un plazo de 20 años hacia el futuro. Como parte del proceso, estaremos llevando a cabo reuniones de divulgación a través del condado de Berks para revisar las metas y objetivos identificados en el plan actual y para identificar si se necesita recomendar algún cambio para el nuevo plan. Las metas y objetivos nos proveen el marco para plan. La participación de usted en estas reuniones nos ayudará a dirigir estas revisiones, así como nos proveerá información sobre necesidades y temas actuales y futuros en torno al sistema de transporte del condado de Berks.

****Se requiere que usted se registre. (El enlace para el registro es:**

https://bit.ly/LRTP_Registration)

Se llevarán a cabo cinco (5) reuniones presenciales y una reunión virtual:

martes 1 de octubre de 2024

6 p.m.– 7p.m.

**Robeson Township Municipal Building
2689 Main Street, Birdsboro, PA 19508**

miércoles 2 de octubre de 2024

6 p.m.– 7 p.m.

Jefferson Township Municipal Building

5 Solly Lane, Bernville, PA 19506

jueves 3 de octubre de 2024

6 p.m.– 7 p.m.

Muhlenberg Township Municipal Building

210 George Street, Reading, PA 19605

jueves 10 de octubre de 2024

6 p.m.– 7 p.m.

Perry Township Municipal Building

680 Moselem Springs Road, Shoemakersville, PA 19555

miércoles 16 de octubre de 2024

6 p.m.– 7 p.m.

Washington Township Municipal Building

120 Barto Road, Barto, PA 19504

Reunión virtual

martes 15 de octubre de 2024

1 p.m.-2 p.m.

(A través de “Microsoft Teams”)

Si usted no pudiera asistir a ninguna de estas reuniones, por favor, considere contestar nuestra encuesta: (https://bit.ly/LRTP_Survey).

El MPO de Reading, en todos los programas y actividades que administra, está comprometido con el cumplimiento de los estatutos, órdenes ejecutivas, regulaciones y políticas aplicables contra la discriminación . Nos esforzamos por organizar eventos inclusivos y accesibles que les permitan a todas las personas involucrarse y participar plenamente. Para solicitar acomodo razonable o para preguntas sobre accesibilidad, por favor, comuníquese con el señor Michael

Golembiewski al (610) 478-6300 o al enlace planning@berkspa.gov con al menos 72 horas de anticipación al evento programada. El MPO intentará conceder, si fuese posible, las peticiones que se soliciten con menos de 72 horas. Si usted considera que se le han negado oportunidades para participar, o considera que se ha discriminado contra usted de alguna otra manera por motivos de discapacidad, el Título VI u otra disposición cubierta contra la discriminación, usted podrá radicar una querella/queja usando los procedimientos establecidos en nuestro documento [complaint process document](#) o mediante comunicación con el señor Michael Golembiewski al (610) 478-6300 o al enlace planning@berkspa.gov.

Estos informes y/o documentos estarán disponibles en diversos lenguajes y formatos de ser necesario. Las personas que necesiten acomodo razonable o que tengan preguntas pueden comunicarse al 610-478-6300.

Alan Piper, Secretario del MPO

Reading Eagle

Email: classified@allaroundphilly.com | Phone: 610-371-5138

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUCTION

DICK HENRY
AUCTIONEER/REALTOR
610-858-3065

MERCHANDISE

MISCELLANEOUS

Balance scale - \$40; Back
massager - \$25; ConAir Bath
Soo - \$25; Revlon Hot Rollers
- \$20. 610-375-7199

Laurelale Cemetery
3 lots for sale 1/4 section
\$2700.00 plus transfer \$295.00
Please call 610-626-8156

MERCHANDISE

OBVIOUS- Antiques/collectibles
1 item to contents. Moving or
downsize. 484-229-0861

Vinyl Record Collections
Wanted, Cash paid for LPs and
45s. Rock/Soul/Jazz. Call for
a message. 484-655-2881.

Wanted to Buy - Estate Jewel-
ry, incl. costume, Vtg. clothing
per 80's. Antiques, Glassware.
484-432-9770

GARAGE SALES

YARD & GARAGE SALES

ESTATE TAG SALE: dishes,
glassware, antiques, books,
bakeware, dining room table
and chairs. **PSI Mountain
View Rd Grill**, PA Saturday,
Sept 21, 12pm-5pm, Sunday,
Sept 22, 12pm-5pm. We accept
cash, check, and Venmo.

GIANT FLEA MARKET

Jim Dietrich Park
September 21, rain date
September 22
8:00AM to 1:00PM
Special Notes: Handicapped
parking available

Shredding - Moving Sale -
Sat. 9/21, 8am-2pm, 107 S.
Miller St., in rear garage.
household items, tools, snow
blower, grill and much more.

ANIMALS

DOGS

3 Female German Shepherds
Puppies for sale \$175 each
Call Tim 484-345-7888
purebred no papers

Yorkshire/Boston Terrier Pups
Black, brindle, Lively, friendly
pups. Born 7/2/24. Shots &
wormed. \$275/ea. Call 610-
682-7460

REAL ESTATE

APARTMENTS FOR RENT (UNFURNISHED)

601 N 5th St. Centre Park Hist.
District. Beautiful studio, 1 & 2
BR apts, starting at \$1099. AC,
Washer/Dryer, Elevators.
Off st. pkg. 484-651-0188

Bethel - 1st flr. 1BR, 1 mile
North of I-78 on Route 419,
Country setting, water, sewer
& incl. incl. No pets/smoking.
First & last month plus sec.
dep. \$800/mo. 717-932-4220

**CENTRE PARK - 343 Windsor
St.** 3rd flr. 1BR, brand new
carpet, bathroom, kitchen
cabinets, paint & windows.
Fantastic view. Heat & hot
water incl. Great location
next to church parking lot.
\$1150/mo. Avail. Immed. No
Section 8. No pets.
610-413-1346

LARGE 1 BEDROOM. Next to
Genesis Theatre. Restroom,
Cabinet, Refrigerator. \$775
OFF RT. G1 - Near Cross Keys
Rd. 1st flr., large 1BR, in
converted barn, brand new
flooring & paint. 4 acres. Pets
OK, w/pet fee. \$1200/mo.
610-413-1346

GARAGE RENTAL

Garages 12x40 for \$475; 10x40
for \$425; and 10x20 for \$320
Call for info 610-921-6502

TRANSPORTATION

4WD & SUV

2017 Jeep Patriot Latitude
4 wheel drive. New tires, 27000
original miles. \$12,000 firm.
Call for info 610-921-6502

AUTOS WANTED

000000000000000000000000
AUTO TRUCKS, any kind.
A-Z U-Pull-It Used Auto Parts
For

TOLL DOLLAR CALL

A-Z 610-741-9555

Paying up to \$500 for com-
pleted junk, wrecked & un-
wanted vehicles. 361 Towing,
484-955-8386

Paying up to \$500 for un-
wanted junk vehicles.
Call Desirée 610-790-7995

CLASSIFIEDS

hold many opportunities. They give
opportunity for you to buy items,
meet people, sell unwanted items,
find housing, save money, earn a
couple bucks, and much, much
more.

SERVICES

HOME IMPROVEMENT

PAVE & SAVE!

Classic Paving & Sealcoating

Stoning & Grading

No job too big or small!

SUMMER SPECIAL

20% OFF

FREE ESTIMATES

484-477-8535

Backed by 4 generations!

All Work Guaranteed!

Assigned to: J. Benjamin

Nevis, J

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGAL NOTICES

AUDIT NOTICE - ORPHANS' COURT

Notice of Audit of Fiduciaries
Accounts.

To Claimants, Beneficiaries,
Heirs and Kin, and to all other
parties in interest.

NOTICE is hereby given that the
following accounts have been
filed and may be examined in
the Clerk of the Orphans' Court
Office. If you desire to object, you
must file objections in writing with
the Clerk on or before the close of
business of the last business
day (October 1, 2024) before
submission to the Court. The
accounts will be filed by the
Clerk of the Orphans' Court
Division with the Court for
adjudication and confirmation
on October 3, 2024. If no
objections are filed, the
distribution may be ordered
or authorized without further
notice if no objections are
filed prior to that date.

COOK, GRAYDON L. a/k/a
COOK, GRAYDON L. - Jennifer
L. Miller, Exr., Sean J. O'Brien, Esq.

HERBINE, WYNN S. - Sean J.
O'Brien, Exr., Sean J. O'Brien, Esq.

HESTER, DONNA L. a/k/a
HESTER, DONNA LOUISE - Sean
J. O'Brien, Esq., Admin.,
Sean J. O'Brien, Esq.

LOHAR, HENRY A. a/k/a
LOHAR, SEAN HENRY A. - Gina M.
Henn, Extr., Russell E. Farbar,
Esq.

MITCHELL, JOHN J., JR. - Mi-
chael D. Baurich, Exr., Sean J.
O'Brien, Esq.

PENCE, PATRICIA A. - Gregory
D. Pence, Exr., Bret West, Esq.

PIPI, ELIZABETH LILLAH a/k/a
PIPI, ELIZABETH L. - Tracy
Zeiler and Jeffrey C. Karver,
Excs., Jeffrey C. Karver, Esq.

REA, BLANCHE E. a/k/a
REA, BLANCHE ELIZABETH - Mary
A. Koppert-Herz, Extr., Sean J.
O'Brien, Esq.

TROCHE, ANSAKI, a minor -
National Penn Investors Trust Co.,
then BB & T, now Trust
Bank, Guardian, Kandice Hull, Esq.

TROCHE, GEORGE, a minor -
National Penn Investors Trust Co.,
then BB & T, now Trust
Bank, Guardian, Kandice Hull, Esq.

TROCHE, NYSHA, a minor -
National Penn Investors Trust Co.,
then BB & T, now Trust
Bank, Guardian, Kandice Hull, Esq.

Last day for filing Accounts
for November 2024 is October
7, 2024.

Suzanne M. Myers
Register of Wills and
Clerk of the Orphans' Court
Berks County, Pennsylvania
RE Sept 19 A-1

BARBARA A. BROWN
Plaintiff,
v.
JOEL L. BROWN,
Defendant.

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON
PLEAS**
BERKS COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA
CIVIL ACTION
2024-10406
Assigned to: J. Benjamin
Nevis, J.

NOTICE

If you wish to defend, you
must enter a written appear-
ance personally or by attorney
and file your defenses and
objections in writing with the
Court. You are warned that
if you fail to do so, the case
may proceed without you and
a judgment may be entered
against you without further
notice for the relief requested
by the Plaintiff. You may lose
money or property or other
rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PA-
PER TO YOUR LAWYER AT
ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE
A LAWYER, GO TO OR TELE-
PHONE THE OFFICE SET
FORTH BELOW. THIS OFFICE
CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH IN-
FORMATION ABOUT HIRING A
LAWYER.

IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO
HIRE A LAWYER, THIS OFFICE
MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE
YOU WITH INFORMATION
ABOUT AGENCIES THAT MAY
OFFER LEGAL SERVICES TO
ELIGIBLE PERSONS AT A RE-
DUCED FEE OR NO FEE.

LEGAL NOTICES

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

BERKS COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

544 COURT STREET
P.O. BOX 1058
READING, PA 19603
(215) 375-4591

BARBARA A. BROWN
Plaintiff,

JOEL L. BROWN,
Defendant.

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON
PLEAS**

BERKS COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA

CIVIL ACTION
2024-10406

Assigned to: J. Benjamin
Nevis, J.

PRACTICE TO REINSTATE THE COMPLAINT

TO THE PROTHONOTARY:

Please reinstate the Com-
plaint in the above-captioned
matter.

Respectfully submitted,
**STENIER & SANDOE, AT-
TORNEYS AT LAW, LLC**
By: Timothy T. Engler, Esq.

36 W. Main Avenue
Myersburg, PA 17067
(717) 866-5737

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO RESIDENTS OF BRECKNOCK TOWNSHIP

The Board of Supervisors of
Brecknock Township, Berks
County, Pennsylvania, will
consider the enactment of
the Ordinance summarized
below on Tuesday, October 1,
2024, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
at the Brecknock Township
Municipal Building located
at 889 Alleghenyville Road in
Brecknock Township, Berks
County, Pennsylvania. The
complete title and summary
of the provisions of the pro-
posed Ordinance are as fol-
lows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BRECKNOCK TOWNSHIP AMENDING CHAPTER 1 OF THE BRECKNOCK TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT", PART 2 ENTITLED "COMPENSATION", SECTION 1-202 ENTITLED "TAX COLLECTOR COMPENSATION" TO INCREASE THE COMPENS

Timochenko, Amanda

From: Piper, Alan
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2024 11:51 AM
To: Piper, Alan
Cc: Timochenko, Amanda
Subject: Provide your input! – RATS Long Range Transportation Plan Public Meetings
Attachments: RATS LRTP Public Meeting Invite.pdf

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

The LRTP helps direct transportation investments and land use decisions over a 20-year period.

As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives identified in the current plan, and identify any recommended changes needed for the new plan.

Please join us at our public meetings!

Registration is required.

Please see the attached flyer for registration and meeting information.

Feel free to share the information.

Thank you!

SENT TO:

- READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY MAIL LIST
- LEGISLATORS (PA AND U.S.)
- RATS COORDINATING/TECHNICAL COMMITTEES, ALTERNATES, AND STAFF
- BERKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COO STAFF, PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION DIRECTOR
- LRTP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- HUMAN SERVICES MAIL LIST
- FREIGHT CONTACTS MAIL LIST
- BERKS COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES
- BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS
- SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAIL LIST
- BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MAIL LIST
- LIBRARIES MAIL LIST

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC MEETINGS

**PLEASE
JOIN US!**

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If unavailable to
attend any meetings,
please consider taking our survey.
survey link: bit.ly/LRTP_Survey



Encuesta sobre Metas y Objetivos del
Plan de Transporte a Largo Plazo

bit.ly/LRTPencuesta

Effective Immediately – Our e-mail addresses have changed. My new address is Apiper@berkspa.gov

Our web site address has also been changed. It is now www.berkspa.gov/planning
Please update your records accordingly. Thank you.



Alan Piper | Planner III - Transportation
Berks County Planning Commission
633 Court Street, 14th Floor, Reading, PA 19601
Phone: 610-478-6300 ext. 6313 Fax: 610-478-6316



Email: Apiper@berkspa.gov
Web: www.berkspa.gov/planning

The County of Berks has changed email addresses of county staff and departments to “@berkspa.gov” . All email addresses from Berks County staff and departments use the new “@berkspa.gov” domain. Email can be sent to the “@countyofberks.com” addresses through 2024. Please edit your email addresses and lists to include the county’s new email addresses.

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Thank you.



Berks County Planning Commission

September 26, 2024 · 🌐

...

Next week, the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) will be holding three public meetings. Consider attending a meeting in person at either Robeson, Jefferson, or Muhlenberg Township to provide your input on the existing goals and objectives of the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). To register, please scan the QR code in the image below or visit the following link: bit.ly/LRTP_Registration

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC MEETINGS

**PLEASE
JOIN US!**

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation investments and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives identified in the current plan and identify any recommended changes needed for the new plan. The goals and objectives provide the framework for the plan. Your participation will help direct these revisions and provide insight on current and future issues and needs of Berks County's transportation system.

If unavailable to attend any meetings, please consider taking our survey.
survey link: bit.ly/LRTP_Survey

Encuesta sobre Metas y Objetivos del Plan de Transporte a Largo Plazo

bit.ly/LRTPEncuesta

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGION MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024
6PM-7PM
Robeson Township Municipal Building
2689 Main Street • Birdsboro

TULPEHOCKEN REGION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2024
6PM-7PM
Jefferson Township Municipal Building
5 Solly Lane • Bernville

METRO REGION MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024
6PM-7PM
Muhlenberg Township Municipal Building
210 George Street • Reading

HAWK MOUNTAIN REGION MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024
6PM-7PM
Perry Township Municipal Building
680 Moselem Springs Road • Shoemakersville

OLEY HILLS REGION MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2024
6PM-7PM
Washington Township Municipal Building
120 Barto Road • Barto

Registration is required as a light meal will be provided.
REGISTRATION LINK:
bit.ly/LRTP_Registration

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND OUR IN-PERSON MEETINGS, PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US FOR OUR VIRTUAL MEETING!

COUNTYWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024
1 PM-2PM
Via Microsoft Teams

1

5 shares

Like

Comment

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Berks County Planning Commission

October 3, 2024 · 🌐

...

In one week, the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) will be holding a public meeting at the Perry Township Municipal Building. This meeting will review the current goals and objectives in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and give the public a chance to suggest changes to the goals and objectives that provide the framework for this plan. To register, please scan the QR code in the image below or visit the following link: bit.ly/LRTP_Registration

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC MEETINGS

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Encuesta sobre Metas y Objetivos del
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Washington Township Municipal Building
120 Barto Road • Barto



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light meal will be provided.

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COUNTYWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024
1 PM-2PM

Via Microsoft Teams



Like



Comment



Share



Berks County Planning Commission

October 9, 2024 · 🌐

...

The last in-person public meeting to review the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) goals and objectives is taking place in Washington Township on Wednesday, October 16th. To register, use the QR code in the image below or visit the following link: bit.ly/LRTP_Registration

If you cannot attend this last in-person meeting, consider attending the countywide virtual meeting on Tuesday, October 15th. To register, use the same link above. Alternatively, you may take the survey at: <https://arcg.is/0Dn9nu0>

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC MEETINGS

PLEASE
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The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation investments and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives identified in the current plan and identify any recommended changes needed for the new plan. The goals and objectives provide the framework for the plan. Your participation will help direct these revisions and provide insight on current and future issues and needs of Berks County's transportation system.

If unavailable to attend any meetings, please consider taking our survey.
survey link: bit.ly/LRTP_Survey

Encuesta sobre Metas y Objetivos del Plan de Transporte a Largo Plazo
bit.ly/LRTPencuesta

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Registration is required as a light meal will be provided.
REGISTRATION LINK:
bit.ly/LRTP_Registration

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COUNTYWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024
1 PM-2 PM
Via Microsoft Teams

1 share



Berks County Planning Commission

October 11, 2024 · 🌐

...

The last public meeting to review the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) goals and objectives is taking place virtually using Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 from 1PM-2PM.

PLEASE NOTE: The Oley Hills Region in person public meeting has been cancelled.

To register, please visit the following link:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/.../440180de87ed47e2acd972fb...>

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC MEETINGS

**PLEASE
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The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation investments and land use decisions over a 30-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives identified in the current plan and identify any recommended changes needed for the new plan. The goals and objectives provide the framework for the plan. Your participation will help direct these revisions and provide insight on current and future issues and needs of Berks County's transportation system.



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survey link: bit.ly/LRTP_Survey



Encuesta sobre Metas y Objetivos del
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SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGION MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2024
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PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING US FOR OUR VIRTUAL MEETING!

COUNTYWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024
1 PM-2 PM

Via Microsoft Teams

1 share

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



Berks County Planning Commission

October 14, 2024 · 🌐

...

The last public meeting to review the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) goals and objectives is taking place virtually using Microsoft Teams on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 from 1PM-2PM.

PLEASE NOTE: The Oley Hills Region in person public meeting has been cancelled.

To register, please visit the following link:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/.../440180de87ed47e2acd972fb...>

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC MEETINGS

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The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation investments and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives identified in the current plan and identify any recommended changes needed for the new plan. The goals and objectives provide the framework for the plan. Your participation will help direct these revisions and provide insight on current and future issues and needs of Berks County's transportation system.

If unavailable to attend any meetings, please consider taking our survey.
survey link: bit.ly/LRTP_Survey

Encuesta sobre Metas y Objetivos del Plan de Transporte a Largo Plazo
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SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGION MEETING

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COUNTYWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024
1 PM-2PM
Via Microsoft Teams

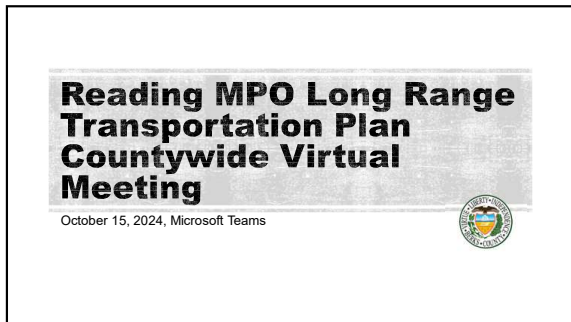
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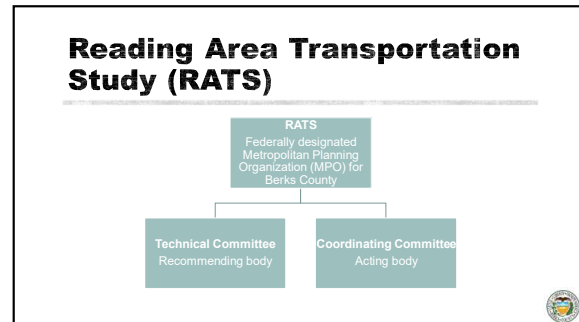
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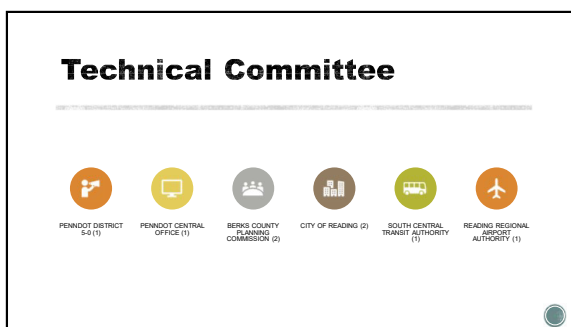
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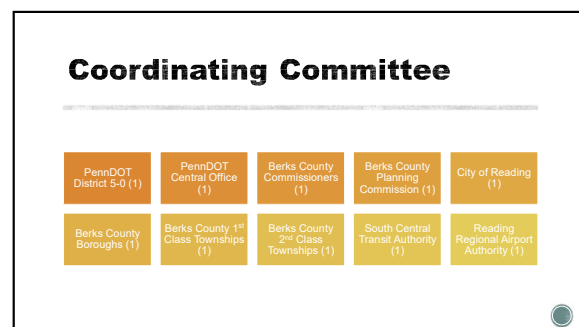
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4

- Required by federal transportation regulations
- Has a minimum 20-year planning horizon reflecting program goals and their application to project prioritization
- Identifies transportation system assets and their conditions, sensitive environments and the evolving needs of the users of that system
- Reflects needs related to safety, maintenance, congestion, and climate change
- Includes Performance Measures for achieving plan goals
- Must be fiscally constrained and identify funding sources
- Must be updated every four years through cooperative process that includes federal, state, local agencies and the public
- Serves as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program
 - Projects must be identified in the LRTP prior to programming phases for construction on the TIP

What is the LRTP?

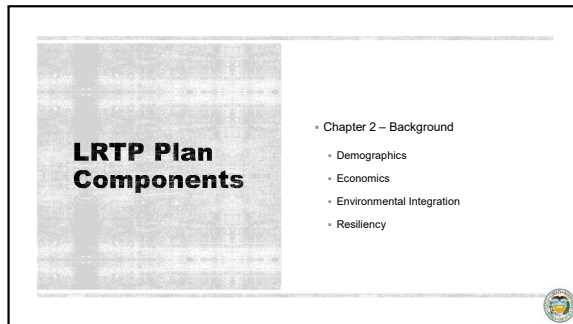
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LRTP Plan Components

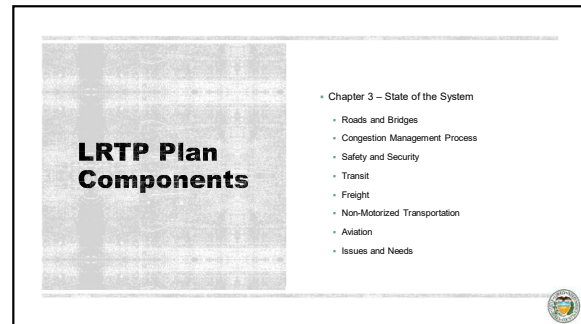
- Chapter 1 – Introduction
 - Provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans
 - **Vision Statement:** The Reading Area Transportation Study will provide and maintain a balanced, multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move goods and people.

6

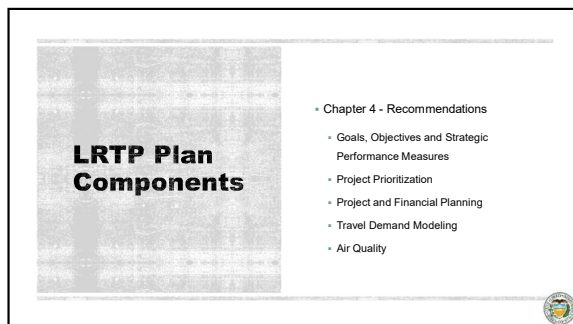
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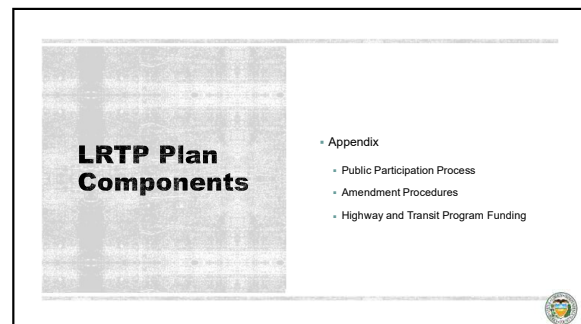
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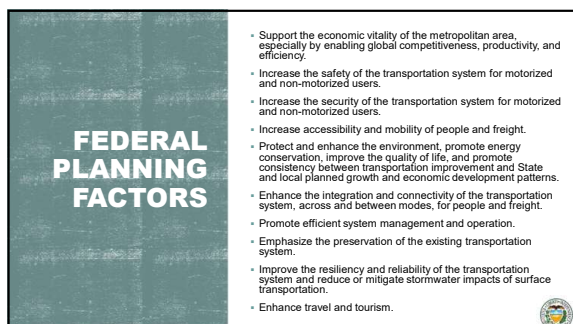
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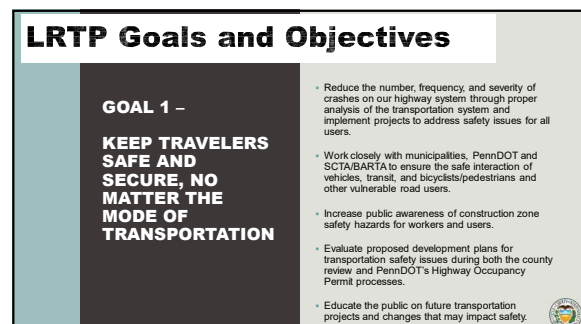
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2/25/2026

LRTP Goals and Objectives

GOAL 2 –

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM AND SERVICES WE ENJOY TODAY WHERE FINANCIALLY FEASIBLE.

- Minimize maintenance costs of roadways and bridges through proper routine maintenance planning utilizing PennDOT's Transportation Asset Management Plan.
- Improve the effectiveness of the existing transportation system and services.
- Implement a variety of methods to improve the flow of traffic during peak travel times.
- Use available transportation funding to maintain a state of good repair for all systems.
- Major roadway widening or relocation should only be considered if efforts to improve capacity and safety of existing roadways can not meet desired service levels.
- Reduce congestion, improve air quality, and increase the reliability of the transportation system.
- Develop a full range of public transportation options using available funding.



13

LRTP Goals and Objectives

GOAL 3 –

INVEST IN PROJECTS THAT STRENGTHEN THE ABILITY OF BERKS COUNTY COMMERCE TO ACCESS NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE MARKETS AND SUPPORT REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM OPPORTUNITIES.

- Study implementable solutions that will speed the movement of materials, goods, and people.
- Ensure that major activity centers are designed to accommodate a range of transportation modes.
- Increase the region's global and national competitiveness by improving and enhancing regional freight infrastructure.
- Support the Reading Regional Airport Authority in strengthening the use of the airport for both business and commercial aviation activities.
- Support the efforts of the newly created Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority to reestablish passenger rail service between Reading and Philadelphia.
- Provide multiple modes of convenient transportation to tourist destinations.
- Provide regional bicycle, pedestrian, bus, and rail routes (when feasible/available).
- Coordinate with agricultural community to identify and address obstructions to the movement of equipment and products.



14

LRTP Goals and Objectives

GOAL 4 –

GIVE TRAVELERS A VARIETY OF WELL-DESIGNED TRANSPORTATION CHOICES THAT ARE IN GOOD CONDITION.

- Support projects that expand the county trail and sidewalk network.
- Support projects that expand the public transportation network.
- When designing roadways, include bicycle and pedestrian paths and transit stops where applicable and feasible.
- Support Transportation Demand Management (TDM) programs such as ridesharing, using public transportation, walking, biking, or working from home.



15

LRTP Goals and Objectives

GOAL 5 –

ENHANCE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE WAYS THAT INCREASE RESILIENCY TO BOTH CLIMATE CHANGE AND VULNERABILITY.

- Maintain the county's air quality attainment status for both ozone and fine particulates.
- Work closely with federal, state, municipal and private entities to implement alternative fuels use (i.e. electric, natural gas) throughout our region.
- Continue coordination with appropriate agencies to protect and provide resiliency for critical transportation infrastructure against disaster by identifying vulnerable assets and prevention strategies through an updated, current hazard mitigation plan.
- Work with all local, regional, state, and federal organizations and agencies to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential negative impacts from planned projects.
- Assist in identification of potential environmental mitigation issues by acquiring, creating, and updating as needed, geographic information system data layers for use by the implementing agencies and sharing them in a readily accessible format to municipalities.
- Work with PennDOT to implement best management practices and mitigation strategies on transportation projects.



16

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE



- October 2023 – 30-month Kickoff Meeting
- July/August 2024 – Establish Steering Committee
- October 2024 – Public Outreach Meetings
- November 2024 – June 2025 – Gather background information
- March-May 2025 – Gather public input on issues and needs (in coordination with STC public outreach on the State's Twelve-Year Program Update)
- July 2025 – Review STC survey responses
- August-December 2025 – TIP and LRTP project meetings with PennDOT
- November/December 2025 – Present at ACM meeting
- February 2026 – Complete Draft LRTP
- March/April 2026 – Begin 30-day public comment period and conduct public meetings
- May 2026 – Response to comments
- May 2026 – Anticipated RATS MPO Adoption
- September 2026 – Anticipated FHWA and FTA approval



17

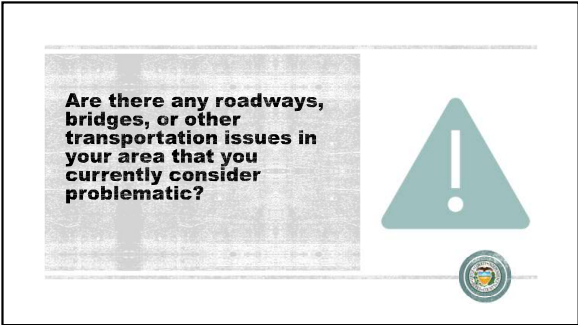
If you could instantaneously make one change (big or small) to the transportation system without concern for cost or other potential obstacles, what would it be?




18



19



20



21

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #1
ROBESON TWP. BUILDING, SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGION MEETING, OCTOBER 1, 2024**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:00 PM. There were 6 attendees. He welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose for this meeting which is to review and gather public input on the Goals and Objectives of the current LRTP and revise them based on public input. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko explained what the Long Range Transportation (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process; performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The next few slides detailed the LRTP Plan Components by Chapter.

Chapter 1 is the Introduction. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is included in this chapter: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will provide and maintain a balanced, multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move goods and people.* The following comments were received:

- Ms. Johnston – Vision is so generic that it does not have real meaning. RATS is not responsible for all roads (ex: local).
- Mr. Meraj – Remove “efficiently”. RATS provides guidance and assistance.
- Mr. Tucci – “aims to establish a balanced multimodal transportation system”. Existing vision statement is too cumbersome.

Chapter 2 contains the background Information, including demographics, economics, environmental integration, and resiliency.

Chapter 3 is the State of the System. Individual sections examine Roads and Bridges, the Congestion Management Process, Safety and Security, Transit, Freight, Non-motorized Transportation, Aviation, and Issues & Needs.

Chapter 4 is the recommendations of the plan. These include Goals/Objectives/Strategic Performance Measures, Project Prioritization, Project & Financial Planning, Travel Demand Modeling, and Air Quality Conformity.

Contained in the Appendix is documentation of the Public Participation Process, Amendment Procedures, and detailed tables/descriptions of the Highway and Transit Program Funding assumptions and calculations.

There are ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.

- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

- Mr. Meraj – Some of these contradict each other ex: motorized vs nonmotorized.
- Ms. Timochenko – We consider all modes of transportation throughout PennDOT Connects for design.

Ms. Timochenko introduced Goal #1: Keep Travelers safe and secure, no matter the mode of transportation. The five (5) Objectives attached to Goal #1 were also read. She asked for questions/comments regarding the Goal and Objectives.

- Ms. Johnston – Include access for First Responders/Emergency Service Access.
- Mr. Meraj – Drainage issues create dangerous situations. *This is addressed in Resiliency Section.*
- Mr. Tucci – asked if we look up crashes. *PCIT was explained.* then he asked if we could share that information with first responders. Discussed crashes on Lancaster Avenue.
- Mr. Lubenow – Asked if PCIT provides the cause for the accident. *Explained that it provides factors.*
- Ms. Showers – Replace “our highway system” with “the highway system” in Objective 1

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #2: Maintain and improve the transportation system and services we enjoy today where financially feasible, then read the associated seven (7) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Ms. Johnston – What is the meaning of effectiveness in Objective 2?
- Mr. Lubenow – Development is in conflict by creating congestion. *It does and doesn’t. Municipalities force traffic on principal arterials rather than connecting local roads to each other, which forces traffic onto major roads. Municipalities should encourage connected subdivisions, not divide them.* Mr. Lubenow agreed and thought this would be good to include in the Joint Comprehensive Plan that is currently being worked on that includes St. Lawrence Borough.
- Ms. Johnston – Cumru has 70 dedicated cul-de-sacs. *Municipalities should connect across township lines, instead traffic needs to use primary corridors and main highways even for local trips.*

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen the ability of Berks County commerce to access national and international trade markets and support regional economic development and tourism opportunities., then read the associated eight (8) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Ms. Showers – What is a major activity center? *Shopping/business/entertainment centers.*
- Mr. Meraj – How do you support the airport? *Ensuring access to rest of transportation network. If airport wants air freight. Make sure there is access via transit and highways.*
- Ms. Johnston – Tourist destinations are not always in the most accessible locations. Ex: Nolde Forest. *This goal and associated objectives allow for supporting more access to these types of places. Using Nolde Forest as an example, we can support and encourage further access of different types to this State Park, like Angelica Creek Trail Extension.*

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition., then read the associated four (4) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Ms. Johnston – Local officials do not enjoy mandating sidewalks and mandating repair to sidewalks and curbing by residents.
- Mr. Lubenow – St. Lawrence Borough insists new development include sidewalks. The developer is allowed to complete within 2 years.
- Ms. Johnston – Permitting traffic signal needs, pedestrian signals even though no pedestrians are allowed on roadway. Ex: Freemansville Rd/SR 10 Intersection, SR 10/SR 724 Intersection.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #5: Enhance the performance of the county transportation system in environmentally sustainable ways that increase resiliency to both climate change and vulnerability, then read the associated six (6) Objectives. She asked for questions/comments:

- Ms. Showers – The objective that starts with “assist” is basically saying to share data.
- Ms. Johnston – Lancaster Avenue in Shillington. What are fine particulates? *Explained how our projects relate to transportation emissions.*

Ms. Timochenko reviewed the anticipated LRTP development timeline:

- October 2023 – 30-month Kickoff Meeting
- July/August 2024 – Establish Steering Committee
- September/October 2024 – Public Outreach Meetings
- November 2024 – June 2025 – Gather background information.
- March-May 2025 – Gather public input on issues and needs (in coordination with State Transportation Commission [STC] public outreach on the State’s Twelve—Year Program Update)
- July 2025 – Review STC survey responses
- August-December 2025 – TIP and LRTP project meetings with PennDOT
- November/December 2025 – Present at Agency Coordination Meeting (ACM) meeting
- February 2026 – Complete Draft LRTP
- March/April 2026 – Begin 30-day public comment period and conduct public meetings.
- May 2026 – Response to comments
- May 2026 – Anticipated RATS Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Adoption
- September 2026 – Anticipated Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approval.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Slide #18 and asked the question: “If you could instantaneously make one change (big or small) to the transportation system without concern for cost or other potential obstacles, what would it be?”

Responses included:

- Mr. Tucci – Signs on exit ramps corresponding to letters they are assigned so that users of the transportation system that are broken down or in a crash can identify their location and communicate that to first responders.
- Mr. Meraj – Passenger rail to Reading.
- Ms. Johnston – BARTA Route along the east side of Cumru Township and underserved communities. The bridge at Church Rd/SR 625 Intersection to be replaced. *This bridge is currently scheduled for rehabilitation. *

Ms. Timochenko asked for any final questions/comments, particularly related to roadways, bridges, or other transportation issues in the area that are considered problematic.

- Notes were put onto map for this.

- Mr. Tucci – Intersection improvements (left turn lanes and signals) from SR 724 onto Gibraltar Road. Speed limit signs along SR 724.
- Mr. Meraj – Improvements to 6th Street and Heister Lane Intersection at Norfolk Southern underpass. *This is difficult due to 3 owners: state, city, and railroad. Also difficult due to need to maintain train service along this track during entirety of project.*

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked the attendees for coming and their participation. The meeting concluded at 7:28 PM.

Long Range Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives Public Outreach
Southern Highlands Region Meeting #1 Attendance
Tuesday, October 1, 2024

First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Registered LRTP Outreach Meeting	Confirmed
Ashley	Showers		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓
Anthony	Tucci		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓
Larry	Piersol		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	
Patricia	Wylezik-Pfeiffer		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓
Jean	Johnston		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓
Amanda	Timochenko		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓
Alan	Piper		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓
Devon	Hain		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓
Shaq	Meraj		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓
Mark	Gillen		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	
Warren	Lubenow		Southern Highlands Region Meeting	✓

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #2
JEFFERSON TWP. BUILDING, TULPEHOCKEN REGION MEETING, OCTOBER 2, 2024**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:00PM. There were 6 attendees. He welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose for this meeting which is to review and gather public input on the Goals and Objectives of the current LRTP and revise them based on public input. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko explained what the Long Range Transportation (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process; performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The next few slides detailed the LRTP Plan Components by Chapter.

Chapter 1 is the Introduction. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is included in this chapter: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will provide and maintain a balanced, multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move goods and people.* The following comments were received:

Questions:

- Ms. Reifsnyder - Why does goods come before people in the Vision Statement? Is there any reason for that? Mr. Piper replied that after these meetings, staff will review the comments and can make the recommended change putting 'people' before 'goods' in the statement. He also noted that the Vision Statement will be edited to remove the word 'provide' as RATS does not provide the transportation system.

Chapter 2 contains the background Information, including demographics, economics, environmental integration, and resiliency.

Chapter 3 is the State of the System. Individual sections examine Roads and Bridges, the Congestion Management Process, Safety and Security, Transit, Freight, Non-motorized Transportation, Aviation, and Issues & Needs.

Chapter 4 is the recommendations of the plan. These include Goals/Objectives/Strategic Performance Measures, Project Prioritization, Project & Financial Planning, Travel Demand Modeling, and Air Quality Conformity.

Contained in the Appendix is documentation of the Public Participation Process, Amendment Procedures, and detailed tables/descriptions of the Highway and Transit Program Funding assumptions and calculations.

There are ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.

- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

- Mr. Gable - How do the formulas for funding for our area work? Mr. Piper explained the process and how funding formulas work.
- Ms. Reifsnyder - What is resiliency? Mr. Piper explained that resiliency in this instance is the ability of the transportation system to adapt and withstand impacts from natural hazards.

Ms. Timochenko introduced Goal #1: Keep Travelers safe and secure, no matter the mode of transportation. The five (5) Objectives attached to Goal #1 were also read. She asked for questions/comments regarding the Goal and Objectives.

- Mr. Deck – definitely agree with goal and objectives. He asked how the speed enforcement in work zones is working and if work zone cameras be incorporated into this process because we need more of them. Mr. Piper replied that the program is working and it is incorporated into the LRTP.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #2: Maintain and improve the transportation system and services we enjoy today where financially feasible, then read the associated seven (7) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Mr. Himmelberger – What is the timeline for these plans? Mr. Piper replied that these plans will take some time to prepare. The anticipated approval of these plans will be sometime in Spring 2026.
- Mr. Gable - How do you predict warehousing? Do you see these coming? How does that work when they just pop up? Mr. Piper discussed the subdivision and land development review process at the County and the County Comprehensive Plan. He noted that municipalities are the approving body for plans and development involving warehousing.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen the ability of Berks County commerce to access national and international trade markets and support regional economic development and tourism opportunities, then read the associated eight (8) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- There was agreement on the Goals and Objectives.
- There was discussion regarding the current state of agriculture.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition, then read the associated four (4) Objectives.

- There were no comments on this Goal and Objectives.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #5: Enhance the performance of the county transportation system in environmentally sustainable ways that increase resiliency to both climate change and vulnerability, then read the associated six (6) Objectives. She asked for questions/comments:

- Mr. Deck - Does this include alternative fuels? Or plainly, different fuels for vehicles, NG, hydro, electric, etc? Mr. Piper explained the current planning initiatives for electric vehicle infrastructure.
- Mr. Gable – Where are we now? What plan are we under technically? Mr. Piper commented that the current plan is the FFY 2023-2045 LRTP and the update will be for FFY 2027-2050.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed the anticipated LRTP development timeline:

- October 2023 – 30-month Kickoff Meeting
- July/August 2024 – Establish Steering Committee
- September/October 2024 – Public Outreach Meetings
- November 2024 – June 2025 – Gather background information.
- March-May 2025 – Gather public input on issues and needs (in coordination with State Transportation Commission [STC] public outreach on the State's Twelve—Year Program Update)
- July 2025 – Review STC survey responses
- August-December 2025 – TIP and LRTP project meetings with PennDOT
- November/December 2025 – Present at Agency Coordination Meeting (ACM) meeting
- February 2026 – Complete Draft LRTP
- March/April 2026 – Begin 30-day public comment period and conduct public meetings.
- May 2026 – Response to comments
- May 2026 – Anticipated RATS Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Adoption
- September 2026 – Anticipated Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approval.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Slide #18 and asked the question: “If you could instantaneously make one change (big or small) to the transportation system without concern for cost or other potential obstacles, what would it be?”

Responses included:

- Ms. Greth – lights all the way along Route 183. People speeding and truck traffic.
- Ms. Raifsnyder – agreed with the need for lights along Route 183.
- Mr. Deck – all of Route 183 needs to be looked at. Upgrade all of it. Traffic is heavy all of the time. Unsafe driving. It should be 4 lanes from Route 222 to Interstate 78.
- Ms. Greth – how does the state pick and choose projects? Money? Agree with the need for lights along Route 183. Mr. Piper discussed the prioritization process used by the State and RATS to identify projects.
- Mr. Gable – suggested turning lanes on Route 183 through the Borough of Bernville.
- Mr. Gable – recommended public transportation for the elderly.

The next step in the LRTP development process is continued public outreach. Staff has four (4) more in-person meetings scheduled, and an additional meeting will be held virtually. A survey is available in English and Spanish as part of this initial public outreach, and she encouraged the meeting attendees to take the survey and spread it among their peers to garner more input.

Ms. Timochenko asked for any final questions/comments, particularly related to roadways, bridges, or other transportation issues in the area that are considered problematic.

- Mr. Gable – Church Road intersection with Route 183 is an issue. Not sure if that is being looked at with the existing study that will be done.
- Mr. Gable – asked if any of the projects along Route 183 include Shartlesville Road? Mr. Piper discussed the current projects and study phases for the Route 183 corridor.

- Mr. Gable – The culvert along Shartlesville Road near his home creates a water sitting issue that freezes over in the winter. Could be a drainage issue. Mr. Piper directed Steve to PennDOT Customer Care center.
- Mr. Deck – Road painting has not been what it used to be. Especially in rain because you cannot see the lines. They hear a lot of excuses. Mr. Piper noted that the paint mixture has changed over the years to be more environmentally friendly.
- Ms. Raifsnyder – Enforcement by the State Police is non-existent. How can we get more enforcement activities from the SP. Mr. Piper discussed factors that influence the ability for police enforcement on roadways.
- Mr. Gable – mobile cameras for speed enforcement might be a good idea.
- Mr. Gable – Traffic lights...who pays for them? Mr. Himmelberger explained how it works.
- Ms. Raifsnyder – question about bridge near Christmas Village. What is happening with that bridge? Mr. Piper explained that the bridge is closed and will be removed.
- Mr. Deck – the newly reconstructed bridge on Route 625 is still posted but just redone – posted signs need to be taken down.
- Mr. Gable – North Heidelberg Road sharp turn hard to navigate and guardrail has been impacted a number of times.

Hearing no other comments, Mr. Piper and Ms. Timochenko thanked the attendees for coming and their participation. The meeting concluded at 7:29 PM.

Long Range Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives Public Outreach
Tulpehocken Region Meeting #2 Attendance
Wednesday, October 2, 2024

First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Registered LRTP Outreach Meeting	Confirmed
Julie	Pummer		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	
Gary	Deck		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Gary	Deck		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Lori	Deck		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	
Gary	Himmelberger		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Amanda	Timochenko		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Alan	Piper		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Matt	McGough		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Susan	Ehrets		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Robert	Deisemann		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	
Jim	Maurer		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	
Steve	Gable		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Betsy	Raifsnyder		Tulpehocken Region Meeting	✓
Sally	Greth			

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #3
MUHLENBERG TWP. BUILDING, METRO REGION MEETING, OCTOBER 3, 2024**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:05 PM. He welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose of tonight's meeting which was to review and gather public input on the Goals and Objectives of the current LRTP and revise them based on public input. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process; performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The next few slides detailed the LRTP Plan Components, by Chapter.

Chapter 1 is the Introduction. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is included in this chapter: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will provide and maintain a balanced, multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move goods and people.*

Chapter 2 contains the background Information, including demographics, economics, environmental integration, and resiliency.

Chapter 3 is the State of the System. Individual sections examine Roads and Bridges, the Congestion Management Process, Safety and Security, Transit, Freight, Non-motorized Transportation, Aviation, and Issues & Needs.

Chapter 4 is the recommendations of the plan. These include Goals/Objectives/Strategic Performance Measures, Project Prioritization, Project & Financial Planning, Travel Demand Modeling, and Air Quality Conformity.

Contained in the Appendix is documentation of the Public Participation Process, Amendment Procedures, and detailed tables/descriptions of the Highway and Transit Program Funding assumptions and calculations.

There are ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko introduced Goal #1: Keep Travelers safe and secure, no matter the mode of transportation. The five (5) Objectives attached to Goal #1 were also read. She asked for questions/comments regarding the Goal and Objectives.

- Mr. Lerch commented that the Goal certainly applies and should be a top priority. Ms. Reed agreed.
- Mr. Lerch commented that we should define all the modes we consider including rail (passenger and freight).
- Mr. Hoffmaster questioned why only major highways have speed enforcement cameras and not smaller roads. Mr. Piper explained the legislative process behind speed cameras in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh regions as well as those in construction zones.

Ms. Timochenko asked if we needed to add any Objectives to the current lists.

- Ms. Reed asked about clarifying 'vehicles' to specifically list them. Mr. Piper responded the term 'vehicles' is already all-encompassing.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #2: Maintain and improve the transportation system and services we enjoy today where financially feasible, then read the associated seven (7) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Mr. Piper reiterated that Safety is first; Maintenance including optimization is secondary; and increasing capacity is a last resort.
- Mr. Reed opined that local roads tend to "fall by the wayside" when it comes to maintenance due to costs. Mr. Piper responded that we can only program based on the funding allocated.

- Mr. Lerch commented that it becomes a “Catch-22”; areas are allocated limited funds yet costs continually increase, causing a difficult balancing act between small vs large maintenance projects.
- Mr. Piper explained in detail the various funding sources and associated constraints, including ‘discretionary’ funds (which are never a guarantee). He cited some historical recipients of discretionary funds including the Park Road Corridor, U.S. 222 South, and U.S. 422-West Shore Bypass.
- Ms. Reed related experiences in England with centuries-old infrastructure being maintained and still used.
- Mr. Hoffmaster said that Muhlenberg Township was told today that a water line on the SR 2016 Bellevue Ave. Bridge had to be moved as part of the bridge replacement project. He was frustrated that this project has been in design/engineering for years, but they were told only today about this need.
- Mr. Lerch asked how often funding formulas were evaluated. Mr. Piper answered that they are reviewed every two years (prior to Transportation Improvement Program updates) through a Financial Guidance Working Group convened by PennDOT.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen the ability of Berks County commerce to access national and international trade markets and support regional economic development and tourism opportunities., then read the associated eight (8) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Ms. Timochenko specifically mentioned that the last Objective, Coordinate with agricultural community to identify and address obstructions to the movement of equipment and products, was added based on a request from the Berks County Dept. of Agriculture.
- Mr. Piper explained the various statewide ‘networks’ that Pennsylvania used to promote but has since stopped promoting. However, we are looking to possibly add some of these back into the LRTP based on historical inclusion. He also discussed bridges; approximately 6 percent of state bridges are considered ‘poor’ (down significantly after prioritizing improvements), but approximately 30-35 percent of local bridges are considered ‘poor’.
- After a brief discussion about the Reading Regional Airport, Ms. Reed asked if there was a market for and ‘air taxi service’, similar to the regional flights that used to be available. Mr. Piper answered that RATS is limited in what it can do to market the Airport; however, the Airport Authority and Executive Director are in constant communications with air carriers to try and reestablish passenger service. Discussion continued about marketing budgets. Mr. Lerch made a general statement about municipalities and the County discussing regional growth and how coordinating with the Airport Authority could play into that.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition., then read the associated four (4) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Mr. Lerch commented that they get local requests for bicycle and pedestrian projects, but the public thinks mostly about highways only and not Bike/ped improvements. However, it is important to include non-motorized modes in planning for redevelopment.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #5: Enhance the performance of the county transportation system in environmentally sustainable ways that increase resiliency to both climate change and vulnerability, then read the associated six (6) Objectives. She asked for questions/comments:

- Mr. Piper described the Air Quality conformity process and the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program.
- Ms. Timochenko commented that the six Objectives are particularly ‘wordy’ and will be rewritten for easier reading. The audience nodded agreement.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed the anticipated LRTP development timeline:

- October 2023 – 30-month Kickoff Meeting
- July/August 2024 – Establish Steering Committee
- September/October 2024 – Public Outreach Meetings
- November 2024 – June 2025 – Gather background information.
- March-May 2025 – Gather public input on issues and needs (in coordination with State Transportation Commission [STC] public outreach on the State’s Twelve—Year Program Update)
- July 2025 – Review STC survey responses
- August-December 2025 – TIP and LRTP project meetings with PennDOT
- November/December 2025 – Present at Agency Coordination Meeting (ACM) meeting
- February 2026 – Complete Draft LRTP
- March/April 2026 – Begin 30-day public comment period and conduct public meetings.
- May 2026 – Response to comments
- May 2026 – Anticipated RATS Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Adoption
- September 2026 – Anticipated Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approval.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Slide #18 and asked the question: “If you could instantaneously make one change (big or small) to the transportation system without concern for cost or other potential obstacles, what would it be?” Responses included:

- Mr. Lerch mentioned the need for another access onto Stoudt’s Ferry Bridge Road in the area of U.S. 222.

- He also mentioned the need to ensure proposed expansion projects on U.S. 222 North between Reading and Allentown are completed, along with the proposed expansion/reconstruction of U.S. 422 – West Shore Bypass
- Ms. Pummer mentioned one issue in Tipton Borough is that of tractor-trailers going through the borough based on GPS directions even though borough streets are not sufficient for this kind of traffic.

The next step in the LRTP development process is continued public outreach. Staff has two (2) more in-person meetings scheduled, and an additional meeting will be held virtually. A survey is available in English and Spanish as part of this initial public outreach, and she encouraged the meeting attendees to take the survey and spread it among their peers to garner more input.

Ms. Timochenko asked for any final questions/comments, particularly related to roadways, bridges, or other transportation issues in the area that are considered problematic.

- Mr. Lerch asked general questions about the two projects on PA 12 (Pricetown Road). Mr. Piper explained the proposals for each project (both in the design stage). Several audience members expressed concerns regarding traffic movements in winter particularly at the proposed traffic signal at PA 12/Skyline Drive. Mr. Piper further explained the proposed improvements and their impacts on winter movements.
- Hearing no other comments, Mr. Piper discussed the U.S. 222 North improvement schedules along with those for U.S. 422 – West Shore Bypass.
- Ms. Pummer mentioned that funding for maintenance of local roads is sorely lacking and noted the need for additional funds. She mentioned that the local trail upgrades (completed under a Transportation Alternatives Program grant) are working well for the community.

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked the attendees for coming. The meeting concluded at 7:20 PM.

Prepared by,
Michael D. Golembiewski
Transportation Modeler
BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Long Range Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives Public Outreach
Metro Region Meeting #2 Attendance
Thursday, October 3, 2024

First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Registered LRTP Outreach Meeting	Confirmed
Josephine	Torres-Boykins		Metro Region Meeting	
Susan	Roeckle		Metro Region Meeting	
Kevin	Lerch		Metro Region Meeting	✓
Julie	Pummer		Metro Region Meeting	✓
Amanda	Timochenko		Metro Region Meeting	✓
Alan	Piper		Metro Region Meeting	✓
Michael	Golembiewski		Metro Region Meeting	✓
Donna	Reed		Metro Region Meeting	✓
Richard	Hofmeister			✓

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #4
PERRY TWP. BUILDING, OLEY HILLS REGION MEETING, OCTOBER 10, 2024**

Ms. Timochenko started the meeting at 6:15 PM. There were 2 attendees. She welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose for this meeting which is to review and gather public input on the Goals and Objectives of the current LRTP and revise them based on public input. She mentioned that specific projects will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko explained what the Long Range Transportation (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process; performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The next few slides detailed the LRTP Plan Components by Chapter.

Chapter 1 is the Introduction. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is included in this chapter: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will provide and maintain a balanced, multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move goods and people.* The following comments were received:

- Ms. Timochenko – mentioned that we have received comments that the Vision Statement needs a few edits including replacing ‘provide’ with ‘promote’ as RATS does not provide the transportation system.
- Mr. Mattes – Is fine with Vision Statement.
- Mr. Anderson – Is happy that it covers the whole County, concerns with local infrastructure funding, larger/heavier truck lobbying that could quicken the deterioration of roads, large trucks traveling on local/back roads. *Discussed funding allocations and condition/repair schedule of state vs local infrastructure, agreed with heavier trucks can cause quicker deterioration, and GPS apps that keep drivers off local roads.*

Chapter 2 contains the background Information, including demographics, economics, environmental integration, and resiliency.

Chapter 3 is the State of the System. Individual sections examine Roads and Bridges, the Congestion Management Process, Safety and Security, Transit, Freight, Non-motorized Transportation, Aviation, and Issues & Needs.

Chapter 4 is the recommendations of the plan. These include Goals/Objectives/Strategic Performance Measures, Project Prioritization, Project & Financial Planning, Travel Demand Modeling, and Air Quality Conformity.

Contained in the Appendix is documentation of the Public Participation Process, Amendment Procedures, and detailed tables/descriptions of the Highway and Transit Program Funding assumptions and calculations.

There are ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.

- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko introduced Goal #1: Keep Travelers safe and secure, no matter the mode of transportation. The five (5) Objectives attached to Goal #1 were also read. She asked for questions/comments regarding the Goal and Objectives.

- Mr. Anderson – Asked if there is a way to educate the public on how to travel differently/encourage use of transit *Discussed carpooling and travel demand management programs.* Expressed concern regarding high volume of DEKA employees using Main St. as well as local roads causing congestion in the borough and unsafe conditions due to volume on local roads driven to avoid congestion. *Discussed BARTA service (Route 22) that runs to DEKA and Commute PA.*

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #2: Maintain and improve the transportation system and services we enjoy today where financially feasible, then read the associated seven (7) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- No comments.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen the ability of Berks County commerce to access national and international trade markets and support regional economic development and tourism opportunities, then read the associated eight (8) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Mr. Mattes - Felt objectives for this goal were spot on.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition, then read the associated four (4) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Mr. Mattes – It is important for people to walk and bike. Expressed concern regarding lack of safe active transportation infrastructure along Green Valley Road developments to school and to Sheetz. *Assured of inclusion in County Bike/Ped Plan, discussed Lower Heidelberg Townships issue/need to get residents safely to Blue Marsh Lake recreation areas without use of car and Lower Heidelberg Township's desire to complete an Active Transportation Plan looking ahead.*
- Mr. Anderson – Concerns with developments in Maiden Creek Township that do not have sidewalks and all the residents that walk in the street. *Discussed how sidewalk requirements are up to the municipalities. BCPC suggests that sidewalks are included during the review process. We state in Bike/Ped Plan that sidewalks should be included 2 miles around schools and .5 miles around bus stops. Discussed how the burden of sidewalks affects municipalities requiring them including developer deciding not to develop there and resident opposition to maintain.*

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #5: Enhance the performance of the county transportation system in environmentally sustainable ways that increase resiliency to both climate change and vulnerability, then read the associated six (6) Objectives. She asked for questions/comments:

- Mr. Golembiewski – Regarding 1st objective: “Maintain and improve”.
- Mr. Mattes – Regarding Goal: take out the word sustainable, replace with friendly or another synonym.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed the anticipated LRTP development timeline:

- October 2023 – 30-month Kickoff Meeting
- July/August 2024 – Establish Steering Committee
- September/October 2024 – Public Outreach Meetings
- November 2024 – June 2025 – Gather background information.
- March-May 2025 – Gather public input on issues and needs (in coordination with State Transportation Commission [STC] public outreach on the State’s Twelve—Year Program Update)
- July 2025 – Review STC survey responses
- August-December 2025 – TIP and LRTP project meetings with PennDOT
- November/December 2025 – Present at Agency Coordination Meeting (ACM) meeting
- February 2026 – Complete Draft LRTP
- March/April 2026 – Begin 30-day public comment period and conduct public meetings.
- May 2026 – Response to comments
- May 2026 – Anticipated RATS Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Adoption
- September 2026 – Anticipated Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approval.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Slide #18 and asked the question: “If you could instantaneously make one change (big or small) to the transportation system without concern for cost or other potential obstacles, what would it be?”

Responses included:

- Mr. Anderson – 1: Get cars off the road. 2: Need mass transit, especially to Philadelphia, Allentown, and New York. 3: Reading Airport needs to expand service including flights to Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.
- Mr. Mattes – Passenger rail to Philadelphia.

Ms. Timochenko asked for any final questions/comments, particularly related to roadways, bridges, or other transportation issues in the area that are considered problematic.

- Mr. Anderson – Asked about the tolling of the Lenhartsville Bridge on I-78. *Informed him of how that was off the table and would not be a possibility.*
- Mr. Mattes – 1: West Shore Bypass. *Informed of website, discussed widening, bridges, on ramp from 176N to 422W, and multiple phases.* 2: Sinking Spring Penn Avenue/724 intersection. *Discussed progress.* 3: Lancaster Avenue and Bingaman Street Bridge. *Discussed planned projects including the reconfiguration of that interchange.*

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko thanked the attendees for coming and their participation. The meeting concluded at 7:21 PM.

Long Range Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives Public Outreach
Hawk Mountain Region Meeting #4 Attendance
Thursday, October 10, 2024

First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Registered LRTP Outreach Meeting	Confirmed
Mary	Himmelberger		Hawk Mountain Region Meeting	☐
Gavin	Milligan		Hawk Mountain Region Meeting	☐
Amanda	Timochenko		Hawk Mountain Region Meeting	☐
Devon	Hain		Hawk Mountain Region Meeting	☐
Michael	Golembiewski		Hawk Mountain Region Meeting	☐
Russell	Anderson		Hawk Mountain Region Meeting	☒
Dave	Mattes		Hawk Mountain Region Meeting	☒

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #5
VIRTUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 15, 2024**

Meeting Notes:

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 1:05 PM. He welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose of this afternoon's meeting which was to review and gather public input on the Goals and Objectives of the current LRTP and revise them based on public input. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process; performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The next few slides detailed the LRTP Plan Components, by Chapter.

Chapter 1 is the Introduction. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is included in this chapter: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will provide and maintain a balanced, multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move goods and people.*

Chapter 2 contains the background Information, including demographics, economics, environmental integration, and resiliency.

Chapter 3 is the State of the System. Individual sections examine Roads and Bridges, the Congestion Management Process, Safety and Security, Transit, Freight, Non-motorized Transportation, Aviation, and Issues & Needs.

Chapter 4 is the recommendations of the plan. These include Goals/Objectives/Strategic Performance Measures, Project Prioritization, Project & Financial Planning, Travel Demand Modeling, and Air Quality Conformity.

Contained in the Appendix is documentation of the Public Participation Process, Amendment Procedures, and detailed tables/descriptions of the Highway and Transit Program Funding assumptions and calculations.

There are ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko introduced Goal #1: Keep Travelers safe and secure, no matter the mode of transportation. The five (5) Objectives attached to Goal #1 were also read. She asked for questions/comments regarding the Goal and Objectives.

- Mr. Bingaman responded in the Chat feature, “Looks good to me”.
- No other comments were received.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #2: Maintain and improve the transportation system and services we enjoy today where financially feasible, then read the associated seven (7) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Mr. Roche questioned if this goal includes specific support for the proposed re-establishment of passenger rail service? Mr. Piper responded that specific support is contained in Goal #3.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen the ability of Berks County commerce to access national and international trade markets and support regional economic development and tourism opportunities, then read the associated eight (8) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Ms. Timochenko pointed out that this Goal is ‘wordy’ and it would be revised to make it more readable.

- She also mentioned the last Objective, Coordinate with agricultural community to identify and address obstructions to the movement of equipment and products, was added.
- Mr. Burns stated that the while overall Goal sounds very nice, it can have unintended consequences. For example, a community in Georgia made extensive accommodations for cyclists and pedestrians which resulted in lengthy lines of traffic having to yield for them. He further stated that we need to balance bike/ped accommodations with those for vehicular traffic.
- Mr. Burns mentioned how difficult it is traveling to and through Philadelphia Intl. Airport and, if an airport is successful, so is economic development. We need to get passenger reestablished at Reading Regional Airport.
- Mr. Burns asked if the reestablishment of passenger rail service is fiscally responsible, and will it pay for itself? Mr. Piper responded that we must provide balanced systems. He agreed with the need for fiscal responsibility. The Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority is working through the study process now. RATS will support whatever findings the studies report.
- Mr. Roche asked if Goal #3 should be separated into two Goals, as national/international opportunities can be separate from local/regional economic development and tourism. Ms. Timochenko answered that this will be considered. This could also help address some of Mr. Burns' concerns.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition, then read the associated four (4) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Mr. Burns mentioned the need for safe truck parking, knowing that this is a nationwide issue but local as well with all the recent warehouse growth. Mr. Piper responded that there will be specific recommendations coming out of the recently completed Regional Freight Study.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #5: Enhance the performance of the county transportation system in environmentally sustainable ways that increase resiliency to both climate change and vulnerability, then read the associated six (6) Objectives. She asked for questions/comments:

- Mr. Roche asked if there could be a specific objective to market public transit services? Mr. Piper answered that, here, we reference the relationship with Commute PA specifically instead of a generic objective.
- Mr. Burns stated that, under Environmental Sustainability, we need to be cautious with electrification as the supporting infrastructure is not yet widespread, is very expensive, and vehicle ranges (especially heavier duty vehicles) are still limited. Mr. Piper responded that we need to incorporate this Objective since this is a 20-year Plan.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed the anticipated LRTP development timeline:

- October 2023 – 30-month Kickoff Meeting
- July/August 2024 – Establish Steering Committee
- September/October 2024 – Public Outreach Meetings
- November 2024 – June 2025 – Gather background information.
- March-May 2025 – Gather public input on issues and needs (in coordination with State Transportation Commission [STC] public outreach on the State’s Twelve—Year Program Update)
- July 2025 – Review STC survey responses
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Ms. Timochenko reviewed Slide #18 and asked the question: “If you could instantaneously make one change (big or small) to the transportation system without concern for cost or other potential obstacles, what would it be?” Responses included:

- Mr. Roche would ensure equitable and accessible transit throughout the region.
- Mr. Bingaman (chat) would lessen congestion and have smoother roadways.
- Mr. Burns would work to reestablish commercial passenger air service at Reading Regional Airport

Ms. Timochenko mentioned that the next step in the LRTP development process is continued public outreach. A survey is available in English and Spanish as part of this initial public outreach, and she encouraged the meeting attendees to take the survey and spread it among their peers to garner more input.

Ms. Timochenko asked for any final questions/comments, particularly related to roadways, bridges, or other transportation issues in the area that attendees considered problematic.

- Mr. Miller asked a general question about “What’s within the realm of possibility”?
- Mr. Burns mentioned that he’s noticed many repaired/replaced bridges in northern Berks County. Mr. Piper replied that we need a response to local bridge issues that is equivalent to that being given to state bridges.
- Mr. Bingaman (chat) mentioned PA 662, Old Airport Road, and Blacksmith Road (all in Amity Twp.) needing improvements, along with U.S. 422 from Exeter through Douglass townships.
- Mr. Piper followed-up to Mr. Burns’ comments that we need a response to local bridge issues that is equivalent to that being given to state bridges.

- Mr. Young mentioned the U.S. 222 corridor from Maidencreek Township north to the Lehigh County line. Mr. Piper outlined the multiple projects planned for the corridor and their status to-date.

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked the attendees for coming. The meeting concluded at 1:52 PM.

*Prepared by,
Michael D. Golembiewski
Transportation Modeler*

BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Long Range Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives Public Outreach
Hawk Mountain Region Meeting #5 Attendance
Tuesday, October 15, 2024

First Name	Last Name	Email Address	Registered LRTP Outreach Meeting	Confirmed
Matthew	Edmond		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Anthony	Tucci		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Lori	Stoudt		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Randy	Miller		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
Kris	Thompson		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Amanda	Timochenko		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
Alan	Piper		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
Michael	Golembiewski		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
Danielle	Monahan		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Brian	Hoffa		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
Travis	Blanchard		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
Leo	Scott		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Alexander	Roche		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
Troy	Bingaman		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
Mariska	van Aalst		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Mariska	van Aalst		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Jason	Reichert		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Dave	Mattes		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐
Ed	Burns		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☒
H David	Miller		Countywide Virtual Meeting	☐

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2025 PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives, discuss currently planned projects, and discuss existing and future transportation issues and needs. Your participation will provide valuable insight on the condition of Berks County's transportation system and help guide the development of the LRTP.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT!



PUBLIC MEETINGS

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, SEVEN (7) IN PERSON MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY AND TWO (2) VIRTUAL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD:

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY OF READING

WED, APRIL 2 • 6PM-7PM
815 Washington Street, Reading

TILDEN TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
WED, APRIL 16 • 6PM-7PM
874 Hex Highway, Hamburg

CUMRU TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
THURS, APRIL 24 • 6PM-7PM
1775 Welsh Road, Mohnton

CAERNARVON
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
TUES, MAY 13 • 6PM-7PM
3307 Main Street, Morgantown

WOMELSDORF BOROUGH HALL

MON, APRIL 14 • 6PM-7PM
101 West High Street, Womelsdorf

COLEBROOKDALE
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
TUES, APRIL 22 • 6PM-7PM
765 West Philadelphia Ave., Boyertown

MAIDENCREEK
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
TUES, APRIL 29 • 6PM-7PM
1 Quarry Road, Blandon

VIRTUAL MEETINGS*

WED, APRIL 23
11 AM-12 PM

THURS, MAY 1
6 PM-7 PM

**Registration is required to
receive the link to participate
in the Virtual Meetings*

Registration link:
<https://arcg.is/0f9010>



The Reading MPO is committed to compliance with nondiscrimination statutes, executive orders, regulations, and policies applicable to the programs and activities it administers. We strive to host inclusive, accessible events that enable all individuals to engage and participate fully. To request accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact **Michael Golembiewski at (610) 478-6300 or planning@berkspa.gov** at least 72 hours before the scheduled event. The MPO will attempt to honor requests made after this time as it is able.

If you believe you have been denied participation opportunities, or otherwise discriminated against based on disability, Title VI, or another covered nondiscriminatory basis, you may file a complaint using the procedures provided in our complaint process document or by contacting **Michael Golembiewski at (610) 478-6300 or planning@berkspa.gov**

Estos informes y/o documentos estarán disponibles en diversos lenguajes y formatos si es necesario.
Personas que necesiten acomodo razonable o con preguntas pueden comunicarse al **610-478-6300**.

Reading Area Transportation Study
(Estudio de Transporte del Área de Reading)
FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Public Outreach Meetings
(Reuniones Públicas de Divulgación sobre el Plan de Transporte a Largo Plazo)

El estudio Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS, por sus siglas en inglés), encomendado federalmente para el condado de Berks por la Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO, por sus siglas en inglés), está actualizando su Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP, por sus siglas en inglés). El LRTP ayudará a encaminar decisiones en torno al transporte y uso del suelo durante un periodo de 20 años. Como parte de este proceso, estaremos celebrando reuniones públicas de divulgación a través del condado de Berks para la revisión de objetivos y metas, la discusión de proyectos planeados en la actualidad, así como también la discusión de asuntos y necesidades actuales y futuras relacionadas con el transporte. La participación de usted nos proporcionará una perspectiva valiosa sobre las condiciones del sistema de transporte del condado de Berks y ayudará a dirigir el desarrollo del LRTP.

Para la conveniencia del público, se llevarán a cabo siete (7) reuniones presenciales a través de Berks y dos (2) reuniones virtuales:

miércoles 2 de abril de 2025
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
City Hall, City of Reading
815 Washington Street, Reading, PA 19601

lunes 14 de abril de 2025
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Womelsdorf Borough Hall
101 West High Street, Womelsdorf, PA 19567

miércoles 16 de abril de 2025
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Tilden Township Municipal Building
874 Hex Highway, Hamburg, PA 19526

martes 22 de abril de 2025
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Colebrookdale Township Municipal Building
765 West Philadelphia Avenue, Boyertown, PA 19512

Jueves 24 de abril de 2025
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Cumru Township Municipal Building
1775 Welsh Road, Mohnton, PA 19540

martes 29 de abril de 2025

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Maidencreek Township Municipal Building
1 Quarry Road, Blandon, PA 19510

martes 13 de mayo de 2025
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Caernarvon Township Municipal Building
3307 Main Street, Morgantown, PA 19543

Para participar en las reuniones virtuales, es necesario que se registre para recibir el enlace ("link") de acceso. (Puede registrarse aquí: <https://arcg.is/0f901O>)

Reunión Virtual
miércoles 23 de abril de 2025
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams

Reunión Virtual
martes 1 de mayo de 2025
6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams

El MPO de Reading está comprometido con el cumplimiento de estatutos de no discriminación, órdenes ejecutivas, regulaciones y políticas aplicables a los programas y actividades que este administra. Nos esforzamos por auspiciar eventos inclusivos y accesibles que permitan que todas las personas puedan participar y se involucren de forma plena. Para solicitar acomodo razonable o para preguntas sobre la accesibilidad, por favor comuníquese con Michael Golembiewski al (610) 478-6300 o a planning@berkspa.gov con al menos 72 horas de anticipación a la fecha programada para el evento. El MPO intentará atender las solicitudes luego de estas fechas límites en la medida que sea posible.

Si usted considera que se le han negado las oportunidades de participación, o que se ha discriminado contra usted conforme el Título VI, Ley ADA/Discapacidad, o en virtud de alguna otra disposición de no discriminación, usted puede radicar una querrela/queja ("complaint") siguiendo los procedimientos descritos en nuestro documento [complaint process document](#) o puede comunicarse con Michael Golembiewski al (610) 478-6300, o a planning@berkspa.gov.

Estos informes y/o documentos estarán disponibles en diversos lenguajes y formatos si fuese necesario. Las personas que necesiten acomodo razonable o que tengan preguntas pueden comunicarse al 610-478-6300.

Alan Piper, secretario MPO

From: [Piper, Alan](#)
To: [Piper, Alan](#)
Subject: Berks County Input Requested - State Transportation Commission Public Comment Survey and On-Line Forum
Date: Friday, March 21, 2025 12:06:00 PM
Attachments: [12 Year Trans Program Survey V1.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)

Attached please find an announcement from the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission announcing the availability of public comment survey and an Online Public Forum regarding transportation needs throughout Pennsylvania and here in Berks County. The Public Forum will be conducted on April 10th and the survey is available through April 30th.

The results of these surveys and forum comments help to inform both state and local planning efforts.

Please feel free to participate in this effort and to circulate this to your constituents and other persons / organizations that may have an interest in our transportation system.

Thank you!



Participation Needed For 12 Year Transportation Program

Every two years the State Transportation Commission (STC) and PennDOT update the [12-Year Transportation Program](#) (TYP). The 2025 Public Comment Period for the TYP update began **Monday, March 3rd, and continues through Wednesday, April 30th**.

All Pennsylvanians are welcome to participate in the public comment period via the [Transportation Survey](#), or by emailing comments to RA-PennDOTSTC@pa.gov, or calling 717-783-2262 from 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM to request a printed copy of the Survey, or to complete the Survey by telephone.

Additionally, PennDOT is hosting an [Online Public Forum](#) on Thursday, April 10, from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. The event will be conducted virtually and will feature a presentation from PennDOT Secretary of Transportation Michael Carroll as well as a live Q&A session with PennDOT personnel and State Transportation Commission members.

The STC and PennDOT will document, review, and use the public feedback provided to help identify needs and prioritize transportation projects across the state. This feedback is also used to inform other regional and statewide transportation plans and programs. After this survey closes, the comments for Berks County are also reviewed by Reading Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Staff. Transportation issues/needs that are identified aid in guiding investment decisions to keep Berks County roads safe and in good condition. The comments are also compiled based on municipality and reported to each.

SENT TO:

- READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY MAIL LIST
- LEGISLATORS (PA AND U.S.)
- RATS COORDINATING/TECHNICAL COMMITTEES, ALTERNATES, AND STAFF
- BERKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COO STAFF, PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION DIRECTOR
- LRTP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- HUMAN SERVICES MAIL LIST
- FREIGHT CONTACTS MAIL LIST
- BERKS COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES
- BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS
- SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAIL LIST
- BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MAIL LIST
- LIBRARIES MAIL LIST
- BERKS COUNTY EMPLOYEES

This message and the attachment(s) are intended for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any retention, use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication including attachments is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone or reply to the original message at the above address and then delete all copies of the message.

Thank you.

From: [Notifications](#)
Subject: Transportation Survey
Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 9:03:31 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)



Notification

To: All County of Berks Employees including Heim Admin
From: The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS)
Subject: Transportation Survey



TELL US
ABOUT YOUR
TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

TAKE THE SURVEY
March 3 - April 30

 Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation

 State Transportation
Commission

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From: [Piper, Alan](#)
To: [Piper, Alan](#)
Subject: Provide your input! - RATS Long Range Transportation Plan Update Public Outreach Spring 2025
Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 4:44:02 PM
Attachments: [LRTP Public Meeting Invites 2025 - FINAL.pdf](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

The **Reading Area Transportation Study** (RATS) is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period.

We want your input!

We are conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives, discuss currently planned projects, and discuss existing and future transportation issues and needs.

These meetings are separate from that being held by PennDOT on the Statewide Twelve Year Program (TYP) and will focus exclusively on Berks County!!

Please see the attached flyer for the dates, times, and locations for each public outreach meeting.

*Registration is required only for the Virtual Meetings to receive the link to participate.

Please feel free to share this information.

Thank you!

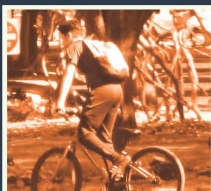
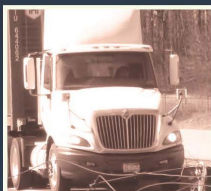
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- **RATS COORDINATING/TECHNICAL COMMITTEES, ALTERNATES, AND STAFF**
- **BERKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COO STAFF, PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION DIRECTOR**
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- **LIBRARIES MAIL LIST**

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2025 PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

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MUNICIPAL BUILDING
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VIRTUAL MEETINGS*

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11AM-12PM

THURS, MAY 1
6PM-7PM

*Registration is required to
receive the link to participate
in the Virtual Meetings

Registration link:
<https://arcg.is/0f9010>



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Personas que necesiten acomodo razonable o con preguntas pueden comunicarse | 610-478-6300.

Berks County Planning Commission Relocation Notice – April 2025

The Berks County Planning Commission will be relocating to the County of Berks South Campus **April 7, 2025**.

- *Beginning April 1st*, please forward ALL Subdivision and Land Development plans, applications, and checks to our new address: **400 E Wyomissing Ave., Box 2, Mohnton, PA 19540.**
- All other correspondence such as ACT 67/68, zoning/ subdivision ordinance amendments and Act 14 Notifications can be forwarded via email to planning@berkspa.gov.
- Subdivisions and Land Development Endorsements will be postponed April 7th through the 21th. If there is an emergency that plans must be endorsed please email planning@berkspa.gov.
- Appointments for endorsement will resume on or before April 21st.
- Our telephone number will remain the same.

Alan Piper | Planner III - Transportation
Berk County Planning Commission
633 Court Street, 14th Floor, Reading, PA 19601
Phone: 610-478-6300 ext. 6313 Fax: 610-478-6316

Email: Apiper@berkspa.gov
Web: www.berkspa.gov/planning

This message and the attachment(s) are intended for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any retention, use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication including attachments is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone or reply to the original message at the above address and then delete all copies of the message.

Thank you.



Berks County Planning Commission

March 6, 2025 · 🌐

...

[Pennsylvania Department of Transportation \(PennDOT\)](#) and the State Transportation Commission have announced the start of the 2025 Public Comment Period for the update of the 12-Year Program. This survey allows the public to comment on general and specific transportation needs, issues, and concerns. This survey runs through April 30th, have your voice heard today - here's the link to the survey:

<https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/#/Survey>

If you're interested in learning more about the 12-Year Program, you can register for the Online Public Forum to be held on Thursday, April 10th from 6:30-7:30PM.





Berks County Planning Commission

March 25, 2025 · 🌐

...

What transportation issues are of concern to you? Take Pennsylvania's Transportation Survey to address transportation needs as part of PennDOT and the State Transportat... [See more](#)



**TELL US
ABOUT YOUR
TRANSPORTATION NEEDS**

TAKE THE SURVEY
March 3 – April 30

 **Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation**

 **State Transportation
Commission**

 2

1 share

 Like Comment Share



Berks County Planning Commission

April 2, 2025 · 🌐

...

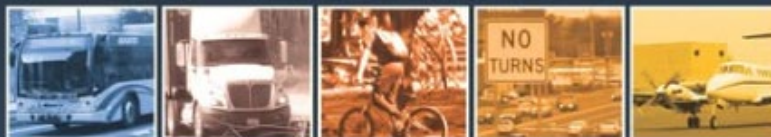
The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, a series of public outreach meetings will be conducted.

The next public meeting will be tonight at City Hall in Reading, PA. See the flyer below for full information. Thanks!

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2025 PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives, discuss currently planned projects, and discuss existing and future transportation issues and needs. Your participation will provide valuable insight on the condition of Berks County's transportation system and help guide the development of the LRTP.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT!



PUBLIC MEETINGS

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, SEVEN (7) IN PERSON MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY AND TWO (2) VIRTUAL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD:

**CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY OF READING**
WED, APRIL 2 • 6PM-7PM
815 Washington Street, Reading

**TILDEN TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
WED, APRIL 16 • 6PM-7PM
874 Hex Highway, Hamburg

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
THURS, APRIL 24 • 6PM-7PM
1775 Welsh Road, Mohnton

**CAERNARVON
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, MAY 13 • 6PM-7PM
3307 Main Street, Morgantown

**WOMELSDORF
BOROUGH HALL**
MON, APRIL 14 • 6PM-7PM
101 West High Street, Womelsdorf

**COLEBROOKDALE
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, APRIL 22 • 6PM-7PM
765 West Philadelphia Ave., Boyertown

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TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, APRIL 29 • 6PM-7PM
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MEETINGS***
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11 AM-12 PM

THURS, MAY 1
6PM-7PM

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receive the link to participate
in the Virtual Meetings.*

Registration link:
<https://orca.is/0t901Q>



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Personas que necesiten acomodo razonable o con preguntas pueden comunicarse a (610) 478-6300.



Berks County Planning Commission

April 7, 2025 · 🌐

...

As part of PennDOT and the State Transportation Commission's 2025 12-Year Program public comment period, an online public forum will be held this Thursday, April 10th from 6:30-7:30PM. This forum will include a keynote from PennDOT Secretary of Transportation, Michael Carroll, and a panel of PennDOT personnel and STC members moderating a live Q&A session. Register at the link below and submit your question today!

<https://talkpatransportation.com/opf-registration>



**TELL US
ABOUT YOUR
TRANSPORTATION NEEDS**

TAKE THE SURVEY
March 3 – April 30

 **Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation**

 **State Transportation
Commission**



Berks County Planning Commission

April 10, 2025 · 🌐

...

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, a series of public outreach meetings will be conducted.

The next public meeting will be Monday April 14th at Womelsdorf Borough Hall. See the flyer below for full information. Thanks!

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2025 PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives, discuss currently planned projects, and discuss existing and future transportation issues and needs. Your participation will provide valuable insight on the condition of Berks County's transportation system and help guide the development of the LRTP.

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COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY OF READING**
WED, APRIL 8 • 6PM-7PM
815 Washington Street, Reading

**TILDEN TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
WED, APRIL 16 • 6PM-7PM
874 Hex Highway, Hamburg

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
THURS, APRIL 24 • 6PM-7PM
1775 Welsh Road, Mohnton

**CAERNARVON
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TUES, MAY 13 • 6PM-7PM
3307 Main Street, Morgantown

**WOMELSDORF
BOROUGH HALL**
MON, APRIL 14 • 6PM-7PM
101 West High Street, Womelsdorf

**COLEBROOKDALE
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, APRIL 22 • 6PM-7PM
765 West Philadelphia Ave., Boyertown

**MAIDENCREEK
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, APRIL 29 • 6PM-7PM
1 Quarry Road, Blandon

VIRTUAL MEETINGS*

WED, APRIL 23
11 AM-12 PM

THURS, MAY 1
6PM-7PM

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Registration link:
<https://arcs.is/0R01Q>



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Berks County Planning Commission

April 14, 2025 ·

...

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The next public meetings will be tonight at Womelsdorf Borough Hall, and tomorrow at Tilden Township's Municipal Building. See the flyer below for full information. Thanks!

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2025 PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives, discuss currently planned projects, and discuss existing and future transportation issues and needs. Your participation will provide valuable insight on the condition of Berks County's transportation system and help guide the development of the LRTP.

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CITY OF READING**
WED, APRIL 23 • 6PM-7PM
815 Washington Street, Reading

**TILDEN TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
WED, APRIL 23 • 6PM-7PM
874 Hex Highway, Hamburg

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
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1775 Welsh Road, Mohnton

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**WOMELSDORF
BOROUGH HALL**
MON, APRIL 14 • 6PM-7PM
101 West High Street, Womelsdorf

**COLEBROOKDALE
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MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, APRIL 22 • 6PM-7PM
765 West Philadelphia Ave., Boyertown

**MAIDEN CREEK
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, APRIL 29 • 6PM-7PM
1 Quarry Road, Blandon

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WED, APRIL 23
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Registration link:
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Berks County Planning Commission

April 21, 2025 · 🌐

...

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, a series of public outreach meetings will be conducted.

The next public meetings will be Tuesday April 22nd at Colebrookdale Township's Municipal Building, a VIRTUAL meeting on Wednesday April 23rd, and Thursday April 24th at Cumru Township's Municipal Building. See the flyer below for full information. Thanks!

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2025 PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives, discuss currently planned projects, and discuss existing and future transportation issues and needs. Your participation will provide valuable insight on the condition of Berks County's transportation system and help guide the development of the LRTP.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT!



PUBLIC MEETINGS

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**CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY OF READING**
WED, APRIL 23 • 6PM-7PM
815 Washington Street, Reading

**TILDEN TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
WED, APRIL 16 • 6PM-7PM
874 Hex Highway, Hamburg

**CUMRU TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
THURS, APRIL 24 • 6PM-7PM
1775 Welsh Road, Mohnton

**CAERNARVON
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, MAY 13 • 6PM-7PM
3307 Main Street, Morgantown

**WOMELSDORF
BOROUGH HALL**
MON, APRIL 14 • 6PM-7PM
101 West High Street, Womelsdorf

**COLEBROOKDALE
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, APRIL 22 • 6PM-7PM
765 West Philadelphia Ave., Boyertown

**MAIDENCREEK
TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**
TUES, APRIL 29 • 6PM-7PM
1 Quarry Road, Blandon

**VIRTUAL
MEETINGS***
WED, APRIL 23
11 AM-12 PM

**THURS, MAY 1
6PM-7PM**

*Registration is required to receive the link to participate in the Virtual Meetings.

Registration link:
<https://ratsa.is/09010>



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Reservados todos los derechos. No se permite la explotación económica ni la transformación de esta obra. Queda permitida la impresión en su totalidad.



Berks County Planning Commission

April 24, 2025 · 🌐

...

Have your voice heard! The public comment period for PennDOT and the State Transportation Commission's 2025 12-Year Program is coming to a close. The online PA Transportation Survey closes on Wednesday, April 30th, so share your transportation needs, issues, and concerns today!

To take the survey, click on the following link: <https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/#/Survey>

**TELL US
ABOUT YOUR
TRANSPORTATION NEEDS**

TAKE THE SURVEY
March 3 - April 30

 **Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation**

 **State Transportation
Commission**

 1

1 share



Berks County Planning Commission

April 28, 2025 · 🌐

...

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, a series of public outreach meetings will be conducted.

The next public meetings will be Tuesday April 29th at Maiden Creek Township's Municipal Building, and a VIRTUAL meeting will be held on Thursday May 1st. See the flyer below for full information. Thanks!

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2025 PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

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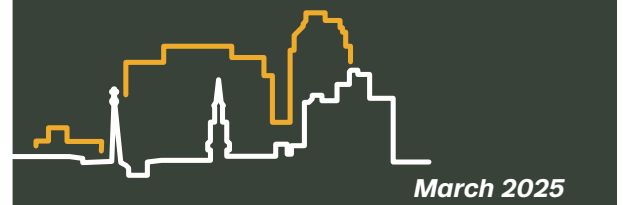
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Personas que necesiten acomodo razonable o con preguntas pueden comunicarse a (610) 478-6300.



BERKS COUNTY
Planning Commission



FLASH



**The Planning Commission will be
on the move beginning April 7th**

**WE ARE
MOVING**

APRIL 7TH 2025

**BERKS COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**400 E. WYOMISSING AVE.
MOHNTON**

In preparation for this move:

- **Beginning April 1st** forward ALL Subdivision and Land Development plans, applications, and checks, to our new address: **400 E Wyomissing Ave, Mohnton, PA 19540.**
 - All other correspondence such as ACT 67/68, zoning/ subdivision ordinance amendments and Act 14 Notifications can be forwarded via email to planning@berkspa.gov
 - Subdivisions and Land Development Endorsements will be postponed April 7th through the 21st. If there is an emergency that plans must be endorsed please email: planning@berkspa.gov. Appointments for endorsement will resume on or before April 21st.
 - Our telephone number will remain the same.
- We appreciate your patience as we transition to our new office.

Participation Needed For 12 Year Transportation Program

Every two years the State Transportation Commission (STC) and PennDOT update the [12- Year Transportation Program](#) (TYP). The 2025 Public Comment Period for the TYP update began **Monday, March 3rd, and continues through Wednesday, April 30th.**

All Pennsylvanians are welcome to participate in the public comment period via the [Transportation Survey](#), or by emailing comments to RA-PennDOTSTC@pa.gov, or calling 717-783-2262 from 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM to request a printed copy of the Survey, or to complete the Survey by telephone.

Additionally, PennDOT is hosting an [Online Public Forum](#) on Thursday, April 10, from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. The event will be conducted virtually and will feature a presentation from PennDOT Secretary of Transportation Michael Carroll as well as a live Q&A session with PennDOT personnel and State Transportation Commission members.

The STC and PennDOT will document, review, and use the public feedback provided to help identify needs and prioritize transportation projects across the state. This feedback is also used to inform other regional and statewide transportation plans and programs. After this survey closes, the comments for Berks County are also reviewed by Reading Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Staff. Transportation issues/needs that are identified aid in guiding investment decisions to keep Berks County roads safe and in good condition. The comments are also compiled based on municipality and reported to each.

**TELL US
ABOUT YOUR
TRANSPORTATION NEEDS**

TAKE THE SURVEY
March 3 – April 30



Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation



State Transportation
Commission

Subdivision & Land Development Report

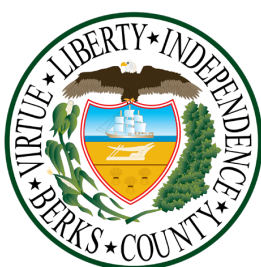
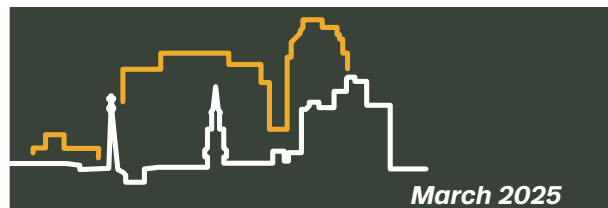




BERKS COUNTY Planning Commission



FLASH



Join Us For The Comprehensive Plan Kickoff

Thursday, March 27, 2025 | 10:00 AM–11:00 AM

During the Commissioners Meeting, the Planning Commission will formally present their plan for the NEW Berks County Comprehensive Plan.

This is a public meeting that will be available in-person located:
**13th Floor Commissioners' Boardroom,
Services Center, 633 Court Street - Reading**
and live via Microsoft Teams, BCTV, [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#)



Center for
Excellence in Local Government
Albright College

**KOZLOFF
STOUDT
ATTORNEYS**



PA Land Use Institute

Saturday, April 5, 2025

8:00 AM Registration and Hot Breakfast

8:30 AM – 1:00 PM training

Please join the Attorney Joan London, along with the Berks County Planning Commission and the Berks County Department of Agriculture for the PA Land Institute on **Saturday April 5th!**

Come hear about the Recent Land Use Court Decisions and Pending Legislation, The New Berks County Comprehensive Plan, the Berks County Agricultural Land Conservation Program and the recently adopted Growing Berks Agriculture Economic Study.

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)



PennDOT Connects Outreach District 5

Thursday, March 27, 2025 - 1 PM–3 PM

**1002 Hamilton Street
Allentown, PA 18101
(In-person or Virtual)**

Attending a PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach session is an opportunity for communities to make connections, learn about resources, and improve transportation projects.

[CLICK TO REGISTER](#)

LTAP Course

PEDESTRIANS AND CROSSWALKS

Thursday, April 17, 2024

8:00 AM–12:00 PM

Berks County Agricultural Center

1238 County Welfare Road,
Leesport, PA 19533

TO REGISTER:

gis.pennndot.gov/ltap/

Or Contact **Matt McGough**

at the Berks County Planning Commission

at **610 478-6300 Ext. 6306**

or via email at mmcgough@berkspa.gov



The latest Planning Advice for

Utility Scale Solar Facilities is now available.

CLICK TO VIEW THE UPDATED DOCUMENT.



4/1/25, 12:40 PM

Reading Eagle

BERKS COUNTY

Meetings set on transportation plan

Comments sought on issues, needs

BY STEVEN HENSHAW

SHENSHAW@READINGEAGLE.COM

The Reading Area Transportation Study, or RATS, will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County, starting this week, to gather input on its Long Range Transportation Plan.

The plan helps direct transportation and land-use decisions for 20 years.

"This is the opportunity for the public to tell us exactly what they feel about transportation issues and needs," said Alan Piper, county transportation planner.

The job of the transportation planners will be to try to incorporate feasible suggestions into the long-range plan and the transportation improvement plan (TIP) that makes up the first four years of the overarching plan.

The long-range plan doesn't just address highway and bridge needs, Piper said. It addresses all facets of transportation, including bicycle and pedestrian movement and transit.

Not to be confused, he said, but apart from the Berks meetings, PennDOT recently opened the public comment period for the statewide 12-year transportation plan. An online public forum that is part of that project will be hosted by PennDOT Secretary Mike Carroll on April 10.

The meetings being hosted by RATS, which is PennDOT's designated metropolitan planning organization for Berks, will focus exclusively on Berks.

Seven in-person sessions and two virtual meetings are scheduled, including Wednesday evening in Reading.

RATS representatives will review the goals and objectives that were identified based on the first phase of public input in the fall as well as current and future planned projects.

Registration is required only for the virtual meetings to receive the link to participate.

These one-hour meetings are scheduled:

Reading City Hall Council Chambers, Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Womelsdorf Borough Hall, April 14 at 6 p.m.

Tilden Township Municipal Building, April 16 at 6 p.m.

Colebrookdale Township Municipal Building, April 22 at 6 p.m.

Cumru Township Municipal Building, April 24 at 6 p.m.

Maidencreek Township Municipal Building, April 29 at 6 p.m.

Caernarvon Township Municipal Building, May 13 at 6 p.m.

Virtual meetings will be conducted April 23 at 11 a.m. and May 1 at 6 p.m. Register at: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/>



Ashley Showers • You

Assistant Director at Berks County Planning Commission

now •

...

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period.

We want your input!

We are conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives, discuss currently planned projects, and discuss existing and future transportation issues and needs.

Please see the attached flyer for the dates, times, and locations for each public outreach meeting.

*Registration is required only for the Virtual Meetings to receive the link to participate.

Please feel free to share this information.

Thank you!

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
2025 PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS), the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Berks County, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP helps direct transportation and land use decisions over a 20-year period. As part of the process, we will be conducting public outreach meetings across Berks County to review the goals and objectives, discuss currently planned projects, and discuss existing and future transportation issues and needs. Your participation will provide valuable insight on the condition of Berks County's transportation system and help guide the development of the LRTP.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

PUBLIC MEETINGS

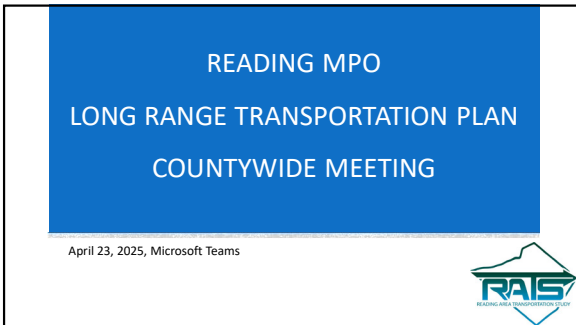
FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, SEVEN (7) IN PERSON MEETINGS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY AND TWO (2) VIRTUAL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD:

**Business & Community Advocacy Council Meeting**

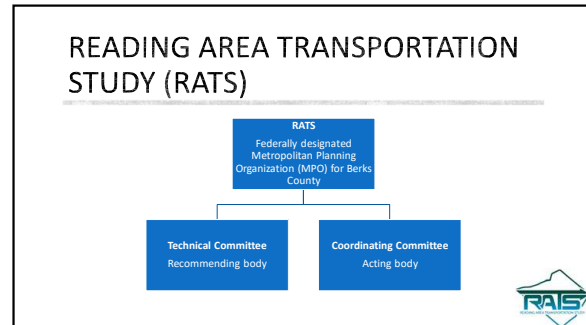
April 11th, 2024
Reading Regional Airport
8:00 am – 10:00 am

- I. Welcome & Introduction**
 - a. Introductions
 - b. Stakeholder Meetings
 - i. To schedule: aroche@greaterreading.org
- II. Transportation: What is Going on and How Can We Be Stewards of Change**
 - a. Alan Piper, Berks County Planning
 - b. Zackary Tempesco, Reading Regional Airport
 - c. Tom Frawley, SRPRA
- III. Economic Development Update**
 - a. Economy Update – Aaron Gantz, GRCA
 - b. State of the Workforce – Keith Stamm, GRCA
 - c. State of Housing- Mark Mohn, RBAR
- IV. Open Discussion/BCAC Member Updates**
- V. Future Dates/Upcoming Events**
 - a. Next BCAC Meeting – Thursday, June 12th, New start time 8am, Berks Career and Tech Center West
 - b. GRCA State Legislator Breakfast – May 1st, Reading Hospital Main Campus, 7:30-9:30am
- VI. Adjourn**

2/25/2026



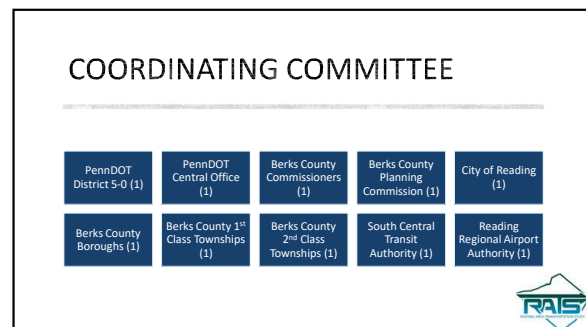
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WHAT IS THE LRTP?

- Required by federal transportation regulations
- Has a minimum 20-year planning horizon reflecting program goals and their application to project prioritization
- Identifies transportation system assets and their conditions, sensitive environments and the evolving needs of the users of that system
- Reflects needs related to safety, maintenance, congestion, and climate change
- Includes Performance Measures for achieving plan goals
- Must be fiscally constrained and identify funding sources
- Must be updated every four years through cooperative process that includes federal, state, local agencies and the public
- Serves as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program
 - Projects must be identified in the LRTP prior to programming phases for construction on the TIP

RATS
READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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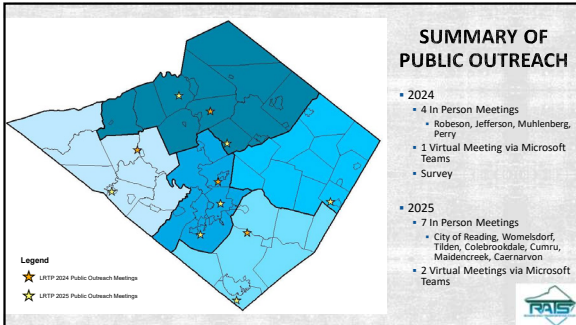
FEDERAL PLANNING FACTORS

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

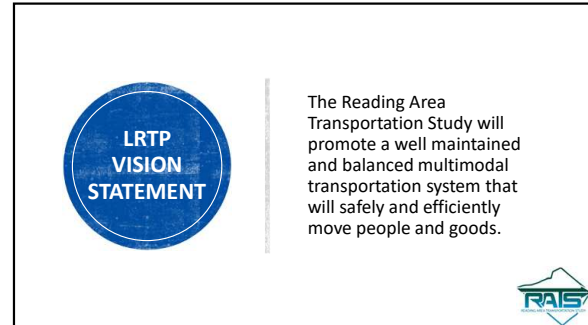
RATS
READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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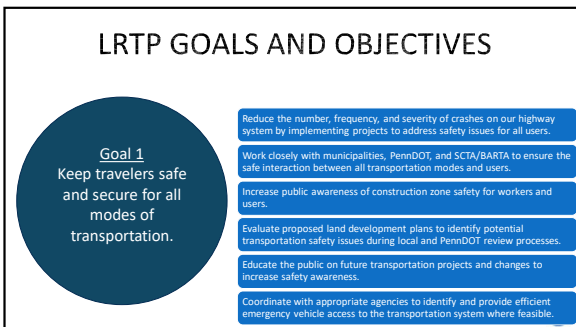
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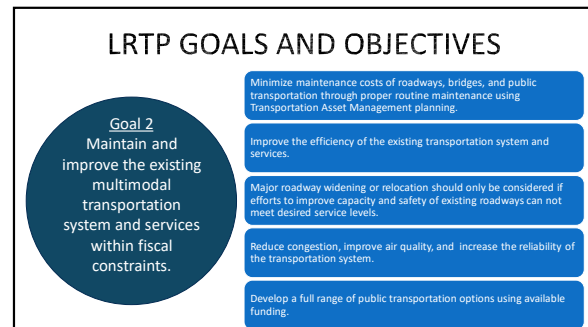
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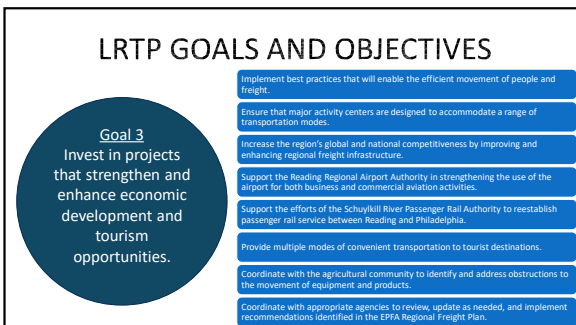
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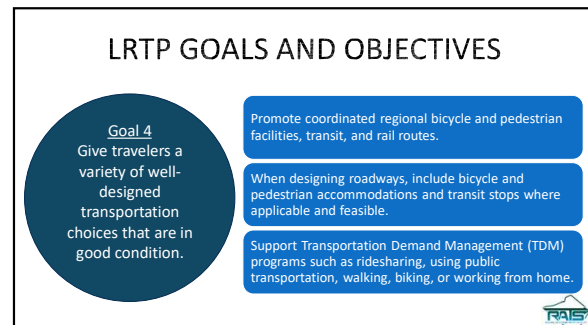
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2/25/2026

LRTP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 5
Enhance the County
transportation
system to address
environmental
impacts.

Identify transportation system assets that are vulnerable to natural hazards and continue coordination with appropriate agencies to develop protection and recovery strategies through hazard mitigation planning.

Maintain the County's Air Quality attainment status for fine particulates and improve the marginal nonattainment status for Ozone.

Work closely with federal, state, municipal, and private entities to implement alternative fuels use (i.e. electric, natural gas) throughout our region.

Collaborate with local, regional, state and federal organizations and agencies to prevent, minimize, or mitigate potential negative environmental and social impacts from planned projects.

Assist in identification of potential environmental issues by maintaining and providing geographic information system data layers in a readily accessible format.

Work with PennDOT to implement stormwater best management practices and mitigation strategies on transportation projects.

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BICYCLE


PEDESTRIAN


PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION


AVIATION


BRIDGE


HIGHWAY

WHAT TRANSPORTATION ISSUES DO YOU CURRENTLY EXPERIENCE?



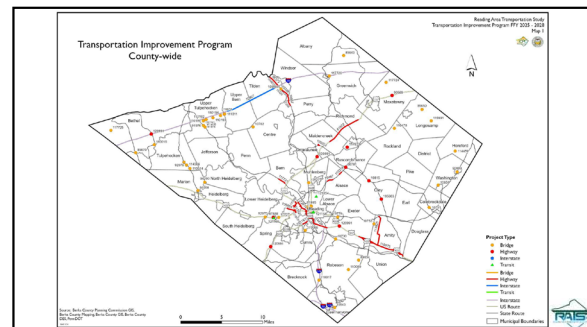
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PLANNED PROJECTS

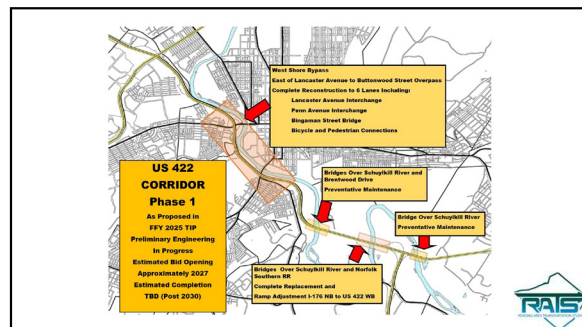
- The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is an agreed upon list of specific priority transportation projects that intend to use federal funds along with non-federally funded projects that are regionally significant.
 - It covers a four-year period and is updated every two years.
 - It shows estimated costs and funding sources and documents the anticipated schedule for each project and project phase.
 - It must be fiscally constrained to the amount of funding available.
 - It is NOT a final schedule of project implementation or guarantee of implementation.
 - Projects are drawn from the Long Range Transportation Plan and must help meet the goals of the LRTP.



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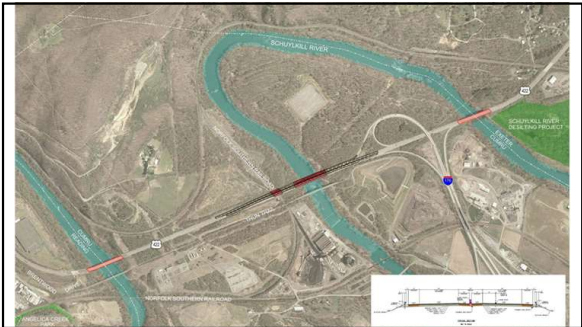


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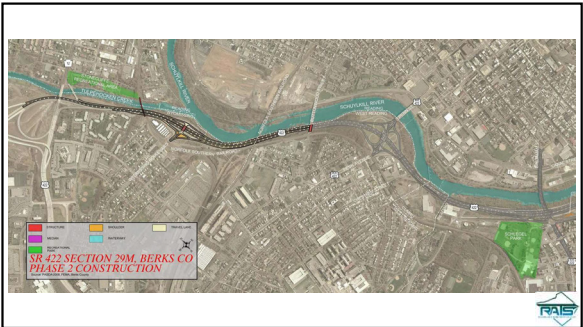


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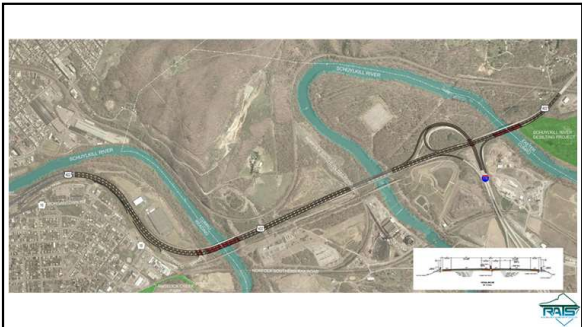
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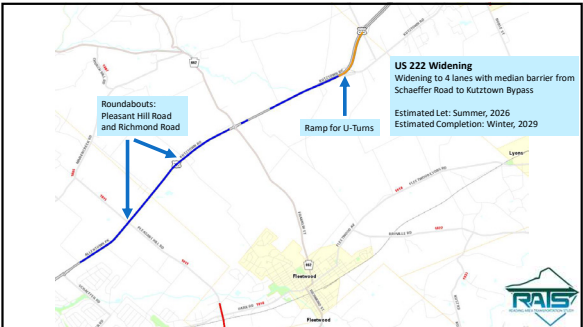
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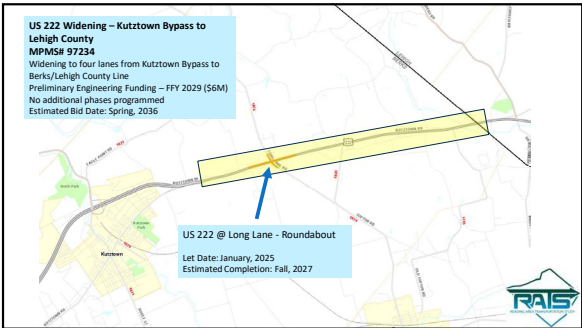
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Federal Fiscal Year	Project Description/Municipality	Estimated Total Project Cost (\$000's)
FFY 2025		
MPMS# 10867	PA 61 Restoration Phase 2B - Perry and Windsor Townships	\$15,883,300
MPMS# 97238	SR 61 Median Barrier - Perry and Windsor Townships	\$500,000
MPMS# 10527	SR 2056 Bellevue Avenue Bridge over RBNM RR - Muhlenberg Township	\$6,984,043
FFY 2026		
MPMS# 11028	SR 12 Alaca Manor - Alaca Township	\$4,867,148
MPMS# 29467	SR 12 Elizabeth Avenue - Alaca Township	\$14,898,900
MPMS# 11008	US 222 Auxiliary Lanes - Wyomissing Borough	\$17,150,000
MPMS# 61072	US 222 Widening - Madencreek and Richmond Townships	\$82,529,825
MPMS# 91008	PA 429 Bridge over Tulpehocken Creek - Marion and Heidelberg Townships	\$8,807,500
MPMS# 87688	US 422 Intersection - Sinking Spring Borough	\$8,817,153
FFY 2027		
MPMS# 114439	US 422 West Shore Bypass Phase 1 - City of Reading, West Reading Borough, Conowing Township	\$175,550,000
MPMS# 100863	PA 662 @ Clay Township Road - Clay Township	\$5,397,945
MPMS# 100954	SR 3023 State Hill Road - Colony Drive to Mail Drive - Wyomissing Borough	\$12,560,000
FFY 2028		
MPMS# 117603	SR 3023 State Hill Road - Mail Drive to NS RR - Wyomissing Borough	\$12,355,000
MPMS# 91095	SR 2087 Centre Avenue over NS RR - Reading	\$9,098,750
MPMS# 10613	SR 2005 Fifth Street over NS RR - Reading	\$4,594,000

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SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS ANTICIPATED TO START DURING READING MPO FFY 2025-2028 TIP

COUNTYWIDE

2/25/2026



**STC 12-YEAR
PROGRAM
UPDATE SURVEY**

<https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/#/Survey>

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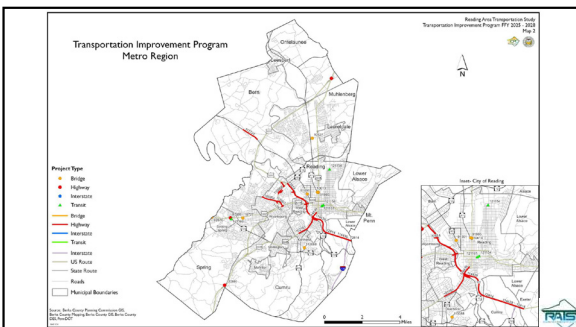
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**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR
PARTICIPATION!**

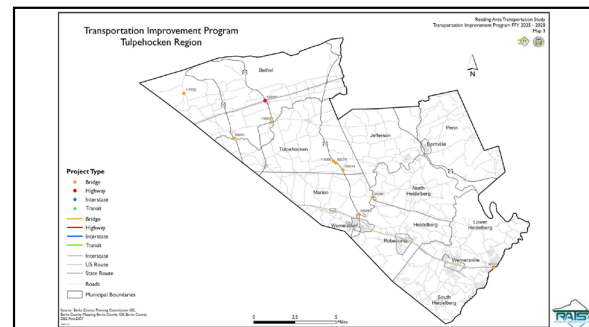
Contact Us via Email at planning@berkspa.gov or via Phone at 610-478-6300

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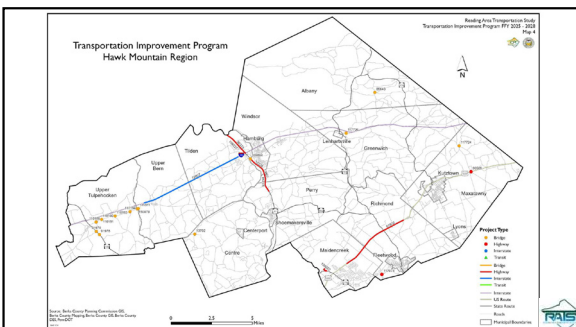
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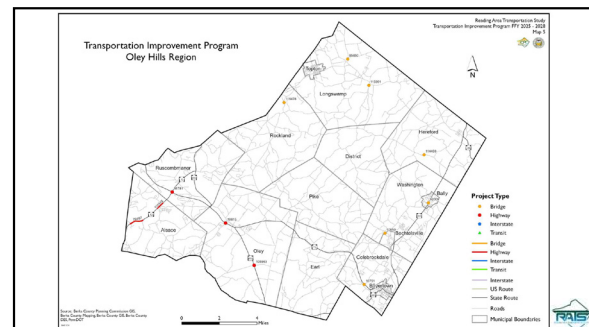
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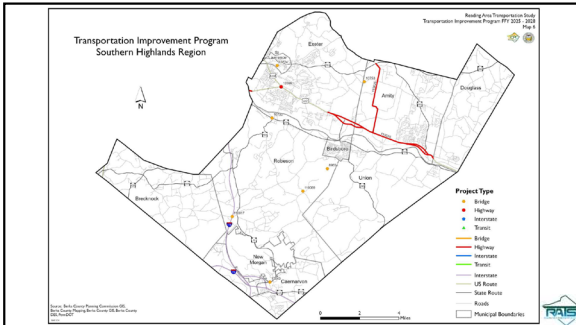


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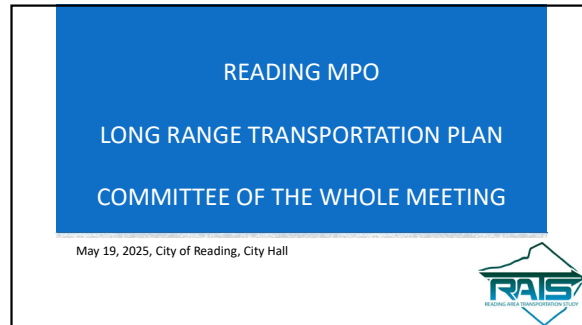
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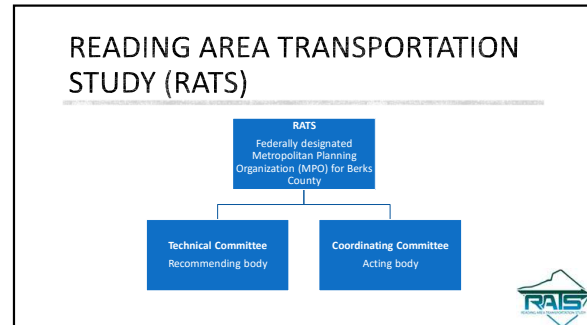


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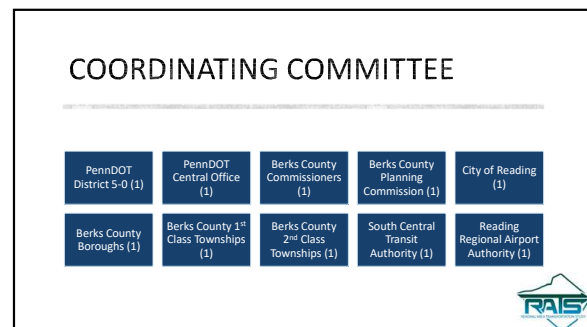
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WHAT IS THE LRTP?

- Required by federal transportation regulations
- Has a minimum 20-year planning horizon reflecting program goals and their application to project prioritization
- Identifies transportation system assets and their conditions, sensitive environments and the evolving needs of the users of that system
- Reflects needs related to safety, maintenance, congestion, and climate change
- Includes Performance Measures for achieving plan goals
- Must be fiscally constrained and identify funding sources
- Must be updated every four years through cooperative process that includes federal, state, local agencies and the public
- Serves as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program
 - Projects must be identified in the LRTP prior to programming phases for construction on the TIP

RATS
READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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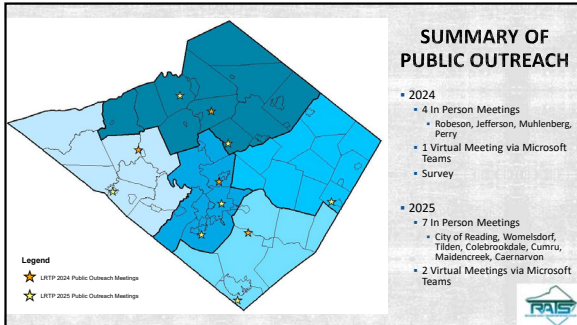
FEDERAL PLANNING FACTORS

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

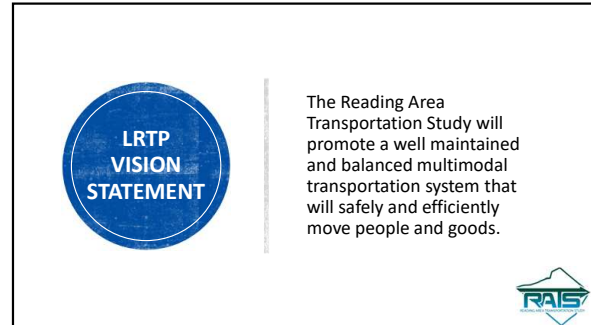
RATS
READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

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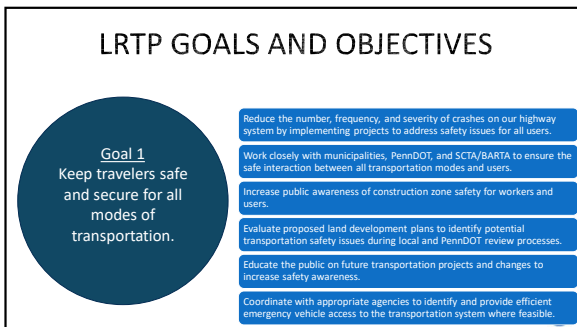
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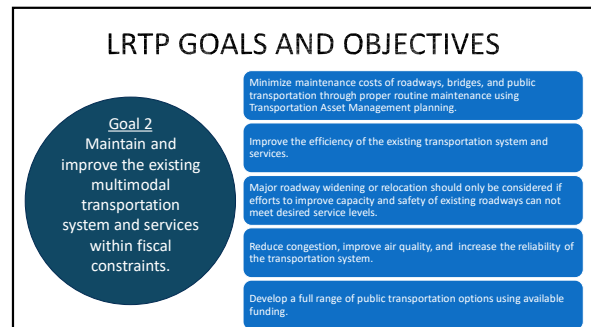
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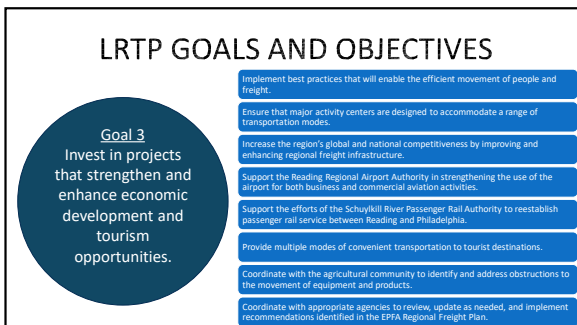
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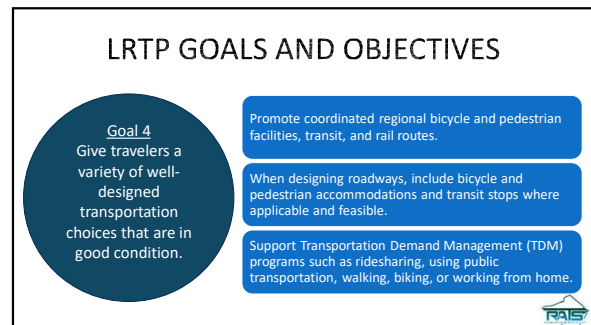
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2/25/2026

LRTP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Goal 5
Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts.

- Identify transportation system assets that are vulnerable to natural hazards and continue coordination with appropriate agencies to develop protection and recovery strategies through hazard mitigation planning.
- Maintain the County's Air Quality attainment status for fine particulates and improve the marginal nonattainment status for Ozone.
- Work closely with federal, state, municipal, and private entities to implement alternative fuels use (i.e. electric, natural gas) throughout our region.
- Collaborate with local, regional, state and federal organizations and agencies to prevent, minimize, or mitigate potential negative environmental and social impacts from planned projects.
- Assist in identification of potential environmental issues by maintaining and providing geographic information system data layers in a readily accessible format.
- Work with PennDOT to implement stormwater best management practices and mitigation strategies on transportation projects.

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WHAT TRANSPORTATION ISSUES DO YOU CURRENTLY EXPERIENCE?

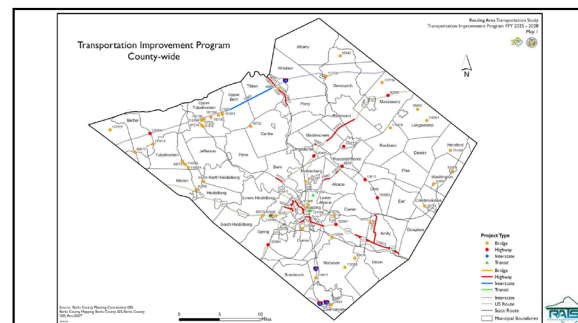
BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
AVIATION BRIDGE HIGHWAY

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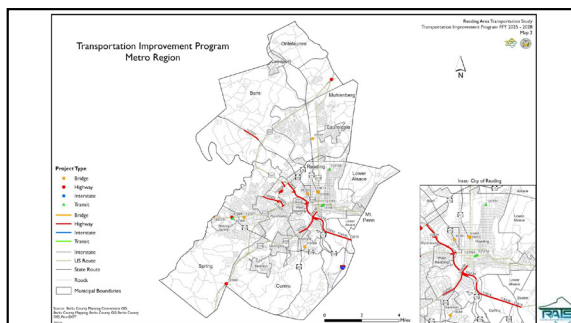
PLANNED PROJECTS

- The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is an agreed upon list of specific priority transportation projects that intend to use federal funds along with non-federally funded projects that are regionally significant.
 - It covers a four-year period and is updated every two years.
 - It shows estimated costs and funding sources and documents the anticipated schedule for each project and project phase.
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 - It is NOT a final schedule of project implementation or guarantee of implementation.
- Projects are drawn from the Long Range Transportation Plan and must help meet the goals of the LRTP.

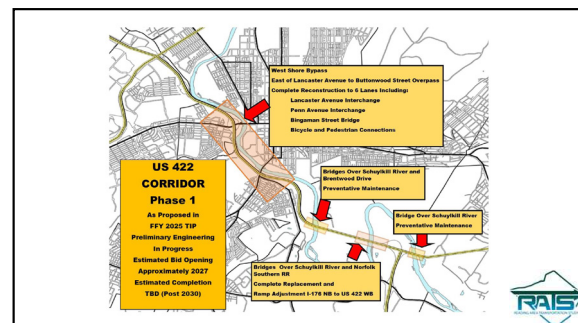
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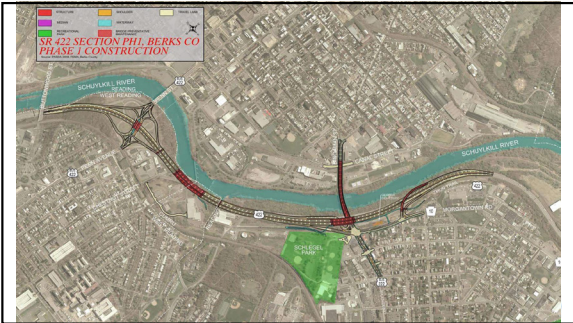


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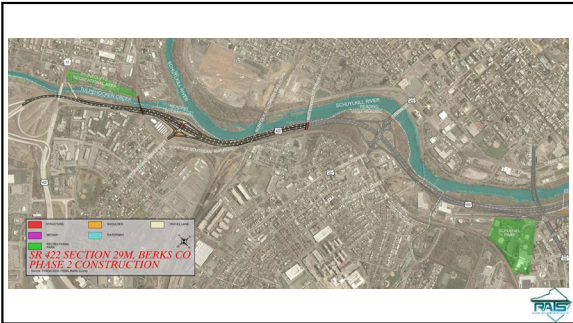
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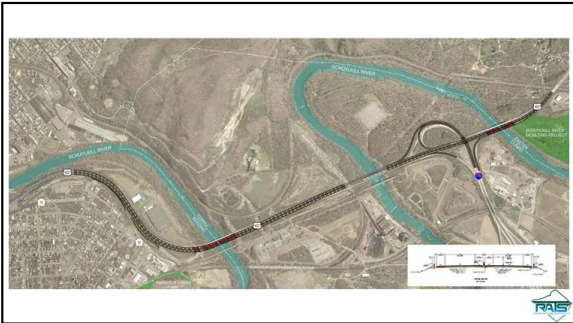
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Federal Fiscal Year	Project Description/Municipality	Estimated Total Project Cost (2023\$)
FFY 2025		
MPMSR 05527	SR 2065 Bellevue Avenue Bridge over RBMM RR - Muhlenberg Twp.	\$15,881,500
FFY 2026		
MPMSR 110008	US 222 Auxiliary Lanes - Wyomissing Borough	\$17,150,000
MPMSR 07688	US 422 Intersection - Sinking Spring Borough	\$8,817,153
FFY 2027		
MPMSR 114439	US 422 West Shore Bypass Phase 1 - City of Reading, West Reading Borough, Cumru Township	\$375,550,000
MPMSR 055954	SR 3023 State Hill Road - Colony Drive to Mill Drive - Wyomissing Borough	\$12,580,000
FFY 2028		
MPMSR 117603	SR 3023 State Hill Road - Mill Drive to NS RR - Wyomissing Borough	\$12,355,000
MPMSR 91995	SR 2087 Centre Avenue over NS RR - Reading	\$9,998,750
MPMSR 05613	SR 2005 Fifth Street over NS RR - Reading	\$4,594,000

23

SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS ANTICIPATED TO START DURING READING MPO FFY 2025-2028 TIP

METRO REGION



TELL US ABOUT YOUR TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

TAKE THE SURVEY

March 3 - April 30

Department of Transportation

STC 12-YEAR PROGRAM UPDATE

<https://www.talkpatrianation.com/how-it-works/typ#>

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**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #6
CITY OF READING, METRO REGION MEETING, APRIL 2, 2025**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:05 PM. He welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose of tonight's meeting which was to review and gather public input during the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update development process. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed in the second half of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

- Mr. Lerch asked what exactly is a Long Range Transportation Plan? Mr. Piper briefly explained what an LRTP is and informed Mr. Lerch that as the meeting progresses staff will be informing the audience on all of the aspects of an LRTP and how it is developed.

Ms. Timochenko then explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process; performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. Timochenko summarized the ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko then summarized the public outreach staff has done to date and plans on doing in the future. Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that in 2024 staff held 4 in-person meetings in multiple municipalities throughout Berks County. Staff also held one virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams and distributed a survey for public input.

Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that staff has 7 in-person meetings scheduled in various municipalities in 2025. As well as two scheduled virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams. The meetings schedule is as follows:

1. April 2, 2025 – City of Reading
2. April 14, 2025 – Womelsdorf Borough
3. April 16, 2025 – Tilden Township
4. April 22, 2025 – Colebrookdale Township
5. April 23, 2025 – Virtual Meeting
6. April 24, 2025 – Cumru Township
7. April 29, 2025 – Maiden Creek Township
8. May 1, 2025 – Virtual Meeting
9. May 13, 2025 – Caernarvon Township

Ms. Timochenko then presented the vision statement for the plan. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will promote a well maintained and balanced multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.*

Ms. Timochenko introduced Goal #1: Keep Travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation. The six (6) Objectives attached to Goal #1 were also read.

- Mr. Lerch commented that the LRTP is not only interested in vehicular modes of transportation but all modes including, pedestrian, bus, train, air, and boat. Mr. Piper explained that Mr. Lerch is correct – the LRTP involves all modes of transportation

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #2: Maintain and improve the existing multimodal transportation system and services within fiscal constraints., then read the associated five (5) Objectives.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen and enhance economic development and tourism opportunities., then read the associated eight (8) Objectives.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition., then read the associated three (3) Objectives.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #5: Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts., then read the associated six (6) Objectives. Ensuing discussion included:

- Mr. Lerch inquired if the environment plays a factor in project selection. Mr. Piper explained that yes, the environment does play a factor when planning for projects. Projects should not have any adverse impacts to the environment. That determination is made during project planning/preliminary engineering phases of a project.
- Mr. Lerch asked how air quality is monitored? Mr. Piper explained that air quality is monitored by a variety of sensors that are located at various points across Berks County. Projects must not negatively affect air quality.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Slide #14 and asked the question: "What transportation issues do you currently experience?" Responses included:

- Mr. Lerch added that he sees a need for intercity public transit. Although he does not currently use public transit there is a need. Mr. Lerch explained that in the past he would use the previous intercity bus service for trips from Reading to New York City. Mr. Lerch added that since the operations have ceased he is not sure how people are traveling between Reading and New York City. Mr. Piper explained that there are other providers that are operating a similar service just not from the same intercity bus station that was utilized in the past.
- Mr. Lerch added that there are conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians, especially in the more urban areas. Mr. Lerch stated that pavement maintenance is important because the lack of well-maintained sidewalks is directing pedestrians into the street where there is more opportunity for vehicle and pedestrian conflicts to occur. Mr. Piper answered by agreeing that pavement maintenance/ADA accessibility can be an issue. Mr. Piper proceeded to describe the process for maintaining and/or adding pedestrian infrastructure when planning road projects.
- Mr. Lerch commented that bridge repair is important and the maintenance of the existing infrastructure is a hard issue to address. Mr. Piper explained everything that goes into planning and ultimately constructing a project.

Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper presented planned projects that are currently on the County's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Piper explained the TIP and presented a visual (slide 15) describing the relationship between the TIP and the LRTP.

Ms. Timochenko shared a Countywide map depicting the locations of current TIP projects throughout the County. The TIP map was further reduced to show only projects located within the Metro region of the County. Mr. Piper went on to describe the projects that were located within the Metro region.

Mr. Piper described the US 422 Corridor (West Shore Bypass) project to the attendees. Some of the key takeaways from this presentation included:

- Project includes the complete reconstruction to 6 lanes including: Lancaster Avenue interchange, Penn Avenue interchange, Bingaman Street Bridge, and bike and pedestrian connections.
- Preventative maintenance on the bridges over the Schuylkill River and Brentwood Drive
- Complete replacement and ramp adjustment at I-176 NB to US 422 WB
- Final design is currently in progress
- Estimated bid opening in approximately 2027
- Estimated completion date post 2030

Mr. Piper presented and went over a list of significant projects anticipated to start during the Reading MPO's FFY 2025-2028 TIP in the Metro Region. Mr. Piper provided more detailed information on the projects presented on slide 23 of the presentation.

Ms. Timochenko presented slide 24 regarding the State Transportation Commission's Program Update and the availability of a survey. Ms. Timochenko explained how results from the survey will come back to the MPOs and any information listed as pertinent to Berks County will be reviewed and could make its way onto one of the programs for potential implementation. Ms. Timochenko presented the link to the survey: <https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/#/survey>

Ms. Timochenko asked for any final questions/comments, particularly related to roadways, bridges, or other transportation issues in the area that are considered problematic.

- Ms. Reed presented about the City's need for improved safety along Hampden Boulevard. Ms. Reed explained some of the ideas that have been brought up and how the City is currently in the process of working with PennDOT to improve the problems they are having along Hampden Boulevard.

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked the attendees for coming. The meeting concluded at 7:23 PM.

*Prepared by,
Matthew McGough
Transportation Planner
BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION*

City Hall, City of Reading

[illegible]

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #7
WOMELSDORF BOROUGH HALL, TULPEHOCKEN REGION MEETING, APRIL 14, 2025**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:07 PM. He welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose of tonight's meeting which was to review and gather public input during the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update development process. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed in the second half of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko then explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process (every four years minimum); performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

- Mayor Melissa Dean asked for clarification regarding updates. Does that mean we complete 5 LRTP updates every 20 years. Ms. Timochenko confirmed that we do.
- Mayor Melissa Dean asked if federal funding is the same as was planned. Mr. Piper explained that the current legislation ends in a year. Either they will write new legislation or extend current legislation, but at this time it is unknown what the current administration will decide. Changes in administration almost always result in changes to program funding and priorities.
- Mr. Scott Wilson acknowledged that transportation infrastructure is important for all and quality of life. All agreed.

Ms. Timochenko summarized the ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko then summarized the public outreach staff has done to date and plans on doing in the future. Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that in 2024 staff held 4 in-person meetings in multiple municipalities throughout Berks County. Staff also held one virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams and distributed a survey for public input.

Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that staff has 7 in-person meetings scheduled in various municipalities in 2025. As well as two scheduled virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams. The meetings schedule is as follows:

1. April 2, 2025 – City of Reading
2. April 14, 2025 – Womelsdorf Borough
3. April 16, 2025 – Tilden Township
4. April 22, 2025 – Colebrookdale Township
5. April 23, 2025 – Virtual Meeting
6. April 24, 2025 – Cumru Township
7. April 29, 2025 – Maiden Creek Township
8. May 1, 2025 – Virtual Meeting
9. May 13, 2025 – Caernarvon Township

Ms. Timochenko then presented the vision statement for the plan. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will promote a well maintained and balanced multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.*

Ms. Timochenko introduced Goal #1: Keep Travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation. The six (6) Objectives attached to Goal #1 were also read.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #2: Maintain and improve the existing multimodal transportation system and services within fiscal constraints, then read the associated five (5) Objectives.

- Mayor Melissa Dean asked if we rip up roads or look for ways to improve them without a total overhaul. Mr. Piper explained that there are many roadway and bridge projects where repairs are made to in an effort to extend the lifespan of a roadway or bridge in a cost-effective process.
- Mayor Melissa Dean asked if the area of flooding on Spring Street under the railroad has been considered for improvements. Mr. Piper explained that it has been mentioned and considered, however ownership is an issue as the railroad owns the bridge and PennDOT owns the roadway underneath. We are currently looking for proper funding to address this issue.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen and enhance economic development and tourism opportunities, then read the associated eight (8) Objectives.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition, then read the associated three (3) Objectives.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Goal #5: Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts, then read the associated six (6) Objectives.

Ms. Timochenko reviewed Slide #14 and asked the question: "What transportation issues do you currently experience?" Responses included:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues:

- Mayor Melissa Dean mentioned that there are no regulations for E bikes. They are not licensed or registered, but people are using them to drive in roadways.
- Mr. Scott Wilson mentioned that a lot of cyclists are on the back roads in the Tulpehocken Region, however, there are some on roads such as Lincoln Rd and Old 22. Also mentioned is that Penn Ave through Wernersville is not as wide as Penn Ave in Womelsdorf or Robesonia. This places Wernersville into a situation where there is not room for bike lanes. All agreed.
- Mayor Melissa Dean stated that Wernersville is pursuing crosswalks across Penn Avenue themselves despite PennDOT saying they would take care of this for free.
- Mayor Melissa Dean stated that the paint on the roadways needs to be retroreflective and have a longer useful life. All agreed.
- Mayor Melissa Dean stated that without a bridge over the RR tracks in Wernersville it can take a bit to drive around to find another road to get to the other side of the tracks if trains are stopped at the at-grade crossings. Mr. Piper stated that a faster route would be Furnace Road. He also mentioned that South Heidelberg Township has desired a bridge over the railroad tracks on Krick Lane for years and it is a project we would support.
- Speaking of Krick Lane Mr. Scott Wilson added that there is a plan for a new warehouse on this road. Mr. Piper stated that the Berks County Planning Commission was aware of that plan and potential for additional traffic.

Transit:

- Mayor Melissa Dean noted that BARTA will no longer drop off/pick up riders at both shopping centers on Penn Ave in Sinking Spring as Tractor Supply threatened to sue BARTA due to access. This forces transit riders to cross Krick Lane. This is dangerous. She stated that a crosswalk is needed here. She also feels that public transportation is not utilized as much as it should be, even by those with limited mobility. Mr. Piper was unaware of the BARTA issue at the shopping centers on either side of Krick Lane, and noted that the majority of BARTA's ridership is centered around the City of Reading.

Aviation:

- Mayor Melissa Dean stated that there were no aviation issues that she is aware of.

Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper presented planned projects that are currently on the County's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Piper explained the TIP and presented a visual (slide 15) describing the relationship between the TIP and the LRTP.

Ms. Timochenko shared a Countywide map depicting the locations of current TIP projects throughout the County. The TIP map was further reduced to show only projects located within the Tulpehocken region of the County. Mr. Piper went on to describe the projects that were located within the confines of the Tulpehocken region.

- Mayor Melissa Dean wanted to know about the multiple projects on Interstate 78. Mr. Piper explained that the majority of those projects consists of repaving. There is also work at the

78/61 interchange. Mr. Piper explained the funding split and how certain money has been dedicated to maintaining and repairing the Interstate.

- Mayor Melissa Dean asked if there is a project that is not planned during this current TIP, can it be planned in the future? Mr. Piper replied, yes, RATS coordinates with PennDOT and other partners to identify projects to add if funds are available. RATS maintains a list of candidate projects for consideration for inclusion when updating the Reading MPO LRTP and TIP. The TIP covers 4 years, and we update it every 2 years.
- Mayor Melissa Dean wanted to know what the projects were along Old Route 22. Mr. Piper explained that those are bridge projects as PennDOT has taken back control of Old Route 22 along the corridor due primarily to its use as a detour when accidents occur on Interstate 78.
- Mayor Melissa Dean stated that there are issues with utilities tearing up and patching roads after PennDOT resurfaces. Mr. Piper acknowledged this issue. He stated that contact with utilities is one of the 1st in the design process. In that way utilities can make any necessary improvements prior to roadway construction. There are limits, though, to what can be done to address emergency repairs or new service hookups that were not anticipated.
- Mayor Melissa Dean acknowledged the multiple bridge projects in the Tulpehocken region including those along Route 419. The cost of the bridge project over Tulpehocken Creek (MPMS# 91908) surprised her. Mr. Piper stated that this bridge is approximately 200 feet long and cost also goes up when keeping it open to the flow of traffic during reconstruction. Mr. Scott Wilson inquired if the improvements to this bridge included shoulders. Mr. Piper acknowledged that there would be shoulders on both sides. Mr. Scott Wilson agreed the improvements and keeping the bridge open to traffic would raise costs and discussed rises in material pricing.
- Mr. Piper elaborated on the future projects in other regions of the County that will be occurring along the Route 222 corridor, the Route 183 corridor, the 78/61 interchange, the Route 422 corridor, and Route 12 (Pricetown Rd).
- Mayor Melissa Dean stated that she is in favor of the roundabouts, however, is concerned that not everyone knows how to use them and recommended more education. Mr. Piper stated that there is a multitude of educational material which can be found on the Berks County Planning Commission website, the PennDOT website, and brochures are given to the municipalities that explain how to drive through a roundabout. Ms. Timochenko stated that part of the overall objective of roundabouts is to prevent suspected serious injuries and fatalities and that the roundabouts in Berks County have reduced the level of crash severity at intersections where roundabouts exist.
- Mr. Scott Wilson was curious about the taking of properties and buildings along Route 222. Mr. Piper stated that only a few total property takes are needed for the Route 222 improvements but there are sliver takes to most properties along the corridor. Mayor Melissa Dean asked if the homeowners were aware. Mr. Piper stated that this is already in progress and PennDOT is working with the owners. He went on to explain PennDOT's process when land is needed for a roadway improvement which includes gathering various estimates and addressing any disputes if additional issues arise. It was noted the AADT along this section is between 25,000 to 30,000 vehicles.

Mr. Piper described the US 422 Corridor (West Shore Bypass) project to the attendees. Some of the key takeaways from this presentation included:

- Project includes the complete reconstruction to 6 lanes including: Lancaster Avenue interchange, Penn Avenue interchange, Bingaman Street Bridge, and bike and pedestrian connections.
- Preventative maintenance on the bridges over the Schuylkill River and Brentwood Drive
- Complete replacement and ramp adjustment at I-176 NB to US 422 WB
- Preliminary engineering is currently in progress
- Estimated bid opening in approximately 2027
- Estimated completion date post 2030

Mr. Piper reviewed a list of additional projects anticipated to start during the Reading MPO's FFY 2025-2028 TIP in the Tulpehocken Region. Mr. Piper provided more detailed information on the projects presented on slide 19 of the presentation.

Ms. Timochenko presented slide 21 regarding the State Transportation Commission's Twelve-Year Program Update and the availability of a survey. Ms. Timochenko explained how results from the survey are shared with the MPOs across the state. Any information relating to Berks County will be reviewed and considered for inclusion onto one of the programs (LRTP / TIP) for potential implementation. Ms. Timochenko presented the link to the survey: <https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/#/survey>

Ms. Timochenko asked for any final questions or comments.

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked the attendees for coming. The meeting concluded at 7:30 PM.

Prepared by,
Devon Hain
Transportation Planner
BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

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RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)**PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #8****TILDEN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, HAWK MOUNTAIN REGION MEETING, APRIL 16, 2025**

The presentation was scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m. No members of the public attended. At approximately 6:15 p.m., Ms. Monica Flowers, Township Secretary, arrived.

Informal discussion between Ms. Flowers and staff ensued. Mr. Piper asked if there were any problems, issues, or potential projects in the region that she wanted us to be aware of. She mentioned two (2) issues:

1. The signalized intersection at Jetson Dr./Cabela Dr. and PA 61 has separate left-turn lanes for traffic turning onto PA 61, but only Cabela Dr. has a protected turn arrow/phase as part of the signal plan. Jetson Dr. does not have the protected turn arrow/phase. She requested that a protected left turn arrow/phase be explored for Jetson Dr. as traffic does back up and creates safety issues.
2. Lowland Rd. has two offset intersections with PA 61 (north of the Jetson Dr./Cabela Dr. intersection). The southern intersection is signalized; the northern one is not. Ms. Flowers suggested that a signal is necessary at the northern intersection but noted that PennDOT has denied that request due to the level of traffic not meeting warrants. Mr. Piper mentioned a proposed warehouse project on the east side of PA 61 and how that may impact the area. The developers are working with PennDOT to gain access to PA 61. Those plans are working through the HOP process, but final designs and impacts are not yet known.

Staff asked Ms. Flowers if she had any other comments or issues. A brief conversation about the LRTP process was had. Hearing no other comments from Ms. Flowers, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked her for her input. The meeting concluded at 6:30 p.m.

Prepared by,

Michael D. Golembiewski

Transportation Modeler

BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

[illegible]

RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)**PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #9****COLEBROOKDALE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, OLEY HILLS REGION MEETING, APRIL 22, 2025**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:00 PM. Mr. Piper welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose of tonight's meeting which was to review and gather public input during the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update development process. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed in the second half of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko then explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process (every four years minimum); performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. Timochenko summarized the ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko then summarized the public outreach staff has done to date and plans on doing in the future. Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that in 2024 staff held 4 in-person meetings in multiple municipalities throughout Berks County. Staff also held one virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams and distributed a survey for public input.

Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that staff has 7 in-person meetings scheduled in various municipalities in 2025. As well as two scheduled virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams.

Ms. Timochenko then presented the vision statement for the plan. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will promote a well maintained and balanced multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.*

Ms. Timochenko introduced and reviewed all five goals which are:

Goal #1: Keep Travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation.

Goal #2: Maintain and improve the existing multimodal transportation system and services within fiscal constraints.

Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen and enhance economic development and tourism opportunities.

Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition.

Goal #5: Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts.

Mr. Piper reviewed Slide #14 and asked the question: "What transportation issues do you currently experience?" Responses included:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues:

- Douglass Township representatives indicated that they had no bike and pedestrian infrastructure except in the southern portion of the Township.

Transit:

- Colebrookdale Township representative Mr. Todd Gamler confirmed that transit service from Pottstown still exists. He indicated that service went to the Weis shopping complex in Gilbertsville and the Giant complex along Rt. 100. No service extends into Berks County.

Aviation:

- Mr. Piper indicated he was not aware of any aviation issues within the region and the attendees concurred.

Highways and Bridges:

- Mr. Piper explained we are interested in understanding issues involving maintenance, safety and congestion.
- Mr. Gamler from Colebrookdale shared that the bridge along County Line Road along the Berks and Montgomery County border that crosses Swamp Creek recently closed.
- Douglass Township indicated they had no bridge issues. However, they would like to investigate the removal of the median along the Benjamin Franklin Highway and install turn lanes.

Safety:

- Safety concerns along Route 100 were discussed. Specifically, Rt. 100 and Chestnut Street.
- Douglass Township requested consideration of flood gates to be installed at Pine Forge Road where fatalities have occurred during extreme weather events. Additionally, gates could be installed at Glendale Road and Manatawny Drive near the grist mill. Mr. Piper indicated this could be investigated as a PROTECT Program candidate project.

Rail lines:

- Douglass Township did express their desire to have railroad crossing gates installed at Manatawny Drive and Greshville Road in response to the Colebrookdale railroad tours.
- Additional coordination and collaboration is needed with Colebrookdale railroad. Specifically, more understanding of easements and their ownership as well as the status of the transfer station project. Mr. Piper indicated that BCPC/MPO would request a meeting with the County Redevelopment Authority and railroad.

Mr. Piper explained the TIP and presented a visual (slide 15) describing the relationship between the TIP and the LRTP.

Ms. Timochenko shared a Countywide map depicting the locations of current TIP projects throughout the County. The TIP map was further reduced to show only projects located within the Oley Hills region of the County. Mr. Piper went on to describe the projects that were located within the confines of the Oley Hills region.

Mr. Piper described the US 422 Corridor (West Shore Bypass) project to the attendees. Some of the key takeaways from this presentation included:

- Project includes the complete reconstruction to 6 lanes including: Lancaster Avenue interchange, Penn Avenue interchange, Bingaman Street Bridge, and bike and pedestrian connections
- Preventative maintenance on the bridges over the Schuylkill River and Brentwood Drive
- Complete replacement of bridges over Schuylkill River and Norfolk Southern Railroad and ramp adjustment at I-176 NB to US 422 WB
- Final engineering is currently in progress
- Estimated bid opening in approximately 2027
- Estimated completion date post 2030

Mr. Piper reviewed a list of additional projects anticipated to start during the Reading MPO's FFY 2025-2028 TIP in the Oley Hills Region. Mr. Piper provided more detailed information on the projects presented on slides 18 and 19 of the presentation.

Mr. Piper presented slide 22 regarding the State Transportation Commission's Twelve-Year Program Update and the availability of a survey. Mr. Piper explained how results from the survey are shared with the MPOs across the state. Any information relating to Berks County will be reviewed and considered for inclusion onto one of the programs (LRTP / TIP) for potential implementation. Ms. Timochenko presented the link to the survey: <https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/#/survey>

Mr. Piper asked for any final questions or comments.

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked the attendees for coming. The meeting concluded at 7:02 PM.

*Prepared by,
Ashley Showers
Assistant Director
BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION*

Colebrookdale Township

[illegible]

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #10
MS TEAMS VIRTUAL COUNTYWIDE MEETING, APRIL 23, 2025**

Meeting Attendees:

- **Members of the Public**
 - Bonnie Coldren, eastern Berks resident
 - Kent Himelright, Trails Director (Schuylkill River Greenways Nat. Heritage Area)
 - Gabriel Hirsch, resident
 - Chris Brasler, resident
- **PennDOT District 5**
 - Scott Vottero
- **Berks County Planning Commission Staff**
 - Alan Piper, Transportation Planner III
 - Amana Timochenko, Planner II
 - Michael Golembiewski, Transportation Modeler

Mr. Piper started the presentation at 11:02 AM. He thanked all for attending, noting that this is the first of two virtual countywide meetings to be held as part of the overall nine-meeting outreach effort in Spring 2025 for the LRTP. He introduced Ms. Timochenko who will give a brief presentation on the results of the Fall Outreach efforts as well as gathering input regarding local transportation issues and needs.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko then explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process (every four years minimum); performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. Timochenko summarized the ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.

- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko then summarized the public outreach staff has done to date and plans on doing in the future. Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that in 2024 staff held 4 in-person meetings in multiple municipalities throughout Berks County. Staff also held one virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams and distributed a survey for public input.

Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that staff scheduled 7 in-person meetings in various municipalities in 2025. As well, staff scheduled two Countywide virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams.

Ms. Timochenko then presented the vision statement for the plan. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will promote a well maintained and balanced multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.*

Ms. Timochenko introduced and reviewed all five goals which are:

Goal #1: Keep travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation.

Goal #2: Maintain and improve the existing multimodal transportation system and services within fiscal constraints.

Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen and enhance economic development and tourism opportunities.

Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition.

Goal #5: Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts.

Ms. Timochenko then turned the presentation back to Mr. Piper for a discussion on local transportation issues. Issues were separated into six (6) major types: Bicycle, Pedestrian, Public Transportation, Aviation, Bridge, and Highway. He noted that staff's desire with this LRTP update was to gather public input at the beginning and throughout the Plan development process, not just during the required Public Input period prior to adoption. Later this year or early next year, after updating data and draft Plan sections, and gathering responses to public input, there will be another round of public meetings.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues:

- Mr. Himelright stated that the Schuylkill River Trail (SRT) is a regional asset connecting Philadelphia with Schuylkill County. One of the goals of the SRT is to connect to communities; not go around them. Trail providers want the trail to connect economic and community 'centers'. His request was that, as roads are improved, make sure that bicycle and pedestrian access is maintained and improved. (*Editor's note: There are several trail sections in Berks*

County that are still signed on-road portions.) He made a similar request related to bridge replacements noting that consideration should be given to bicycle and pedestrian access along bridges in the event that a trail needs to be detoured to maintain access.

Transit:

- There were no comments.

Aviation:

- Mr. Piper mentioned that, although Berks County owns and operates the Reading Regional Airport, RATS does not have much direct influence on aviation planning or programming. The difficulty in restoring scheduled passenger service was also discussed. There were no comments.

Highways and Bridges:

- Mr. Himelright asked for an update on the U.S. 422 West Shore Bypass project. Mr. Piper responded that we will be discussing that in more detail in a few minutes. There were no comments.

Mr. Piper next showed a slide showing a Berks County map with all the planned projects in the current FFY 2025-2028 TIP. He gave a brief description of the TIP and where it fits into the planning process. Although it covers a four-year period, it is updated every two years with minor shifts in funding and schedules occurring regularly. Projects on the TIP are mostly drawn from the LRTP; minor additions of bridges and small site safety improvements are added as needed.

Several slides detailing major projects were shown and described. These included U.S. 422 West Shore Bypass Phases I and II; the U.S. 222 North Widening (south of Kutztown); and the U.S. 222 North Widening (north of Kutztown, currently only the Long Lane intersection roundabout is programmed). A list of other significant projects anticipated to start on the current TIP was shown. Going back to the countywide map, several planned studies for different sections of PA 183 were also discussed.

- Mr. Himelright mentioned the bridge replacements/improvements as part of the U.S. 422 West Shore Bypass project. In this area, the SRT parallels U.S. 422 and crosses the Schuylkill River on two stone railroad bridges that are both 110-120 years old. He requested that the two new bridges on U.S. 422 directly adjacent to the SRT include bike/ped access. He is aware of the difficulty associated with this request but this could be the only detour option for the trail should either of the two trail bridges over the river be closed. Mr. Piper responded that it was not possible to include access on the eastern bridge (just west of I-176) due to where the bridge is in the design process for Phase I, but it may be possible to consider the western bridge as part of Phase II.
- Mr. Coldren commented on the Public Transportation situation in eastern Berks, specifically in the Birdsboro Borough area. There is only one (1) fixed route that serves the Birdsboro area, however there is a growing elderly population in the area with increasing transit needs. Many of them depend on family or neighbors for their transportation needs. Mr. Piper responded that

the extension of fixed-route service by BARTA could be a possibility. Additionally, the use of existing on-demand Paratransit service is available.

Mr. Piper discussed the PA State Transportation Commission's Public Input survey related to the update of the Twelve-Year Program (TYP). Results from that survey is shared with local regions like RATS and serves as additional input into our LRTP and TIP processes.

The next steps in the LRTP development process were shared, including continued public outreach, revision of various sections, and creation of final project lists based on financial guidance from PennDOT. In Spring 2026 the final recommendations for both the LRTP and TIP will be presented for review and approval.

Hearing no other comments, Mr. Piper and Ms. Timochenko thanked all present for attending and providing input. The meeting concluded at 11:58 AM.

Prepared by,

Michael D. Golembiewski
Transportation Modeler
BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #11
CUMRU TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, METRO REGION MEETING, APRIL 24, 2025**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:06 PM. Mr. Piper welcomed everyone, introduced staff, and gave a brief overview of the purpose of tonight's meeting which was to review and gather public input during the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update development process. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed in the second half of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure and how they operate.

Ms. Timochenko then explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process (every four years minimum); performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

- Ms. Leonti asked how projects were funded? Mr. Piper explained the formula process.

Ms. Timochenko summarized the ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko then summarized the public outreach staff has done to date and plans on doing in the future. Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that in 2024 staff held 4 in-person meetings in multiple municipalities throughout Berks County. Staff also held one virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams and distributed a survey for public input.

Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that staff has 7 in-person meetings scheduled in various municipalities in 2025. As well as two scheduled virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams.

Ms. Timochenko then presented the vision statement for the plan. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will promote a well maintained and balanced multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.*

Ms. Timochenko introduced and reviewed all five goals which are:

Goal #1: Keep travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation.

Goal #2: Maintain and improve the existing multimodal transportation system and services within fiscal constraints.

Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen and enhance economic development and tourism opportunities.

Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition.

Goal #5: Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts.

- Ms. Leonti inquired about environmental issues and their impacts. What type of issues are environmentally sensitive? Does it mean something like bog turtles? Mr. Piper explained that yes, indeed this is the type of environmentally sensitive issues that could impact a project. It also covers air quality, noise, and stormwater impacts as well as community impacts.

Mr. Piper introduced Slide #14 and asked the question: "What transportation issues do you currently experience?" Responses included:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues:

- Ms. Johnston explained that Cumru Township experiences mostly bicyclists on the road along Welsh and Church Roads near the municipal building. Most of these bicyclists are serious riders so there does not seem to be too much of a problem with them on the street.

Transit:

- Ms. Johnston stated that she is concerned that BARTA's Route 11 (Mohnton via Shillington) may cease to exist because of the dissolution of the candy factory in Mohnton.
- Ms. Johnston expressed concerns with customers of the DMV along Lancaster Avenue accessing a bus stop through the parking lot. The main concern included potential conflicts between pedestrians trying to access the bus depot through the strip mall parking lot. She suggested that maybe some type of signage or crosswalk could be implemented to alleviate this issue.

Aviation:

- Ms. Leonti asked about the operations at the airport and if commercial airlines would ever operate out of the Reading Regional Airport. Alan explained the history of operations at the airport and why there currently are no commercial carriers there.

Highways and Bridges:

- Ms. Johnston noted heavy congestion along the Route 724/Lancaster Pike corridor. Ms. Johnston explained some of the issues and explained the many impacts that would happen to surrounding properties if the intersection of Route 724 (Revere Boulevard) and Business 222 (Lancaster Pike) would be improved. Mr. Piper stated that moving forward there is a need to examine the issues and come up with ideas to improve it.
- Ms. Johnston stated that both the intersections of Rt. 724/New Holland Road and Rt. 724/Cedar Top Road are issues.
- Ms. Johnston identified Summit Avenue and Lancaster Avenue as issues and Cumru Township receives complaints about signal timing and congestion.
- Ms. Johnston noted that Elkins Avenue (private road) at Lancaster Avenue intersection experiences issues with congestion.
- Rt. 625 is an issue when trees come down along the road. Closures impact traffic and it seems it takes a long time to clear the road when there are trees down in the road.
- Wyomissing Avenue and Fairmont Avenue culverts need replacements – maintenance issues.

Safety:

- Attendees expressed safety concerns at the intersections of Rt. 724 with Kennel Road and Rt. 724 with Poplar Neck Road after the Hawthorne Ridge development is finalized. The proposed development will have impact on traffic flow and congestion once the development is constructed and residents are living there.

Rail lines:

- Ms. Johnston explained Cumru Township receives complaints from residents regarding the rail crossing on Rt. 724 near Ridgewood Soils. These complaints are mostly from Schuylkill River Trail users. The issue is with the speed at which vehicles are now moving over the railroad tracks after improvements by the railroad were completed.

Mr. Piper explained the TIP and presented a visual (slide 15) describing the relationship between the TIP and the LRTP.

Ms. Timochenko shared a Countywide map depicting the locations of current TIP projects throughout the County. The TIP map was further reduced to show only projects located within the Metro region of the County. Mr. Piper went on to describe the projects that were located within the confines of the Metro region.

Mr. Piper described the US 422 Corridor (West Shore Bypass) project to the attendees. Some of the key takeaways from this presentation included:

- Project includes the complete reconstruction to 6 lanes including: Lancaster Avenue interchange, Penn Avenue interchange, Bingaman Street Bridge, and bike and pedestrian connections
- Preventative maintenance on the bridges over the Schuylkill River and Brentwood Drive
- Complete replacement of bridges over Schuylkill River and Norfolk Southern Railroad and ramp adjustment at I-176 NB to US 422 WB
- Final engineering is currently in progress
- Estimated bid opening in approximately 2027
- Estimated completion date post 2030

Mr. Piper provided more detailed information on the projects presented on slides 16 and 17 of the presentation.

Mr. Piper presented slide 23 that identified the significant regional projects anticipated to start during the FFY 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Piper presented slide 24 regarding the State Transportation Commission's Twelve-Year Program Update and the availability of a survey. Mr. Piper explained how results from the survey are shared with the MPOs across the state. Any information relating to Berks County will be reviewed and considered for inclusion onto one of the programs (LRTP / TIP) for potential implementation. Ms. Timochenko presented the link to the survey: <https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/#/survey>

Mr. Piper asked for any final questions or comments.

- Ms. Johnston thanked Mr. Piper and staff for the presentation and described how helpful these types of presentations are.

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked the attendees for coming. The meeting concluded at 7:47 PM.

*Prepared by,
Matt McGough
Transportation Planner
BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION*

FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Public Outreach Meeting
Thursday, April 24, 2025
Cumru Township

[illegible]

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #12
MAIDENCREEK TOWNSHIP, HAWK MOUNTAIN REGION MEETING, APRIL 29, 2025**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:01 PM. He welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose of tonight's meeting which was to review and gather public input during the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update development process. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed in the second half of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko then explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process; performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. Timochenko summarized the ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko then summarized the public outreach staff has done to date and plans on doing in the future. Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that in 2024 staff held 4 in-person meetings in multiple municipalities throughout Berks County. Staff also held one virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams and distributed a survey for public input.

Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that staff has 7 in-person meetings scheduled in various municipalities in 2025. As well as two scheduled virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams. The meetings schedule is as follows:

1. April 2, 2025 – City of Reading
2. April 14, 2025 – Womelsdorf Borough
3. April 16, 2025 – Tilden Township
4. April 22, 2025 – Colebrookdale Township
5. April 23, 2025 – Virtual Meeting
6. April 24, 2025 – Cumru Township
7. April 29, 2025 – Maidencreek Township
8. May 1, 2025 – Virtual Meeting
9. May 13, 2025 – Caernarvon Township

- Ms. Hollenbach stated that this meeting was shared on Maidencreek Township’s Facebook page.

Ms. Timochenko then presented the vision statement for the plan. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will promote a well maintained and balanced multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.*

Ms. Timochenko introduced and reviewed all five goals which are:

Goal #1: Keep travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation.

Goal #2: Maintain and improve the existing multimodal transportation system and services within fiscal constraints.

Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen and enhance economic development and tourism opportunities.

Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition.

Goal #5: Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts.

Ms. Timochenko then turned the presentation back to Mr. Piper for a discussion on local transportation issues. Issues were separated into six (6) major types: Bicycle, Pedestrian, Public Transportation, Aviation, Bridge, and Highway. He noted that staff’s desire with this LRTP update was to gather public input at the beginning and throughout the Plan development process, not just during the required Public Input period prior to adoption. Later this year or early next year, after updating data and draft Plan sections, and gathering responses to public input, there will be another round of public meetings.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues:

- Ms. Hollenbach mentioned Amish/Mennonites traveling on shoulders of 222 using bicycles and horse and buggies needing wider shoulders. Mr. Piper stated wider shoulders throughout the length of 222 through Maidencreek and Richmond Townships should take care of this issue as wider shoulders will be added to the areas where they still do not exist as we finish off last piece

of the US 222 Widening project. Ms. Hollenbach mentioned this is more of an issue on the Evansville Road and Molltown area of US 222 through these townships. Further discussion included the number and severity of horse and buggy as well as bicycle crashes experienced by this community.

- Ms. Hollenbach stated she does not see a lot of pedestrian traffic on 222.
- Ms. Hollenbach stated she does not see anyone crossing SR 73 to access Andrew Maier Elementary School. Trucks go more than 15mph in the school zone. Mr. Piper asked the question: do you think if there were safer provisions, people would walk to school? Ms. Hollenbach and Mr. Milligan stated that people might walk their kids to school but likely not those that would cross Park Road. Park Road has too much traffic traveling at too high a speed to be able to cross safely.
- Ms. Hollenbach stated that sidewalk enforcement for new developments at local municipal planning commission meetings is often brought up and has often been waived.
- Mr. Milligan stated that there are not a lot of employers in Maidencreek Township, therefore there is not a need for public transit to a manufacturer and this also leads to seeing less individuals walking to jobs.
- Pedestrians can be seen on Park Road between Golden Drive and the Dollar General/Fiore's Chill-n-Grill Café near Sofia Boulevard. Ms. Hollenbach noted that there is currently a path in the other direction from Golden Drive into the Community Park between Golden Drive and South View Road.

Public Transportation:

- Mr. Piper stated that BARTA does not provide transportation to Maidencreek residents or employers. Ms. Hollenbach mentioned that the developer of a new warehouse is applying for conditional use and part of that requirement by the township is that public transportation is provided.
- Ms. Hollenbach mentioned that Greenwich Township is looking at warehouse development and if they are built, they may need public transportation from Reading to those areas in Greenwich Township. Mr. Piper stated that if warehouses in Greenwich Township are built, the workforce would most likely be composed of Lehigh Valley residents rather than City of Reading residents traveling to Greenwich Township for employment.
- Mr. Piper mentioned that the BARTA Master Plan mentions the potential for a fixed route that would come out to Temple, and then a supplemental service could be used, similar to an on-demand service (BARTA sponsored Uber). The bus would drop off at the last stop of the fixed route. Then the individual could schedule a ride to their final destination from that last stop. Discussion continued between Mr. Piper and Ms. Hollenbach regarding a potential extension of a bus route to Kutztown as well as the benefits of staggered East Penn Manufacturing shifts.

Aviation:

- On a small scale, Mr. Milligan mentioned that Mr. Tempesco of the Reading Regional Airport runs the RC Club for Berks County within this planning region.
- Mr. Milligan stated that certain car manufacturers are testing electric Vertical Take-Off and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft technology, essentially large drones that can hold 12-15 people, often referred to as air taxis or flying taxis. Car dealerships, like Honda could be putting helipads as hubs at their dealerships. This is farfetched, but currently being tested. Mr. Piper noted that Mr.

Tempesco made sure to include some language in the Reading Airport Strategic Plan as something to consider as well as the electrification of aircrafts.

Highways and Bridges:

- Ms. Hollenbach brought up the bridge on West Shore Drive in Maidencreek Township that no one wants. She mentioned issues such as bonfires, races, graffiti, and holes in the bridge deck. Ms. Hollenbach recommends that the bridge be removed.
- Mr. Piper stated that Kutz Mill Rd. Covered Bridge that is currently County-owned and in poor condition is being rehabilitated after heavy rain damaged a portion of wall adjacent to one end of the bridge that eroded and collapsed.
- Ms. Hollenbach asked if there were any plans for the county owned bridge on Dutch Mill Road over Sacony Creek near Dutch Mill Campground. She stated that this bridge is currently posted for weight at 7 tons. Mr. Piper stated that it is on the County bridge inventory list to be addressed. Ms. Hollenbach stated that it is a concern for Greenwich Township because it is narrow and hard to plow. Mr. Piper stated that before rehabilitation happens to this bridge, the steel truss bridge to the west, Heffner's Bridge on Garman Rd, a steel truss bridge will be addressed. The volume of traffic on this road is very low, and because there is almost no traffic, this would likely not be worth it to keep open. It is actively marketed if someone wants to buy the steel truss bridge and move it to another location. Most people want the original owner to dismantle, make sure there is no lead, and deliver the bridge. When the County talked to Greenwich Township, they were told that when it is deemed unsafe for travel, then it will be closed.
- Ms. Hollenbach asked if the Calcium Rd. realignment with SR 73 is still on the TIP. Mr. Piper stated the this is a future project on the FFY 2025-2028 TIP and in final design.
- Ms. Hollenbach suggested a roundabout at 73/Park Rd, if not a roundabout, at least some sort of intersection improvements.

Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper presented planned projects that are currently on the County's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Mr. Piper explained the TIP and presented a visual (slide 15) describing the relationship between the TIP and the LRTP.

Ms. Timochenko shared a Countywide map depicting all of the locations of current TIP projects throughout the County. The TIP map was further reduced to show only projects located within the Hawk Mountain region of the County. Mr. Piper went on to describe the projects that were located within the confines of the Hawk Mountain region.

- Mr. Milligan asked if we inflate costs on the TIP. Mr. Piper explained that the TIP is fiscally restrained. The current federal funding cycle ends September 2026. That is the end of the current transportation federal funding program, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). RATS is very conservative and assumes that there will not be an increase in funding than the amount allotted for the last year of the legislation. RATS maintains a robust, unfunded project list out to 20 years and as funding becomes available, then projects can be moved to the TIP.
- Ms. Hollenbach mentioned that crashes have increased where US 222 was widened in the proximity of Snyder Rd. She has been told that drivers are crossing the median and suggests barriers be added. Mr. Piper noted that is area could be revisited to consider including median barriers.

Mr. Piper presented and went over a list of significant projects anticipated to start during the Reading MPO's FFY 2025-2028 TIP in the Hawk Mountain Region. Mr. Piper provided more detailed information on the projects presented on slide 18 of the presentation.

Mr. Piper presented slide 21 regarding the State Transportation Commission's Program Update and the availability of a survey. Mr. Piper explained how results from the survey will come back to the MPOs and any information listed as pertinent to Berks County will be reviewed and could make its way onto one of the programs for potential implementation. Mr. Piper presented the link to the survey:

<https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/#/survey>

Mr. Piper asked for any final questions/comments, particularly related to roadways, bridges, or other transportation issues in the area that are considered problematic.

Hearing no other comments, Mr. Piper and Ms. Timochenko thanked the attendees for coming. The meeting concluded at 6:57 PM.

*Prepared by,
Devon Hain
Transportation Planner
BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION*

[illegible]

RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #13
MS TEAMS VIRTUAL COUNTYWIDE MEETING, May 1, 2025

Meeting Attendees:

- **Members of the Public**
 - Mary Himmelberger
 - Donald Himmelberger
- **Berks County Planning Commission Staff**
 - Alan Piper, Transportation Planner III
 - Amana Timochenko, Planner II
 - Devon Hain, Planner II

Mr. Piper started the presentation at 6:06 PM. He thanked all for attending, noting that this is the second of two virtual countywide meetings scheduled as part of the overall nine-meeting outreach effort in Spring 2025 for the LRTP. He introduced Ms. Timochenko who will give a brief presentation on the results of the Fall Outreach efforts as well as gathering input regarding local transportation issues and needs.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko then explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process (every four years minimum); performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. Timochenko summarized the ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko then summarized the public outreach staff has done to date and plans on doing in the future. Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that in 2024 staff held 4 in-person meetings in multiple municipalities throughout Berks County. Staff also held one virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams and distributed a survey for public input.

Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that staff scheduled 7 in-person meetings in various municipalities in 2025. As well, staff scheduled two Countywide virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams.

Ms. Timochenko then presented the vision statement for the plan. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will promote a well maintained and balanced multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.*

Ms. Timochenko introduced and reviewed all five goals which are:

Goal #1: Keep travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation.

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Goal #5: Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts.

Ms. Timochenko then turned the presentation back to Mr. Piper for a discussion on local transportation issues. Issues were separated into six (6) major types: Bicycle, Pedestrian, Public Transportation, Aviation, Bridge, and Highway. He noted that staff's desire with this LRTP update was to gather public input at the beginning and throughout the Plan development process, not just during the required Public Input period prior to adoption. Later this year or early next year, after updating data and draft Plan sections, and gathering responses to public input, there will be another round of public meetings.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues:

- Ms. Himmelberger stated that overall people are using backroads to bike on in the Tulpehocken Region. She thinks those biking on back roads near Shartlesville is dangerous. She realizes the roads are the way they are and cannot be changed.
- Ms. Himmelberger mentioned that there is no regional trail network for transportation throughout the County except for the north-south SRT, which still has a lot of gaps. She realizes the cost of bike lanes is astronomical and does not see a feasible solution.
- Ms. Himmelberger noted that one area of concern for pedestrians is Industrial Drive between Hamburg Borough and Tilden Township. There are many pedestrians on that road, but there are no sidewalks, so they walk on the road, through puddles and mud. She noted that there seems to be a larger population in Hamburg that does not own or drive a car.

- Mr. Himmelberger noted that there is excessive speeding along the section of SR 61 by Leesport, between Wall Street and Bellemans Church Rd. Mr. Piper noted that improvements were made to address congestion in that area. In some instances, improvements made can inadvertently affect safety. Ms. Himmelberger noted that it seemed like cars speed on SR 61 the whole way between Shoemakersville Borough and Muhlenberg Township.
- Ms. Himmelberger asked about the intersections that have a bright blue tinted light and noted how well drivers can see. She recommended that all intersections should have blue lights to see well at night, like the one at Bellemans Church Rd and SR 61.
- Ms. Himmelberger identified an area in Shartlesville needing pedestrian accommodations. She noted that residents of the town of Shartlesville walk along Old Route 22 and up Mountain Road to visit the Love's gas station, McDonald's, Subway, Amazon Locker, and Dunkin Donuts. She has also noted that many truck drivers staying in the Love's parking lot walk south on Mountain Road to patronize the Dollar General located just off Old Route 22 on Roadside Drive.

Transit:

- Building off of the comment made by Ms. Himmelberger that there is a lack of driving population in the Borough of Hamburg, Mr. Piper noted an industry there closing and how that could hurt those who work there and live in Hamburg that do not have the ability to drive to a similar job. Ms. Himmelberger stated that if rural warehouses are concentrated then they can supply public transit, but that is hard to provide when those are scattered. Ms. Himmelberger noted that the further the warehouse employment opportunity is from the City of Reading, the harder it is to get that employee base to the warehouse. Developers build along Interstates, which is far away from the City of Reading and the employment base.

Aviation:

- Ms. Himmelberger acknowledged that commercial air is not likely to be provided in large quantities at the Reading Regional Airport but would be happy to have access to nearby air travel even if it were to limited destinations.

Highways and Bridges:

- No comments

Mr. Piper next showed a slide showing a Berks County map with all the planned projects in the current FFY 2025-2028 TIP. He gave a brief description of the TIP and where it fits into the planning process. Although it covers a four-year period, it is updated every two years with minor shifts in funding and schedules occurring regularly. Projects on the TIP are mostly drawn from the LRTP; minor additions of bridges and small site safety improvements are added as needed. Mr. Piper went on to describe multiple projects located throughout Berks County.

Several slides detailing major projects were shown and described. These included U.S. 422 West Shore Bypass Phases I and II; the U.S. 222 North Widening (south of Kutztown); and the U.S. 222 North Widening (north of Kutztown, currently only the Long Lane intersection roundabout is programmed). A list of other significant projects anticipated to start on the current TIP was shown. Going back to the countywide map, several planned studies for different sections of PA 183 were also discussed.

- Ms. Himmelberger was very supportive of the improvements included in U.S. 422 West Shore Bypass Phases I and II, especially those involving improvements to merge points.
- Ms. Himmelberger says that many individuals travel from the Lehigh Valley area to Reading to the arena and other events. She stated that in her discussions with these individuals, they absolutely love the roundabouts on US 222! Mr. Piper elaborated on the lack of congestion after the roundabouts were constructed. Ms. Timochenko mentioned the improvement to safety following the installation of the roundabouts. Ms. Himmelberger mentioned an article PennDOT put out on the improvements to safety provided by roundabouts.
- Ms. Himmelberger inquired about the signs that direct drivers not to drive next to a truck in a roundabout. Mr. Piper said that should be policy for most roundabouts. These roundabouts were built so that truck drivers would stay in the inside lane and have the ability to use the skirt along the apron. However, it seems that many truck drivers do not want to stay on the inside lane. Due to this, it is advised that drivers do not enter a roundabout next to a tractor trailer, so that trucks have enough room. Ms. Himmelberger is excited for the Long Lane intersection and other roundabouts in Richmond Township along the US 222 corridor to be completed.
- Ms. Himmelberger asked if the federal money received helps fund short term projects. Mr. Piper confirmed that funds move from federal to state to MPO. For the most part it is federal transportation money that may come from a wide variety of different programs with different rules and regulations for each program. The MPO cannot plan more projects than the funding amount received, so it gets distributed between different projects for different phases. It is a lot of money juggling. Mr. Piper stated that there have been many changes over his tenure with RATS. Following the improvements to US 422, US 222, and Route 12, there should be a lack of major projects that require large sums of funding. That would mean more funding would be available for additional smaller projects that have more local impact as opposed to regional impact.
- Ms. Himmelberger noted that Shartlesville Rd. has now become a speedway and identifies the speeding as an enforcement issue. She questioned if speed humps are pretty much out of the question on rural roads. Mr. Piper confirmed that speed humps can work in residential developments, but they do not work so well on through roads.
- Ms. Himmelberger noted that stormwater on back roads can be excessive sometimes. She asked if there is a program that can be tapped into to address this issue. Mr. Piper stated that PennDOT is spending more time combatting stormwater issues. Drainage improvements along state roads in rural areas are being done by PennDOT.
- Ms. Himmelberger inquired about extra funding for local roads. Mr. Piper stated that liquid fuels money was never meant to be the sole funding for maintaining local roads.

Mr. Piper discussed the PA State Transportation Commission's Public Input survey related to the update of the Twelve-Year Program (TYP). Results from that survey is shared with local regions like RATS and serves as additional input into our LRTP and TIP processes.

- Mr. Piper stated that the survey ended yesterday and went on to explain that the Reading MPO is going to try to duplicate the STC survey. This would involve sending the survey to municipalities to identify issues by putting dots on a map and providing a description or category for the issue. If that works well, the future plan is to leave on the BCPC webpage that anyone can go to anytime to submit roadway concerns. Ms. Himmelberger recognized that is very forward thinking, ambitious, and will be beneficial.

Hearing no other comments, Mr. Piper and Ms. Timochenko thanked all present for attending and providing input. The meeting concluded at 6:58 PM.

Prepared by,

Devon Hain

Transportation Planner II

BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

**RATS FFY 2027 - 2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN (LRTP)
PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETING #14
CAERNARVON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING, SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS REGION MEETING
MAY 13, 2025**

Mr. Piper started the meeting at 6:15 PM. Mr. Piper welcomed everyone and gave a brief overview of the purpose of tonight's meeting which was to review and gather public input during the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update development process. He mentioned that specific projects will be discussed in the second half of the meeting.

Ms. Timochenko next shared a PowerPoint presentation (see attachment at the end of these notes).

Ms. Timochenko described the Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) and the Committee structure.

Ms. Timochenko then explained what the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is along with some of the necessary items to be included under federal requirements; planning horizon and update process (every four years minimum); performance measures; and serving as the foundation for the development of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. Timochenko summarized the ten (10) Federal Planning Factors that must be incorporated into the LRTP:

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

The LRTP must be consistent with state and local transportation plans and programs.

Ms. Timochenko then summarized the public outreach staff has done to date and plans on doing in the future. Ms. Timochenko informed the audience that in 2024 staff held 4 in-person meetings in multiple municipalities throughout Berks County. Staff also held one virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams and distributed a survey for public input.

Ms. Timochenko informed the attendees that staff planned 7 in-person meetings for 2025 in various. As well as two scheduled virtual meetings via Microsoft Teams.

Ms. Timochenko then presented the vision statement for the plan. This provides the context for why the plan is done and its relationship with other federal, state, and local plans. The **Vision Statement** is: *The Reading Area Transportation Study will promote a well maintained and balanced multimodal transportation system that will safely and efficiently move people and goods.*

Ms. Timochenko introduced and reviewed all five goals which are:

Goal #1: Keep travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation.

Goal #2: Maintain and improve the existing multimodal transportation system and services within fiscal constraints.

Goal #3: Invest in projects that strengthen and enhance economic development and tourism opportunities.

Goal #4: Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition.

Goal #5: Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts.

Mr. Piper reviewed Slide #14 and asked the question: "What transportation issues do you currently experience?" Responses included:

Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues:

- Mr. Piper acknowledged that the region is home to an Amish community who regularly use regional roadways for bicycling and horse and buggy transportation.

Transit:

- Mr. Piper discussed that transit service was previously provided by BARTA linking the Reading urban area to the regional industrial park in Caernarvon Township but service was ended due to lack of ridership. However, with several new warehousing and residential developments proposed in the region, coordination with transit providers should occur to evaluate the feasibility of a potential resumption of service

Aviation:

- Mr. Piper indicated he was not aware of any aviation issues within the region and the attendees concurred.

Highways and Bridges:

- No new issues were identified or discussed.

Safety:

- No new issues were identified or discussed.

Rail lines:

- No new issues were identified or discussed.

Mr. Piper explained the TIP and presented a visual (slide 15) describing the relationship between the TIP and the LRTP.

Ms. Timochenko shared a Countywide map depicting the locations of current TIP projects throughout the County. The TIP map was further reduced to show only projects located within the Southern Highlands region of the County. Mr. Piper went on to describe the projects that were located within the confines of the Southern Highlands region. He noted that most of the projects in this region involve bridge replacement projects including those on PA 724 and on Alleghenyville Road in Robeson Township, and on PA 10 east of the PA Turnpike interchange in Caernarvon Township / New Morgan Borough.

Mr. Piper then discussed projects under development by the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC). As a part of their initiative to provide increased safety and capacity in its eastern region, the PTC is conducting a phased widening project extending westward. An initial phase of this project involves the replacement of overhead bridges to facilitate the mainline widening. To date, bridge widening has been completed through the recent replacement of the SSR 82 bridge in neighboring Chester County. The next two bridges scheduled for replacement are those carrying Twin Valley Road, on the Chester/ Berks County line, and SR 23 in Caernarvon Township. PTC officials estimate that work on these two bridges will begin in late 2026. There is no current schedule for the mainline widening in this area. Also of note is the PTC's initiative to implement On Road Tolling (ORT) by installing gantries over the mainline. Following implementation of this system, the PTC intends to reconstruct existing interchanges to remove toll booths to improve safety and traffic flow.

Mr. Piper described the US 422 Corridor (West Shore Bypass) project to the attendees. Some of the key takeaways from this presentation included:

- Project includes the complete reconstruction to 6 lanes including: Lancaster Avenue interchange, Penn Avenue interchange, Bingaman Street Bridge, and bike and pedestrian connections
- Preventative maintenance on the bridges over the Schuylkill River and Brentwood Drive
- Complete replacement of bridges over Schuylkill River and Norfolk Southern Railroad and ramp adjustment at I-176 NB to US 422 WB
- Final design is currently in progress
- Estimated bid opening in approximately 2027
- Estimated completion date post 2030

Mr. Piper presented slide 25 regarding the State Transportation Commission's Twelve-Year Program Update. As part of their update and public outreach efforts, a survey was available from March 3, 2025 to April 30, 2025. Mr. Piper explained how results from the survey are shared with the MPOs across the state. Any information relating to Berks County will be reviewed and considered for inclusion onto one of the programs (LRTP / TIP) for potential implementation. Ms. Timochenko presented the link to the Twelve-Year Program Update process and how it works: <https://survey.talkpatransportation.com/how-it-works/typ#>

Mr. Piper asked for any final questions or comments.

Hearing no other comments, Ms. Timochenko and Mr. Piper thanked the attendees for coming. The meeting concluded at 7:00 PM.

*Prepared by,
Ashley Showers
Assistant Director
BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION*

From: [Piper, Alan](#)
To: [Piper, Alan](#)
Bcc:

SENT TO ALL MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS IN BERKS COUNTY

Subject: Municipal Project Solicitation
Date: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:24:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)

Dear Municipal Official,

The Berks County Planning Commission, acting in its capacity as staff to the Reading Area Transportation Study, has begun the process of updating the FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for Berks County. As part of this process, we are requesting municipal input on potential highway and bridge and transit projects that are recommended for consideration to be included in these plans.

The following survey link describes the eligibility requirements and the process to be followed to submit recommendations.

The link also contains resources for assisting in this process.

Survey Link for Municipal Project Requests: <https://arcg.is/15rb5K2>

Please forward this to all appropriate elected officials and staff in your municipality with interest in this matter.

Responses are due by June 27, 2025.

Any additional documentation that you would like to submit in support of your request that cannot be incorporated into the survey can be sent directly to Amanda Timochenko at atimochenko@berkspa.gov

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact me. My contact information

is listed below.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this effort.

The Berks County Planning Commission has relocated to the County of Berks South Campus.
The address here is 400 East Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2, Mohnton, PA 19540.

Our telephone numbers and e-mail addresses remain the same.

Alan Piper | Planner III - Transportation
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2, Mohnton, PA 19540
Phone: 610-478-6300 ext. 6313 Fax: 610-478-6316

Email: Apiper@berkspa.gov
Web: www.berkspa.gov/planning

RATS MPO Transportation Project Request Form

The Reading Area Transportation Study (RATS) is the regional transportation planning organization for the Reading, PA metropolitan area, covering all of Berks County.

The Berks County Planning Commission, as staff to the RATS Coordinating Committee, has begun the process of updating the FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) for the Berks County region. As part of this process, we are requesting input on potential highway and bridge and transit projects for consideration to be included in these plans.

You may submit as many requests as you feel are necessary. Project requests should be limited to:

- 1) Major capital improvements (not routine maintenance) for inclusion in these plans.
- 2) Recommendations can be made for any state-owned highway or bridge.
- 3) We can only consider recommendations for non-safety related highway improvements to municipal-owned roadways if they are part of the approved Federal-Aid Highway System ([December 2023 ffc County Berks 06.pdf](#)). Funding in this category is extremely limited.
- 4) We may consider the use of safety funding to address high crash locations on any roadway.
- 5) We may only consider improvements to municipal bridges that are greater than 20 feet in length.

Please note that there is no guarantee that a project will be added to the program. The actual amount of available funding will not be determined until a review is completed of the status of the current projects and their costs later this year.

Any additional documentation that you would like to submit in support of your request that cannot be incorporated into the survey can be sent directly to Amanda Timochenko at atimochenko@berkspa.gov

***Please submit form no later than June 27, 2025.**

Local Advocate Type*

☐ Municipality

☐ Individual

☐ Agency/Organization

First Name*

Last Name*

Street Address*

City*

Zip Code*

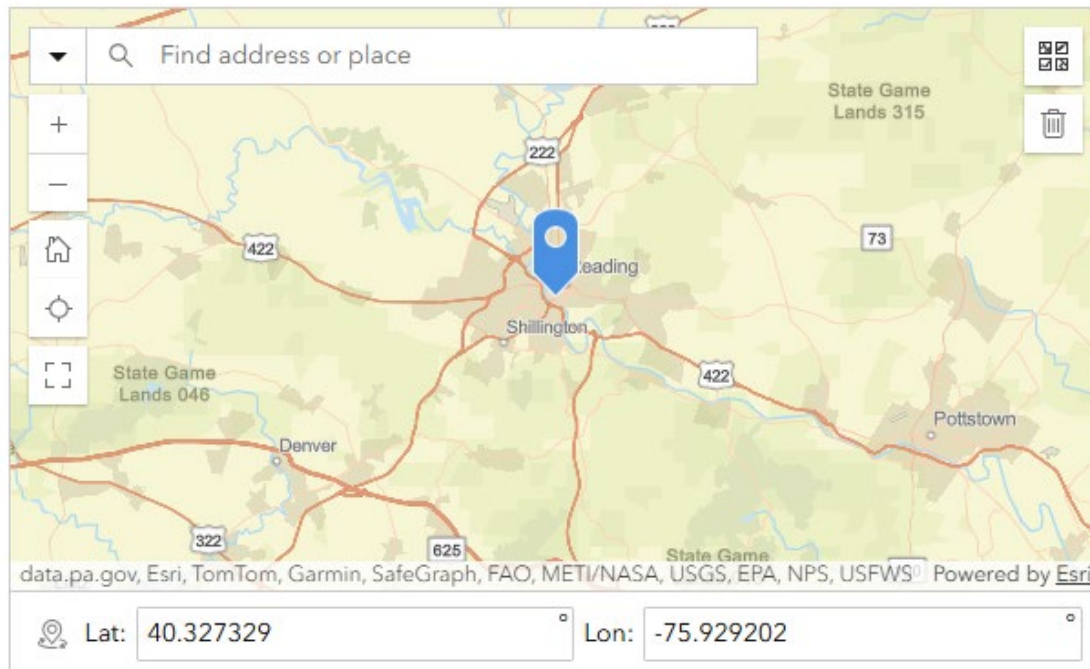
Email Address*

Phone Number

In what municipality is the transportation problem located?*

Click to create a point on the map.*

Press Ctrl + Scroll to zoom in on map and pan on the map to the location of the transportation issue. Click on the map at the location to create a point.



What is the problem type?*

☐

Highway

☐

Bridge

☐

Transit

☐

Bicycle/Pedestrian

☐

Other

What is the primary road name/route where the problem is located?*

What is the nearest intersecting road name/route?*

Has any prework such as a study or preliminary design begun?*

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

I don't know

Please select the option or options that most closely reflect the problem category and provide any additional description as appropriate.*

☐ Roadway Preventative Maintenance

☐ Bridge Maintenance

☐ Congestion

☐ Safety

☐ Land Use & Economic Development

☐ Transit, Bicycle, Pedestrian, & Alternative Travel Modes

☐ Restrictions to Freight Movement

Please provide additional information regarding your assessment of the problem.

Is there anything else relating to land use or development that you feel is relevant to this problem?

Are there any environmental concerns that you feel are relevant to this problem?

Has any federal, state, county, municipal, or private/other funding been set aside for addressing this problem?*



Yes



No



I don't know

Powered by ArcGIS Survey123



Public
TRANSIT
IN
Amity

Transport
from Boyertown
to Reading

Make Rt.
183
safer

public
transportation
need
more

Barta services
times don't
match w/ user
needs

communication
about appropriate
stop

Reading airport needs
to update business
geographical

Barta drivers
need to be more
courteous of the
seniors & surroundings

#422 needs

to be fixed

getting to
appts on time!

no public
transit

Exeter/Stowe
needs connection



READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

c/o Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Box 2
Mohnton, PA 19540
Phone: 610.478.6300

TO: Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee
INFO: FFY 2027 Transportation Improvement Program Municipal Project Solicitation Survey Results
FROM: Amanda Timochenko, Transportation Planner II
DATE: July 17, 2025

The FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program development process began in March 2025 with the MPO actively promoting the State Transportation Commission's online public survey and public meeting. The STC survey was followed by a solicitation of transportation project recommendations from Berks County municipalities in May 2025. Municipalities were given details of the eligibility requirements for new project additions as well as resources for completing the survey. The municipal transportation project solicitation survey was available from May 6, 2025, through June 27, 2025. The survey was promoted through email correspondence, the Berks County Planning Commission E-Flash, and at several RATS Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Public Outreach meetings.

In total, six municipal transportation project survey responses were received. These include:

Municipality	Problem Type	Problem Location	Problem Category
Fleetwood Borough	Bridge	Park Road over Willow Creek	Bridge Maintenance - deteriorating concrete
City of Reading	Highway	Hampden Blvd. near College Ave.	Safety - intersection improvements to reduce speeds and crashes
Cumru Township	Bridge	Werner St. over Wyomissing Creek	Safety - posted bridge at 27/40 tons
Upper Tulpehocken Township	Highway	Intersection of SR183 and Old Route 22 (SR4040)	Safety - Intersection improvements
Douglass	Highway	Ben Franklin Highway near Squirrel Hollow Rd.	Safety, Land Use & Economic Development, Transit, Bicycle/Pedestrian - reduce roadway from 4 lanes to 2 lanes with center left turn lanes
Caernarvon	Highway	Intersection of Main St. and Morgantown Expressway	Congestion

These projects will be considered through the TIP development process and LRTP development process. New projects are evaluated based on their ability to address Performance Measures and consistency with other state and regional plans. The addition of new projects to either the TIP and/or the LRTP is also based on available funding.

Recommended projects through the municipal transportation project solicitation are added to an ongoing list of potential projects for consideration in future updates to the TIP and LRTP if the projects are unable to be included during this TIP and LRTP update.



READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

c/o Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Box 2
Mohnton, PA 19540
Phone: 610.478.6300

TO: Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee
INFO: 2025 State Transportation Commission (STC) Public Survey Results for the
2027 Twelve Year Program (TYP)
FROM: Devon B. Hain, Transportation Planner II
DATE: July 17, 2025

In the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission's (STC's) effort to gain public input for the 2027 Twelve Year Program (TYP), they opened a 60-day public comment period in spring of 2025. This public outreach generated 9,186 survey responses with 3,710 transportation issues to be identified statewide. Berks County received 165 survey responses with mapped transportation issues. The results were separated by responses focused on highways and bridges, active transportation, and public transportation. Examining the data from the 165 responses has provided us with the following information.

Eighty-seven (87) distinct highway and bridge issues were identified. Approximately 20% of the highway issues identified showed public concern with congestion, maintenance, and safety along major corridors within Berks County including I-78, US 222, US 422, SR 183, SR 100, and SR 1010. The remaining issues were identified on highways and bridges within 30 of the 72 municipalities within Berks County. Issues identified include intersection improvements and realignments, interchange improvements, enforcement of speeding, congestion, inadequate sight distances, bridge and highway maintenance, and issues with tractor trailers within multiple boroughs. The most comments regarded specific issues within the City of Reading and the Borough of Womelsdorf. Thirty-six (36) of the eighty-seven (87) identified issues are addressed by projects that are underway or currently planned.

There were eleven (11) active transportation issues identified this survey period. Places where conflict between vehicles and pedestrians were identified that could include a need for active transportation infrastructure where it does not currently exist, filling sidewalk gaps, need for sharrows or bicyclist accommodations, and pedestrian safety improvements such as signage or crosswalks. These issues were identified in Exeter and Maiden Creek Townships, as well as St. Lawrence, Topton, and West Reading Boroughs.

Public Transportation comments consisted of three (3) identified issues. There was one (1) request for public transit into and around Boyertown. Two (2) requests were made for public transportation into and out of the City of Reading via rail and bus to major cities such as Philadelphia and Harrisburg.

The issues identified will be considered in upcoming transportation plans and programs. MPO staff has provided the issues identified, broken down by corridor and municipality, with projects that address these. The STC TYP [results and summaries](#) and the [interactive map](#) are also available to achieve a broader view of what was identified within Berks County.



State Transportation
Commission

2027 12-Year Program Update: Regional Transportation Survey Summary READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (RATS)

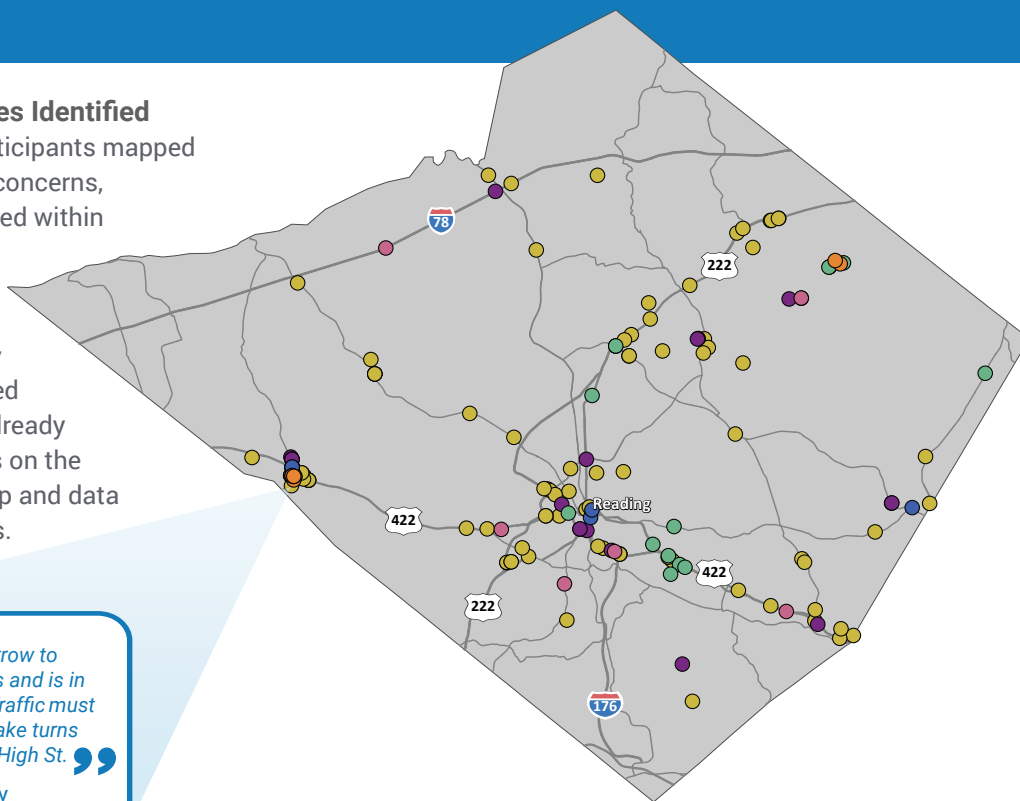
A CLOSER LOOK AT YOUR REGION

The State Transportation Commission held a 60-day Public Comment Period for the update of the 2027 12-Year Program (TYP) from March 3 through April 30, 2025. The public was invited to provide input through taking the Transportation Survey and participating in an Online Public Forum, which was broadcast live on PAcast and Facebook Live on Thursday, April 10. The public also had the option to request assistance to participate in the Survey or Online Public Forum by contacting PennDOT's Program Center. All public feedback received was reviewed and compiled to better understand current transportation priorities and trends regionally and statewide.

Transportation Issues Identified

Statewide, survey participants mapped **3,710** transportation concerns, **165** of these are located within the **RATS region**.

During the mapping exercise, some survey participants discovered their concerns were already addressed by projects on the 2025 TYP. See the map and data below for more details.

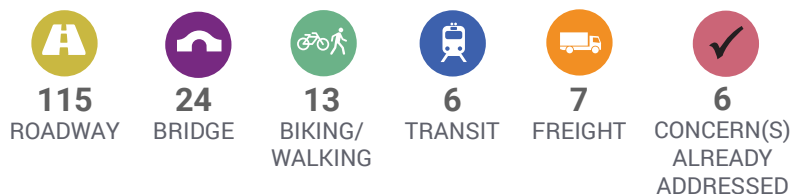


“High St. is too narrow to accommodate trucks and is in need of major repair. Traffic must wait for trucks to make turns from 2nd St. onto High St.”

Local Survey
Participant

Number of Issues Identified

The icons below correspond with the same color dots on the map.



Examples of a 2025 TYP Project that Addressed Public Concerns

SR 422 BEN FRANKLIN CONGESTED CORRIDOR

WEST SHORE BYPASS - PHASE 1

DWIGHT STREET BRIDGE



State Transportation
Commission

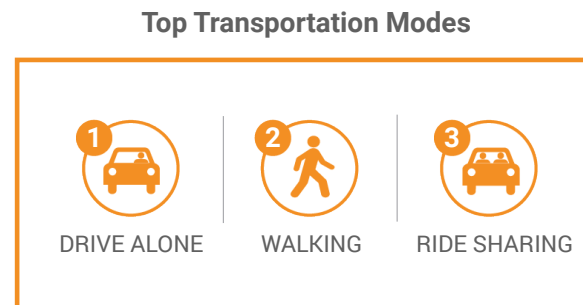
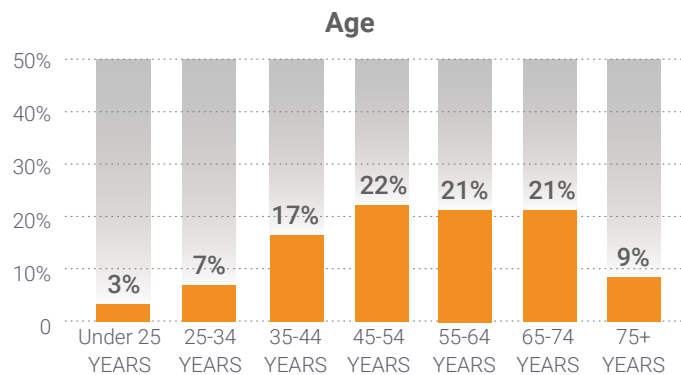
2027 12-Year Program Update: Regional Transportation Survey Summary READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (RATS)

ABOUT THE SURVEY PARTICIPANTS IN YOUR REGION

Over 9,150 individuals participated in the survey statewide, and **318** of the survey participants identified with the **RATS region** through feedback provided. Learn more about the participants from this region.

Male	124	47%
Female	131	49%
Third gender/Nonconforming	0	0%
I prefer to self-describe	0	0%
I prefer not to answer	11	4%

Responses to demographics questions were optional.



Transportation Priorities Ranking

- ROAD PAVEMENT**
Repairing, restoring, reconstructing, and maintaining Pennsylvania's 120,000 miles of state and local roadways to improve your travel
- TRAFFIC FLOW**
Using technology to improve traffic flow and construction of new roads and additional travel lanes to safely move people and goods more efficiently
- BRIDGES**
Repairing, replacing, and maintaining Pennsylvania's 31,000 state and local bridges
- INTERSTATE HIGHWAY**
Specific, prioritized investments in reconstructing Pennsylvania's 1,868 miles of interstate highway
- PASSENGER RAIL**
Intercity and commuter rail service across Pennsylvania with out-of-state connections
- WALKING**
Accessible and connected routes to get you where you need to go safely
- TRANSIT**
Accessible and timely public transportation that covers an extensive service area and crosses regions
- AVIATION**
Modern facilities, operations, and a wide range of commercial airline choices at airports
- FREIGHT**
Modern highways, railways, airports, and waterways to support the economy and ensure the efficient movement of goods and services
- BICYCLING**
Safe bicycle routes and facilities throughout the commonwealth to get you where you need to go



Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation

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Office of the State Transportation Commission
and Transportation Advisory Committee
P.O. Box 3365 | Harrisburg, PA 17105



2027 12-Year Program Update: 2023 and 2025 Regional Survey Results Comparison READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (RATS)

June 2025

State Transportation
Commission

2025



318
SURVEY
PARTICIPANTS



165 MAPPED ISSUES
6 RESOLVED

2023



185
SURVEY
PARTICIPANTS



109 MAPPED ISSUES
6 RESOLVED

About the Survey Participants

2025

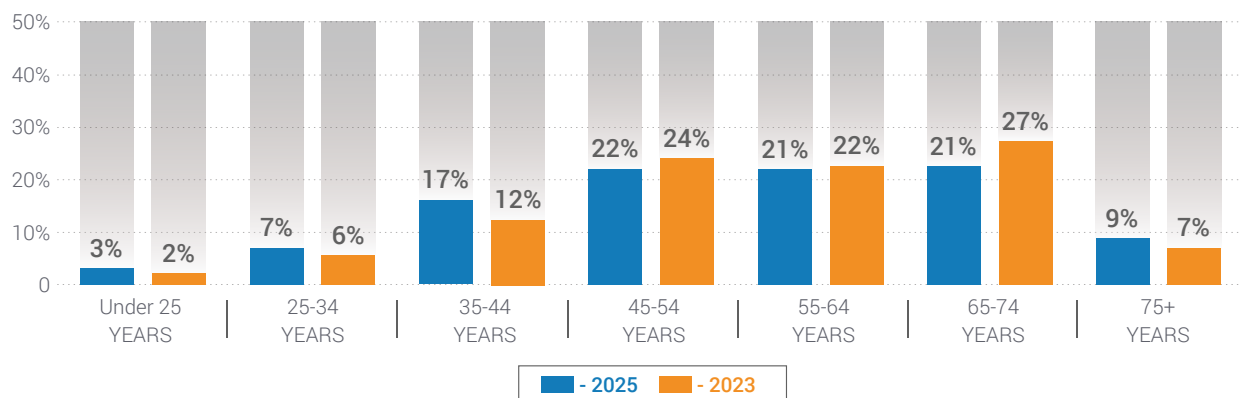
Male	47%
Female	49%
Third gender/Nonconforming	0%
I prefer to self-describe	0%
I prefer not to answer	4%

2023

Male	52%
Female	44%
Third gender/Nonconforming	1%
I prefer to self-describe	0%
I prefer not to answer	3%

Responses to demographic questions were optional.

Age



Top Transportation Modes

2025



DRIVE ALONE



WALKING



RIDE SHARE

2023



DRIVE ALONE



WALKING



AVIATION

Highest Ranked Priorities

2025



ROAD PAVEMENT



TRAFFIC FLOW



BRIDGES

2023



ROAD PAVEMENT



BRIDGES



TRAFFIC FLOW



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STC Survey Highway and Bridge Results (87 Issues Identified)

Interstate 78 Corridor:

- (2) The eastbound lanes of I-78 are in need of repair. [The condition of these lanes will be improved due to concrete rehabilitation through Project 120121 and highway resurfacing through Project 72807.](#)
- (1) Drainage issue along I-78 surrounding the SR 143 interchange near Lenhartsville. [The I-78 bridge reconstruction project at the Lenhartsville interchange will resolve this issue.](#)

US 222 Corridor:

- (2) Enforcement needed between Lancaster County line and Reading due to excessive speeding
- (1) Congestion occurs from Reading to Lehigh County line. [US 222 congestion has been and will continue to be addressed by multiple projects in the current TIP. Project 92414 has been implemented from the 2021-2024 TIP, which included the improvements at the intersection of 222 and 73, two new roundabouts on 222 at Tamarack/Genesis Drive and Schaeffer Road, as well as widening 222 to four lanes to the west and east of 73. Project 61972 will widen US 222 to four lanes from Schaeffer Road in Maidencreek Township to the Kutztown Bypass, this project also includes the construction of two new roundabouts: one at Pleasant Hill Rd and one at Richmond Road. Project 90569 consists of intersection improvements and the construction of a roundabout at Long Lane Rd in Maxatawny. Project 97234 includes the preliminary engineering phase for widening 222 to two lanes in both directions for 3.81 miles between the 222/Kutztown Bypass north to the Berks/Lehigh County Line.](#)
- (4) Repaving/concrete work needed along Kutztown Bypass
- (1) Need to widen lanes and reduce curves in roundabouts to accommodate width of tractor trailers
- (1) Need wider shoulders through Maidencreek and Richmond to accommodate the Mennonite Community. [Projects 92414 and 61972 will address this issue.](#)

US 422 Corridor:

- (2) Congestion from Douglassville to Reifton. [13 signalized intersections will be upgraded to be more traffic responsive between Pineland Rd and River Bridge Rd along US 422 in Amity and Exeter Townships through Project 110075.](#)
- (6) Safety issues exist due to the speed of vehicles and the volume of traffic between Park Road and I-176 Interchanges. Maintenance concerns along this stretch were also noted due to an abundance of potholes. [These issues will be addressed by the reconstruction of US 422 through Projects 114439 and 72814, which will focus on widening shoulders, adding capacity, and repair/rehabilitation/reconstruction of various bridges and interchanges.](#)
- (1) Repaving needed from along corridor from start of US 422 Limited Access Highway in Douglass Twp to SR 4036/Armand Hammer Blvd interchange in Montgomery County
- (1) Speed limit should be raised to 70MPH on highway portion
- (1) Congestion from Spring Township to Lebanon County line (Penn Ave/Conrad Weiser Pkwy portion). [Project 87688 will address congestion in the Sinking Spring area of this corridor.](#)

SR 100 Corridor:

- (2) Repaving needed from Pottstown north to Bally. [Project 101786 addresses this issue.](#)

SR 183 Corridor:

- (3) High volume of traffic and truck traffic as well as speeding and illegal passing on this corridor between I-78 and US 222. [Projects 11719 and 91976 address improvements from I-78 to New Schaefferstown Rd. Project 120974 is currently studying safety and intersection improvements in the Bernville area. Project 117721 will widen SR 183 between W. Leesport Rd and US 222.](#)

SR 1010 Corridor:

- (1) Need wider shoulders along this road from Business 222/Allentown Pike in Ontelaunee Township to SR 1035/Chestnut St in Mertztown, Longswamp Township to accommodate the Mennonite Community

Alsace:

- (1) Skyline Drive needs to be widened between List Rd and Bingaman Rd

Amity:

- (1) Realign intersection of Old Airport Rd and SR 662/Old Swede Rd
- (1) Realign intersection of Weavertown Rd and SR 662/Old Swede Rd
- (1) Realign intersection of SR 662/Old Swede Rd and US 422/Benjamin Franklin Hwy and Church Lane
- (1) Realign and signalize intersection of Tollgate Rd and SR 662/Old Swede Rd (with Nicholson Ave)
- (1) Enforce/readdress speed limits on US 422/Benjamin Franklin Hwy throughout Amity
- (1) Consider better traffic light positioning at intersection of River Bridge Rd and US 422/Benjamin Franklin Hwy as motorists can see the next traffic control light on River Bridge Rd when heading northbound and cross over eastbound US 422 on red, not green

Bern:

- (1) Widening of SR 183 between US 222 and West Leesport Rd is needed to ease congestion and make left hand turns safer. [Capacity will be added to SR 183 through Project 117721, which involves the widening of SR 183 to eliminate the narrow section between US 222 and West Leesport Rd.](#)
- (1) Intersection improvements to add capacity through left turn lanes on Palisades Dr/Plum Creek Rd onto SR 183

Bernville:

- (1) Lefthand turns in the Bernville section of SR 183/Bernville Rd are dangerous, need at least one controlled intersection to allow for these movements. [Project 120974 is currently studying safety and intersection improvements in the Bernville area.](#)

Bethel:

- (1) The eastbound lanes of I-78 in Bethel Township are in need of repair. [The condition of these lanes will be improved through concrete rehabilitation associated with Project 120121, which is included in the current Interstate TIP.](#)

Colebrookdale:

- (2) Repairs needed to the closed bridge on Funk Rd. [This bridge will be replaced through Project 10751.](#)

Cumru:

- (4) Merging lane onto US 422 from I-176 needs to be extended. [The reconstruction of this interchange will be addressed by the West Shore \(US 422\) Reconstruction Projects 72814 and 114439.](#)

- (1) Bridge on Church Rd at intersection with SR 625 needs to be widened, as guiderail often gets hit and there are no shoulders. [This bridge is included in Project 114378 to be repaired and preserved. This should address the widening and addition of shoulders to this bridge.](#)
- (1) Timing of the light at SR 724/Revere Blvd and Business 222/Lancaster Pike should be reviewed due to congestion on SR 724 at intersection
- (1) Sight line at intersection of Business 222/Lancaster Pike and Hilgert Ave should be reviewed. It was stated that the U-Haul business vehicles block the view of Business 222/Lancaster Pike making it dangerous to turn onto from Hilgert Ave

Douglass:

- (2) Remove median barrier and add center turn lane to accommodate volume of traffic on SR 2022/Ben Franklin Hwy between Quarry Rd and SR 2057/Township Line Rd.
- (1) Improve sight distance by removing/trimming trees in ROW along SR 562/Reading Ave when turning from Douglass Dr.

Exeter:

- (1) Congestion was noted along Business 422/Perkiomen Ave and US 422/Benjamin Franklin Hwy through Exeter. [13 signalized intersections will be upgraded along 422 in Amity and Exeter Townships through Project 110075.](#)
- (1) Repaving needed along US 422/Benjamin Franklin Hwy from end of bypass to SR 345/Center Rd. [Project 121057 will cover this area.](#)

Fleetwood:

- (2) State-owned Poor condition bridge on SR 1010/W. Main St by Fleetwood Park needs to be fixed
- (1) Address issue caused by confusing nature of the intersection of SR 662/S. Richmond St and W. Locust Street as the addition of the traffic light at the RR tracks is still causing drivers to stop on the RR tracks to turn left to access businesses when vehicles block this entrance

Hereford:

- (1) Intersection improvements needed at SR 100/Chestnut St and SR 1022/Huffs Church Rd, suggestions include a left turning lane and/or signalization.

Maidencreek:

- (2) Left turn arrow needed to allow turning from US 222/Allentown Pike onto SR 73/Main St/Lake Shore Dr. [PennDOT has reviewed this intersection, and traffic does not currently meet left turn arrow warrants.](#)
- (2) Intersection improvements needed at SR 1010/Park Rd and SR 73/Main St to accommodate high volume, left turns, and wide truck turning movements
- (1) Intersection improvements needed at SR 1010/Park Rd and E Wesner Rd
- (1) Intersection improvements needed at US 222/Allentown Pike and SR 1011 Pleasant Hill Rd. [Project 61972 includes the construction of a roundabout at this intersection.](#)
- (1) Enforcement and signs needed due to speeding and lack of yielding at US 222/Allentown Pike and Genesis Dr/Tamarack Blvd roundabout

Marion:

- (7) State-owned poor condition bridge on SR 419/N Third St over the Tulpehocken Creek needs to be fixed. [Project 91908 involves the bridge replacement including the addition of shoulders to the structure.](#)

- (1) Enforcement needed along Canal Rd and Main St through Stouchsburg due to speeding

Maxatawny:

- (1) Speed limit needs to be reduced from 55MPH along SR 1021/Noble St between Lyons and Kutztown Boroughs
- (2) Congestion and safety issues were noted along US 222/Kutztown Rd between the end of the Kutztown Bypass and SR 1024 Long Lane. [Project 90569 which consists of intersection improvements and the construction of a roundabout at Long Lane to improve safety and reduce congestion. Project 97234 includes initiating the preliminary engineering phase for widening US 222 to two lanes in both directions for 3.81 miles between the Kutztown Bypass north to the Berks/Lehigh County Line, which will also address congestion concerns along US 222.](#)
- (1) Consider addition of ramp at northern end of US 222/Kutztown Bypass for northbound traffic that would potentially use this and alleviate congestion turning left from Constitution Blvd onto SR 1029/Main St in Kutztown Borough. [Potential to consider evaluation for inclusion in Project 97234.](#)
- (1) Need to fix/repair pipe under Bowers Rd as metal plate on roadway is sinking

Oley:

- (1) Intersection improvements needed at SR 73/Blandon Rd and SR 2023/Friedensburg Rd due to high volume resulting in congestion. [Project 10815 is currently in future development aiming to improve this intersection.](#)

Penn:

- (1) Intersection control/improvements needed at SR 183/Bernville Rd and SR 4011/Shartlesville Rd due to high volume and speed of vehicles. [Project 120974 is currently studying safety and intersection improvements in the Bernville area.](#)

Perry:

- (1) Enforcement needed due to speeding along Main St between Zweizig Rd and Shoemakersville Borough

Reading:

- (4) The Lancaster Ave Interchange needs to be repaved and redesigned to minimize congestion and increase safety. [This issue will be addressed by Project 114439, which is Phase 1 of the West Shore \(US 422\) Reconstruction. This project will reconstruct the Lancaster Avenue interchange.](#)
- (1) The left turn light at the southern end of the Schuylkill Avenue Bridge/SR 183 over the Schuylkill River should be lengthened to allow vehicles enough time to make the left onto W Windsor St
- (1) Bern St/J003 needs to be repaved between Business 222/Fifth St and SR 61/Centre Ave
- (1) Parking enforcement needed on Cherry St between Sixth St/J001 and Seventh St due to excessive double parking making it difficult to see when crossing Cherry St as a pedestrian and when driving to exit the South Penn Garage
- (1) Repaving needed on Business 222/Fifth St between Penn St/J002 and Walnut St/SR 2012
- (1) The entirety of Reed St (between Buttonwood St and Court St) needs to be repaved
- (1) Interchange improvements/lengthening of on ramp needed at River Rd and SR 12/Warren St Bypass
- (1) Interchange improvements/lengthening of on ramp needed at SR 61/Pottsville Pike and SR 12/Warren St Bypass

Robeson:

- (1) Bridge construction taking very long on Rock Hollow Rd over Hay Creek just north of intersection with SR 2082/Hay Creek Rd leaving this road closed. [This issue is currently being addressed by Robeson Township.](#)

Rockland:

- (2) Bridge closed on Smoketown Rd needs to be fixed to reopen Smoketown Rd, this is an inconvenience for the Mennonite Community. [Project 116478 involves this bridge replacement.](#)
- (1) Provide a more direct route from the eastern end of SR 2026/Pricetown Rd to SR 1022/Fredericksville Rd so drivers can more easily travel between SR 2026/Pricetown Rd and SR 100/Main St in Hereford Township

Ruscombmanor:

- (1) Houck Road is sagging and cracking due to poor drainage during rain events where water flows under the roadway on the incline

Sinking Spring:

- (1) The entirety of Park Ave needs to be repaved from southern terminus to the northern terminus at US 422/Penn Ave
- (1) Intersection improvements needed for safety at US 422/Penn Ave and Park Ave intersection
- (1) Intersection improvements needed to alleviate congestion at US 422/Penn Ave and SR 724/Shillington Rd and SR 3055/Mull Ave intersection. [Project 87688 will realign these intersections to reduce congestion.](#)

Spring:

- (1) Dwight St Bridge over railroad tracks needs to be given priority on list of bridges to repair due to the time added to emergency response and school buses having to find a route around this restricted bridge. [Project 10727 is currently in development to restore/replace this bridge.](#)
- (1) Harvard Blvd needs to be repaved from Jefferson Blvd/J050 to SR 724/Revere Blvd. [Township street repairs are in progress.](#)

Tilden:

- (1) Need SR 61/ northbound to be resurfaced through Tilden Township. [Projects 96373, 10328, and 10867 involve highway resurfacing and restoration in this section.](#)
- (1) Need to fill the joint between the bridge and I-78 in the eastbound lefthand lane between Exits 29 and 30. [This was addressed by Project 93494.](#)

Topton:

- (1) Intersection improvements needed at SR 1010/E Weis St and Haas St to accommodate trucks turning from SR 1010 onto Haas St which is the truck route for East Penn Manufacturing/DEKA
- (1) Truck restriction signage needed at intersection of SR 1010/Weis St and S Home Ave as the end of this street is very complicated for trucks to maneuver and has led to property damage and other incidents

Union:

- (1) Resurfacing needed along Hay Creek Rd/SR 2082 between Fire Tower Rd (Robeson Township) and Chapel Rd due to 3 years of utility work

Upper Tulpehocken:

- (1) Intersection improvements needed at SR 183/Bernville Rd and SR 4040/Old Route 22/SR 4018/Main St. [This intersection is in the early stages of being studied to determine the best improvement under Project 117719.](#)

West Reading:

- (1) Enforcement needed to reduce speeding throughout the borough especially due to heavy amounts of pedestrians, this includes locations such as S Seventh Ave and Parkside Dr N/J040

Womelsdorf: (Note 44 out of 165 comments)

- (27) High volume of truck traffic on SR 3022/High St, SR 419/N 3rd St/S 2nd St and residential roads within the borough causing roadway damage. [Projects 119764 and 122594 are in development to address pavement conditions.](#)
- (10) High volume of truck traffic on SR 3022/High St and SR 419/N 3rd St/S 2nd St causing excessive noise and safety issue to residents as they are on residential roads, through the commercial core of the borough, and near the Elementary School
- (11) Intersection improvements or truck restrictions needed for intersections of SR 3022/High St and SR 419/N 3rd St/S 2nd St as they are not wide enough to easily accommodate truck turning movements causing property damage, trucks on sidewalks in a pedestrian heavy area, and/or congestion
- (3) Enforcement of speeding and brake retarders needed on US 422/Conrad Weiser Pkwy through Womelsdorf Borough with a focus on the hills on either side of SR 3039/Water St
- (1) Enforcement or traffic control at intersection of US 422/Conrad Weiser Pkwy and SR 3002/High St as turning movements from SR 3002/High St often leads to close calls
- (2) Intersection improvements needed at US 422/Conrad Weiser Pkwy and SR 3039/Water St as those turning left onto SR 3039/Water St can more easily be rear ended as the left lane is not designated for turns only and can be used as a passing lane. Turning left onto US 422/Conrad Weiser Pkwy from the northern segment of SR 3039/Water St is also a risk due to the lack of sight distance to the west as vehicles come over the hill at high speeds
- (1) Enforcement needed at US 422/Conrad Weiser Pkwy and SR 419/N 3rd St as many vehicles run this light, left turn arrows for traffic turning onto SR 419/N 3rd St was also suggested
- (1) Intersection improvements needed at US 422/Conrad Weiser Pkwy and SR 419/N 3rd St such as left turn arrows from US 422/Conrad Weiser Pkwy onto SR 419/N 3rd St
- (1) Intersection improvements needed for SR 3022/High St and SR 419/S 2nd St/N 2nd St to accommodate pedestrians such as repainted crosswalks and traffic control to stop or slow vehicles (the Womelsdorf Community Library is located at the NW corner of this intersection)

Wyomissing:

- (2) Intersection improvements needed at Business 422/Penn Ave and SR 3023/State Hill Rd. [Project 117620 intersection improvements to reduce congestion and improve safety.](#)
- (3) Improvements needed to the interchanges around the merge of US 222, US 422, and SR 12 which currently experiences congestion and safety issues. [Project 110008 involves the addition of an auxiliary lane along US 222 southbound between Paper Mill Rd and the US Routes 222 and 422 Interchanges. The southbound US 222 portion of the project begins where Berkshire Boulevard passes over US 222 and continues around the hard curve to the Paper Mill Road exit. The northbound US 222 portion of the project involves the creation of a corresponding northbound auxiliary lane from the entrance ramp of the State Hill Rd interchange to the US 422 eastbound exit ramp. The additional northbound lane will be created through a combination of minor widening, existing shoulder conversion, minor cross slope adjustments, and rechannelization of the existing lane](#)

configuration. The project also includes concrete patching, bituminous overlay (including portions of the associated ramps), and preventative maintenance to the bridge spanning Crossing Drive in both directions.

STC Survey Active Transportation Results
(11 Issues Identified)

Exeter:

- (2) There is a need for active transportation infrastructure along East Neversink Rd between Business 422/Perkiomen Ave and Trout Run Park/Sports Complex as this corridor is frequented by active transportation users from the residential developments and industries along it accessing businesses at the north end and the park at the south end
- (1) There is a need for active transportation infrastructure along Shelbourne Rd as another residential development is planned without any access to the Shelbourne Square Shopping Center
- (1) There is a need for active transportation infrastructure along Rittenhouse Dr and neighborhood roads surrounding Lorane Elementary School
- (1) There is a need for active transportation infrastructure along Lincoln Dr to allow access between neighborhoods and shopping center/businesses located at Lincoln Rd intersection with US 422/Benjamin Franklin Hwy
- (1) There is a need for active transportation infrastructure along Gibraltar Rd to allow access between neighborhoods and the Exeter Commons Shopping Center to the north and the Exeter Scenic River Trail to the south

Maidencreek:

- (1) Sidewalk gaps need to be filled along SR 73/Main St between Grove Rd and SR 1010/Park Rd

St Lawrence:

- (1) Sidewalk needed to accommodate pedestrians along SR 2034/St Lawrence Ave between Grant St and Business 422/Perkiomen Ave

Topton:

- (1) Sidewalk needed along Elementary School property north side of SR 1010/Weis St between Barkley St and Herbein Dr
- (1) Sidewalk needed along south side of SR 1010/Weis St between Henningsville Rd and Herbein Dr
- (1) Sharrows needed along SR 1010/Weis St through Tipton Borough to accommodate local bicyclists in addition to those using PA Bicycle Route L

West Reading:

- (1) Pedestrian safety improvements needed where Third Avenue crosses Business 422/Penn Ave such as better signage for motorists to slow down and be aware of the crossing

STC Survey Public Transportation Results
(3 Issues Identified)

Boyertown:

- (1) Public transit needed into and around Boyertown

Reading:

- (1) Restore rail service between Reading and Philadelphia. [The Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority \(SRPRA\) is working with the Federal Railroad Administration \(FRA\) to plan the restoration of this service.](#)
- (1) Restore bus service between Reading and Harrisburg

PUBLIC NOTICE

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
DRAFT FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
DRAFT FFY 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM,
DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS,
AND
DRAFT COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT**

The Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee announces the availability for citizens, local governments and interested organizations to review and comment on the following documents: the *Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan*, *Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program*, *Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis*, and the *Draft Community Demographic Assessment* for Berks County. These are planning documents that list various roadway, public transit, and off-road transportation projects and planning efforts in Berks County. The Long Range Transportation Plan provides detailed background materials on Berks County's land use, demographics, and transportation system and makes recommendations for addressing deficiencies and new issues. The Transportation Improvement Program serves as a capital budget and provides details on transportation projects to be undertaken over the next four (4) years. Comments will be accepted beginning Sunday March 22, 2026, through the close of business on Friday April 24, 2026.

Copies of the *Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan*, *Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program*, *Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis*, and the *Draft Community Demographic Assessment* are available for public review on the Berks County Planning Commission's web page at <https://www.berkspa.gov/departments/planning-commission> and in print at the Berks County Planning Commission, 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; BARTA, 1700 N. 11th Street, Reading, PA 19604; and PennDOT District 5-0, 1002 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101.

Four (4) Public Meetings to review the *Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan*, *Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program*, *Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis*, and the *Draft Community Demographic Assessment* will be held. The first two will be: Tuesday, April 7, 2026, beginning at 1:30 p.m., in the Multipurpose Room at the Berks County South Campus, 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; and Tuesday, April 14, 2026, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Harvest Room at the Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533. These two meetings will be conducted in-person only. The following two meetings will both be conducted virtually-only using Microsoft Teams. Both meetings will be on Tuesday April 21, 2026, the first meeting beginning at 11:00 a.m. and the second meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. **Registration is required to receive the link to participate in the virtual meetings (<https://arcg.is/0XO4Wy1>).**

The Berks County South Campus and Agricultural Center are handicapped accessible. The South Campus is served by [BARTA Route #11](#). Spanish language interpretation services will be provided with a minimum of ninety-six (96) hours prior notice. These documents will be made available in alternative languages or formats if requested no less than seven (7) days prior to the meetings. Persons requiring additional accommodation or those with questions should call 610-478-6300.

Please submit written comments to: LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Blvd., Ste. D
Mohnton, PA 19540

Comments may also be emailed to planning@berkspa.gov

The Reading MPO is committed to compliance with nondiscrimination statutes, executive orders, regulations, and policies applicable to the programs and activities it administers. We strive to host accessible events that enable all individuals to engage and participate fully. To request accommodation or for inquiries about accessibility, please contact the ADA/Title VI Coordinator at (610) 478-6300 or planning@berkspa.gov at least 72 hours before the scheduled event. The MPO will attempt to honor requests made after this time as it is able.

If you believe you have been denied participation opportunities, or otherwise discriminated against based on ADA/Disability, Title VI, or another covered nondiscriminatory basis, you may file a complaint using the procedures provided in our [complaint process document](#) or by contacting the ADA/TITLE VI Coordinator at (610) 478-6300, at planning@berkspa.gov or at the address listed above.

AVISO PÚBLICO

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY / ESTUDIO DE TRANSPORTE DEL ÁREA DE
READING
PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY / OPORTUNIDAD PARA REVISIÓN Y
COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO,
DRAFT FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN / BORRADOR DEL PLAN DE
TRANSPORTE A LARGO PLAZO FFY 2027-2050,
DRAFT FFY 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM / BORRADOR DEL
PROGRAMA DE MEJORAS DE TRANSPORTE FFY 2027-2030,
DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS / BORRADOR DEL ANÁLISIS DE
CONFORMIDAD DE CALIDAD DEL AIRE
AND / Y
DRAFT COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT / BORRADOR DE LA EVALUACIÓN
DEMOGRÁFICA COMUNITARIA**

El Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee (Comité de Coordinación del Estudio de Transporte del Área de Reading) anuncia la disponibilidad para que los ciudadanos, gobiernos locales y organizaciones interesadas revisen y comenten sobre los siguientes documentos: [Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan](#), [Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program](#), [Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis](#), y el [Draft Community Demographic Assessment](#) para Berks County. Estos son documentos de planificación que enumeran diversos proyectos de transporte por carreteras, de transporte público y de transporte fuera de carreteras, así como esfuerzos de planificación en Berks County. El Long Range Transportation Plan ofrece documentación detallada de antecedentes sobre el uso del suelo, de la demografía y del sistema de transporte de Berks County. Además, presenta recomendaciones para atender deficiencias y nuevos asuntos. El Transportation Improvement Program funciona como un presupuesto de capital y provee detalles sobre los proyectos de transporte que se llevarán a cabo durante los próximos cuatro (4) años. Recibiremos comentarios desde el domingo 22 de marzo de 2026 hasta el cierre de operaciones el viernes 24 de abril de 2026.

Copias de los borradores [Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan](#), [Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program](#), [Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis](#), y [Draft Community Demographic Assessment](#) estarán disponibles para la revisión pública a través del internet en la página web de Berks County Planning Commission: <https://www.berkspa.gov/departments/planning-commission>. También se encontrarán copias impresas en Berks County Planning Commission, 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; en BARTA, 1700 N. 11th Street, Reading, PA 19604; y en PennDOT District 5-0, 1002 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101.

Se celebrarán cuatro (4) reuniones (Public Meetings) para la revisión de los documentos [Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan](#), [Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program](#), [Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis](#), y [Draft Community Demographic Assessment](#). Las primeras dos reuniones se llevarán a cabo el martes 7 de abril de 2026, comenzando a la 1:30 p.m., en el primer piso del Conference Room en el Berks County South Campus 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; y el martes 14 de abril de 2026, comenzando a las 6:00 p.m., en el Harvest Room del Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533. Estas dos reuniones se celebrarán solo presencialmente. Las próximas dos reuniones se llevarán a cabo solo de manera virtual por medio de Microsoft Teams. Estas últimas dos reuniones se celebrarán el martes 21 de abril de 2026. La primera comenzará a las 11:00 a.m. y la segunda comenzará a las 6:00 p.m. Para

recibir el enlace (“link”) para acceder a las reuniones virtuales, debe registrarse previamente (<https://arcg.is/0XO4Wy1>).

Tanto el Berks County South Campus como el Agricultural Center son accesibles para personas con discapacidades. La ruta [BARTA Route #11](#) llega hasta South Campus. Se ofrecerá servicio de intérprete en español cuando se solicite con un mínimo de noventa y seis (96) horas de anticipación. Los documentos estarán disponibles en diversos lenguajes y formatos si se solicitan con al menos siete (7) días de anticipación a la reunión. Las personas que tengan preguntas, o que necesiten algún acomodo adicional, deberán llamar al 610-478-6300.

Por favor, someta sus comentarios por escrito a: LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Blvd., Ste. D
Mohnton, PA 19540

También puede someter sus comentarios vía correo electrónico a planning@berkspa.gov.

El MPO de Reading, en todos los programas y actividades que administra, está comprometido con el cumplimiento de los estatutos, órdenes ejecutivas, regulaciones y políticas aplicables contra la discriminación. Nos esforzamos por organizar eventos inclusivos y accesibles que les permitan a todas las personas involucrarse y participar plenamente. Para solicitar acomodo razonable o para preguntas sobre accesibilidad, por favor, comuníquese con el coordinador de ADA (ADA/Title VI Coordinator) al (610) 478-6300 o al enlace planning@berkspa.gov con al menos 72 horas de anticipación al evento programado. El MPO intentará conceder, si fuese posible, las peticiones que se soliciten con menos de 72 horas.

Si usted considera que se le han negado oportunidades para participar, o considera que se le ha discriminado contra las bases de la Ley ADA/Disability, Title VI, u otra disposición cubierta contra la discriminación, usted podrá radicar una querrela/queja usando los procedimientos establecidos en nuestro documento [complaint process document](#) o mediante comunicación con el coordinador de ADA (ADA/Title VI Coordinator) al (610) 478-6300 o al enlace planning@berkspa.gov o a la dirección que aparece arriba.

6 Reading Eagle | Section A | Sunday, March 22, 2020

Hawaii's worst flooding in 20 years threatens dam, prompts evacuations as more rain looms

By Jennifer Sinco
Kelleher and Audrey
Mcavoy
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU — As Hawaii endures its worst flooding in more than 20 years, officials are urging people in hard-hit areas to "LEAVE NOW." The warning early Saturday came after heavy rains fell on soil already saturated by downpours from a winter storm a week ago. Still more rain was expected during the weekend, officials said.

Muddy floodwaters smothered vast stretches of Oahu's North Shore, a community world-renowned for its big-wave surfing. Raging waters lifted homes and cars and prompted evacuation orders for 5,500 people north of Honolulu. Authorities cautioned that a 120-year-old dam could fail. The National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning early Saturday with light to moderate showers expected to turn heavy in some places. Gov. Josh Green said the

cost of the storm could top \$1 billion, including damage to airports, schools, roads, people's homes and a Maui hospital in Kula.

"This is going to have a very serious consequence for us as a state," Green said at a news conference.

Most of the state was under a flood watch, with Haleiwa and Waialua in northern Oahu under a flash flood warning, according to the National Weather Service.

"Residents in the Waialua area are strongly urged to LEAVE NOW," an emergency alert said early Saturday. "The remaining access road out of Waialua is at high risk of failure if rainfall continues."

Green said his chief of staff spoke to the White House and received assurances the islands would have federal support.

MOST SERIOUS FLOODING SINCE 2004

No deaths were reported and no one was unaccounted for. More than 200 people



Flooding covers a residential neighborhood Friday in Waialua, Hawaii. (AP PHOTO/MENGSHIN LIN)

have been rescued, officials said. About 10 people were taken to a hospital with hypothermia, he said.

Crews searched by air and by water for people who had been stranded — efforts that were hampered by people flying personal drones to get images of the flooding, said Ian Scheuring, a spokesperson for Honolulu.

The National Guard and Honolulu Fire Department airlifted 72 children and adults who had been attending a spring break youth camp at a retreat on Oahu's west coast called Our Lady of Kea'au, according to city and camp officials. The camp is on high ground but authorities didn't want to leave them there, the mayor said.

Green said the flooding was the state's most serious since 2004 floods in Manoa inundated homes and a University of Hawaii library. Dozens — if not hundreds — of homes were damaged Friday but officials haven't been able to fully assess the destruction, Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi said. Some 5,500 people were under evacuation orders.

"There's no question that the damage done thus far has been catastrophic," he said.

Officials blamed some of the devastation on the sheer amount of rain that fell in a short amount of time on saturated land. Parts of Oahu

received 8 to 12 inches of rain overnight. Kula, the island's highest peak, got nearly 16 inches (40 cm) in the past day, the National Weather Service said.

More rain was expected: Blangiardi said 6 to 8 inches of rain was forecast to fall on Oahu in the next two to three days.

Winter storm systems known as "Kona lows," which feature southerly or southwesterly winds that bring in moisture-laden air, were responsible for the deluges in the past two weeks. The intensity and frequency of heavy rains in Hawaii have increased amid human-caused global warming, experts say.

EYES ON AN AGING DAM

Officials have been closely watching the Waialua dam, which has been vulnerable for decades, saying it is "at risk of imminent failure."

Water levels in the dam — about 17 miles northwest of Honolulu, on the island of Oahu — receded by late Friday but that could change if more rain falls.

Overnight into Friday, the dam went from 79 feet to 84 feet — just 6 feet shy of what it can handle, authorities said. After peaking at more than 85 feet, the water level had dropped by early Saturday to 81.5 feet, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

As she prepared to evacuate to a friend's home on higher ground, Waialua resident Kathleen Pahiniui told The Associated Press in a phone interview that the aging dam is a concern every time it rains.



Debris from a storm-damaged house sits against a bridge along Kaukonahua Stream Friday, damage, caused by flooding from severe rains in Waialua, Hawaii. (AP PHOTO/MENGSHIN LIN)

"Just pray for us," she said. "We understand there's more rain coming."

The state has said Waialua dam has "high hazard potential" and that a failure "will result in probable loss of human life."

The earthen dam was built in 1906 to increase sugar production for the Waialua Agricultural Company, which eventually became a subsidiary of Dole Food Company. It was reconstructed following a collapse in 1921.

The state has sent Dole four notices of deficiency about the dam since 2009 and five years ago fined the company \$20,000 for failing to address safety deficiencies on time, according to records.

Afterward, Dole proposed to donate the dam, reservoir

and ditch system to the state in exchange for the state's agreement to repair the spillway to meet and maintain dam safety standards.

The state passed legislation in 2023 authorizing the dam's acquisition. It also provided \$5 million to buy the spillway and \$21 million to repair and expand it to comply with dam safety requirements.

Dole said in an emailed statement.

The state regulates 132 dams across Hawaii, most of them built as part of irrigation systems for the sugar cane industry, according to a 2019 infrastructure report by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Associated Press writer Hallie Golden contributed to this report from Seattle.

Café Sweet Street
Sweet Street
Sweets • Sandwiches • Pastries • Desserts

Easter Sale

**ONE DAY ONLY,
Saturday, March 28**
Sale Hours: 9am to 4pm

SWEET STREET
SWEET STREET
Ready-To-Indulge Desserts

Big Carrot Cake	\$14
Chocolate Molten Bundt	\$10
5 High Chocolate Cake	\$12
Fruity Cereal Treat Bar	\$5
Triple Chocolate Brownie	\$8
Mochachino Parina-Cotta 4/PK	\$5
Chocolate Chunk Break & Bake	\$10
Case of IW Salted Caramel Cookies	\$25

Discounted First Quality Product
New York Cheesecake
Reg. Price \$26.99 **SALE PRICE \$19!**

Carrot Cake
Reg. Price \$28.99 **SALE PRICE \$20!**

While supplies last.
No pre-orders on sales products.

Café Sweet Street
722 Hiisters Lane, Reading, PA 19605 • 610-929-0616

Café will be Closed Good Friday, April 3
www.cafesweetstreet.com

PODIATRY HOUSE CALLS
In home diabetic wound care "certified"

Dr. Thomas Velotti, D.P.M.
Toenail care
610-370-9305

PUBLIC NOTICE

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY
DRAFT FFY 2027-2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
DRAFT FFY 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
AND
DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS
AND
DRAFT COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT**

The Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee announces the availability for citizens, local governments and interested organizations to review and comment on the following documents: the Draft FFY 2027-2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Community Demographic Assessment for Berks County. These are planning documents that are used to plan, develop, and implement transportation projects and programs for Berks County. The Long Range Transportation Plan provides detailed background materials on Berks County's land use, demographics, and transportation system and makes recommendations for addressing deficiencies and new issues. The Transportation Improvement Program serves as a capital budget and provides details on transportation projects to be undertaken over the next four (4) years. Comments will be accepted beginning Sunday, March 22, 2020, through the close of business on Friday, April 24, 2020.

Copies of the Draft FFY 2027-2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Community Demographic Assessment are available for public review online at the Berks County Planning Commission's web page at <https://www.berkspa.gov/departments/planning-commission> and in print at the Berks County Planning Commission, 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; BARTA, 1700 N. 11th Street, Reading, PA 19604; and PennDOT District 5, 1002 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101.

Four (4) public meetings to review the Draft FFY 2027-2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Community Demographic Assessment will be held. The first two will be: Tuesday, April 7, 2020, beginning at 1:30 p.m., in the first floor Conference Room at the Berks County South Campus, 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; and Tuesday, April 14, 2020, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Harter Room at the Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Wellam Road, Leesport, PA 19533. These two meetings will be conducted in-person only. The following two meetings will both be conducted virtually only using Microsoft Teams. Both meetings will be on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, the first meeting beginning at 11:00 a.m. and the second meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. Registration is required to receive the link to participate in the virtual meetings (<https://bit.ly/3X0HW11>).

The Berks County South Campus and Agricultural Center are handicapped accessible. The South Campus is served by BARTA (Route 11). Spanish language interpretation services will be provided with a minimum of ninety-six (96) hours prior notice. These documents will be made available in alternative languages or formats if requested no less than seven (7) days prior to the meetings. Persons requiring additional accommodation or with questions should call 610-478-6300.

Please submit written comments to: LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Blvd., Ste. D
Mohnton, PA 19540

Comments may also be emailed to planning@berkspa.gov

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AVISO PÚBLICO

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY / ESTUDIO DE TRANSPORTE DEL ÁREA DE READING
PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY / OPORTUNIDAD PARA REVISIÓN Y COMENTARIOS DEL PÚBLICO,
DRAFT FFY 2027-2030 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN / BORRADOR DEL PLAN DE TRANSPORTE A LARGO PLAZO
DRAFT FFY 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM / BORRADOR DEL PROGRAMA DE MEJORAS
DE TRANSPORTE
DRAFT FFY 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM / BORRADOR DEL PROGRAMA DE MEJORAS DE MEJORAS
DE TRANSPORTE
DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS / BORRADOR DEL ANÁLISIS DE CONFORMIDAD DE CALIDAD DEL AIRE
AND / Y
DRAFT COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT / BORRADOR DE LA EVALUACIÓN DEMOGRÁFICA COMUNITARIA**

El Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee (Comité de Coordinación del Estudio de Transporte del Área de Reading) anuncia la disponibilidad para que los ciudadanos, gobiernos locales y organizaciones interesadas revisen y comenten sobre los siguientes documentos: Draft FFY 2027-2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, y el Draft Community Demographic Assessment para Berks County. Estos son documentos de planificación que enumeran diversos proyectos de transporte por carreteras, de transporte público y de transporte fuera de carreteras, así como esfuerzos de planificación en Berks County. El Long Range Transportation Plan ofrece documentación detallada de antecedentes sobre el uso del suelo, de la demografía y del sistema de transporte de Berks County. Además, presenta recomendaciones para atender deficiencias y nuevos asuntos. El Transportation Improvement Program funciona como un presupuesto de capital y provee detalles sobre los proyectos de transporte que se llevarán a cabo durante los próximos cuatro (4) años. Recibirán comentarios desde el domingo 22 de marzo de 2020 hasta el cierre de operaciones el viernes 24 de abril de 2020.

Copias de los borradores Draft FFY 2027-2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, y el Draft Community Demographic Assessment están disponibles para la revisión pública en línea en la página web de la Berks County Planning Commission (<https://www.berkspa.gov/departments/planning-commission>). También se encontrarán copias impresas en Berks County Planning Commission, 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; en BARTA, 1700 N. 11th Street, Reading, PA 19604; y en PennDOT District 5, 1002 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101.

Se celebrarán cuatro (4) reuniones (Public Meetings) para la revisión de los documentos Draft FFY 2027-2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, y el Draft Community Demographic Assessment. Las primeras dos reuniones se llevarán a cabo el martes 7 de abril de 2020, comenzando a las 1:30 p.m., en el primer piso del Conference Room en el Berks County South Campus 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; y el martes 14 de abril de 2020, comenzando a las 6:00 p.m., en el Harter Room de la Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Wellam Road, Leesport, PA 19533. Estas dos reuniones se celebrarán solo presencialmente. Las próximas dos reuniones se llevarán a cabo solo de manera virtual por medio de Microsoft Teams. Ambas reuniones se celebrarán el martes 21 de abril de 2020. La primera comenzará a las 11:00 a.m. y la segunda comenzará a las 6:00 p.m. Para recibir el enlace ("link") para acceder a las reuniones virtuales, debe registrarse previamente (<https://bit.ly/3X0HW11>).

Tanto el Berks County South Campus como el Agricultural Center son accesibles para personas con discapacidades. La ruta BARTA (Carretera 11) sirve al South Campus. Se ofrecerá servicio de intérprete en español cuando se solicite con un mínimo de noventa y seis (96) horas de anticipación. Los documentos estarán disponibles en diversos lenguajes y formatos si se solicitan con al menos siete (7) días de anticipación a la reunión. Las personas que tengan preguntas, o que necesiten algún acomodación adicional, deberán llamar al 610-478-6300.

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Si usted considera que se le han negado oportunidades para participar, o considera que se le ha discriminado contra las bases de la Ley ADA (Disability, Title VI) o de otra ley de no discriminación, usted podrá iniciar una queja o presentar una demanda ante los procedimientos establecidos en nuestro documento complaint process document o mediante comunicación con el coordinador de ADA (ADA Title VI Coordinator) al (610) 478-6300 o al correo electrónico planning@berkspa.gov o a la dirección que aparece arriba.

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From: [Piper, Alan](#)
To: [Piper, Alan](#)
Subject: Opportunity for Public Comment - Reading Area Transportation Study Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program
Date: Monday, March 23, 2026 1:28:34 PM
Attachments: [LRTP TIP Flyer.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)

Good afternoon.

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The public review and comment period began yesterday, March 22, 2026, with an Advertisement in the Reading Eagle and extends through April 24, 2026. ([English](#)) ([Espanol](#))

The attached flyer provides the information below and includes a link to the Berks County Planning Commission website where the documents can be accessed and viewed online (<https://bit.ly/RATS-CommentPeriod>).

There will be four public meetings held during this period to review the plans and accept comments:

- In Person - Tuesday, April 7 beginning at 1:30PM in the first floor Conference Room at Berks County South Campus (400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540)
- In Person – Tuesday, April 14 beginning at 6:00PM in the Harvest Room at the Berks County Agricultural Center (1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533)
- Virtual – Tuesday, April 21 beginning at 11:00AM using Microsoft Teams*
- Virtual – Tuesday, April 21 beginning at 6:00PM using Microsoft Teams*

*Registration is required to receive the link to participate in the virtual meetings (<https://arcg.is/0XO4Wy1>)

Comments may also be submitted in writing to:

LRTP/TIP Comments
 Berks County Planning Commission
 400 E. Wyomissing Blvd., Ste. D
 Mohnton, PA 19540

Or emailed to: planning@berkspa.gov

SENT TO:

- READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY MAIL LIST
- LEGISLATORS (PA AND U.S.)
- RATS COORDINATING/TECHNICAL COMMITTEES, ALTERNATES, AND STAFF
- BERKS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, COO STAFF, PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION DIRECTOR, BERKS COUNTY EMPLOYEES
- LRTP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- HUMAN SERVICES MAIL LIST
- FREIGHT CONTACTS MAIL LIST
- BERKS COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES
- BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD MEMBERS
- SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAIL LIST
- BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN MAIL LIST
- BERKS COUNTY LIBRARIES

Please feel free to share this information with your contacts.

Thank you!

Alan Piper | Planner III - Transportation
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2, Mohnton, PA 19540
Phone: 610-478-6300 ext. 6313

Email: Apiper@berkspa.gov
Web: www.berkspa.gov/planning

This message and the attachment(s) are intended for the use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any retention, use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication including attachments is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone or reply to the original message at the above address and then delete all copies of the message.

Thank you.

From: [Golembiewski, Michael](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Golembiewski, Michael](#)
Subject: Public Review and Comment Period, Reading (PA) Area Transportation Study
Date: Friday, March 20, 2026 1:02:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

[REDACTED] Tribal President
Delaware Nation, Oklahoma
[REDACTED]

Re: Reading Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Draft Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and Draft Community Demographic Assessment, 30-day Public Comment Period – March 22, 2026 through April 24, 2026

Dear Tribal President [REDACTED]

Greetings to you. With respect to the special status of Federally Recognized Tribes and Nations, the purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice of the 30-Day Public Comment Period for the [draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan \(LRTP\)](#), [draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#), [draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis](#), and the [draft Community Demographic Analysis](#), per the Federal Highway Administration's regulations, 23 CFR §450.316. With this letter, the Reading MPO would like to formally extend to the Delaware Nation, Oklahoma an invitation to contribute comments from March 22, 2026 through April 24, 2026.

Four (4) Public Meetings to review the *Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis*, and the *Draft Community Demographic Assessment* will be held. The first two will be: Tuesday, April 7, 2026, beginning at 1:30 p.m., in the first floor Conference Room at the Berks County South Campus, 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; and Tuesday, April 14, 2026, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Harvest Room at the Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533. These two meetings will be conducted in-person only. The following two meetings will both be conducted virtually-only using Microsoft Teams. Both meetings will be on Tuesday April 21, 2026, the first meeting beginning at 11:00 a.m. and the second meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. **Registration is required to receive the link to participate in the virtual meetings (<https://arcg.is/0XO4Wy1>).**

The LRTP is the region's plan for transportation projects through 2050. It serves as a guide to the needs and desires for transportation improvements in Berks County. The TIP, also known as a short-range plan, includes all transportation projects in the regional planning area that anticipate using federal transportation funding within the four-year period. When these projects advance past the planning phase of project development, you will be consulted during the Section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) consultation process consistent with Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) policy. This project-specific outreach during Section 106 and NEPA consultation

SENT TO NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES:

- **DELAWARE NATION, OKLAHOMA (TRIBAL PRESIDENT, THPO, DIRECTOR)**
- **DELAWARE TRIBE OF INDIANS (CHIEF, THPO, GIS SPECIALIST)**
- **EASTERN SHAWNEE TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA (CHIEF, THPO)**
- **ONONDAGA (CHIEF)**
- **SHAWNEE TRIBE (TRIBAL ADMINISTRATOR, THPO)**

will occur regardless of your participation in the TIP Public Comment Period. Links to the documents provided for public comment are below and include:

- [Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan \(LRTP\)](#)
- [Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#)
- [DRAFT TIP and LRTP Appendix](#)
- [Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis](#)
- [Draft Community Demographic Analysis](#)

These documents can also be accessed electronically at
<https://www.berkspa.gov/departments/planning-commission>.

If you wish to provide comments on the draft *Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan*, *Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program* and other related documents, please provide comments to:

LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Box 2
Mohnton, PA 19540

A link to the [Public Notice and Meeting information](#) for the draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP, draft FFY 2027-2030 TIP, and related documents is also included above. Following the LRTP/TIP Public Comment Period, all comments and questions will be taken into consideration. A full summary of the process, comments and responses will be made available upon request.

If you have questions about a specific project or wish to propose changes to the TIP documents to better facilitate the value of these documents to address your needs and others that may need an enhancement for the consultation efforts, please contact Alan D. Piper, Transportation Planner III, at the address listed above or by telephone (610-478-6300 Ext. 6313), or email (apiper@berkspa.gov).

Sincerely,

Ashley Showers
Executive Director



Michael D. Golembiewski | Transportation Modeler
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E WYOMISSING AVE BOX 2, MOHNTON, PA 19540
Phone: 610-478-6300 ext. 6304



Email: mgolembiewski@berkspa.gov
Web: <https://www.berkspa.gov/departments/planning-commission>

From: [Golembiewski, Michael](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Golembiewski, Michael](#)
Subject: Public Review and Comment Period, Reading (PA) Area Transportation Study
Date: Friday, March 20, 2026 1:50:58 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Re: Reading Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
Draft Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and Draft Community Demographic Assessment, 30-day Public Comment Period – March 22, 2026 through April 24, 2026

Dear Mr. Jones:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with notice of the 30-Day Public Comment Period for the [draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan \(LRTP\)](#), [draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#), [draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis](#), and the [draft Community Demographic Analysis](#), per the Federal Highway Administration's regulations that encourage coordination with Federal Land Management Agencies. With this letter, the Reading MPO would like to formally extend to the National Park Service, Hopewell Village National Historic Site, an invitation to contribute comments from March 22, 2026 through April 24, 2026.

Four (4) Public Meetings to review the *Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Community Demographic Assessment* will be held. The first two will be: Tuesday, April 7, 2026, beginning at 1:30 p.m., in the first floor Conference Room at the Berks County South Campus, 400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540; and Tuesday, April 14, 2026, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Harvest Room at the Berks County Agricultural Center, 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533. These two meetings will be conducted in-person only. The following two meetings will both be conducted virtually-only using Microsoft Teams. Both meetings will be on Tuesday April 21, 2026, the first meeting beginning at 11:00 a.m. and the second meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. **Registration is required to receive the link to participate in the virtual meetings (<https://arcg.is/0XO4Wy1>).**

The LRTP is the region's plan for transportation projects through 2050. It serves as a guide to the needs and desires for transportation improvements in Berks County. The TIP, also known as a short-range plan, includes all transportation projects in the regional planning area that anticipate using federal transportation funding within the four-year period. Links to the documents provided for public comment are below and include:

- [Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan \(LRTP\)](#)
- [Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\)](#)
- [DRAFT TIP and LRTP Appendix](#)
- [Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis](#)
- [Draft Community Demographic Analysis](#)

These documents can also be accessed electronically at
<https://www.berkspa.gov/departments/planning-commission>.

If you wish to provide comments on the draft *Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan*, *Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program* and other related documents, please provide comments to:

LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Box 2
Mohnton, PA 19540

A link to the [Public Notice and Meeting information](#) for the draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP, draft FFY 2027-2030 TIP, and related documents is also included above. Following the LRTP/TIP Public Comment Period, all comments and questions will be taken into consideration. A full summary of the process, comments and responses will be made available upon request.

If you have questions about a specific project or wish to propose changes to the TIP documents to better facilitate the value of these documents to address your needs and others that may need an enhancement for the consultation efforts, please contact Alan D. Piper, Transportation Planner III, at the address listed above or by telephone (610-478-6300 Ext. 6313), or email (apiper@berkspa.gov).

Sincerely,

Ashley Showers
Executive Director



Coming Together & Working Together
to Achieve Success!

Michael D. Golembiewski | Transportation Modeler
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Dear Mr. Piscanio and Mr. Eckert:

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Sincerely,

Ashley Showers
Executive Director



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READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

DRAFT FFY 2027–2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
DRAFT FFY 2027–2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
DRAFT AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY ANALYSIS
DRAFT COMMUNITY DEMOGRAPHIC ASSESSMENT

The Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee announces the availability for citizens, local governments and interested organizations to review and comment on the following documents: **the Draft FFY 2027–2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027–2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Community Demographic Assessment** for Berks County. These are planning documents that list various roadway, public transit, and off-road transportation projects and planning efforts in Berks County. The Long Range Transportation Plan provides detailed background materials on Berks County's land use, demographics, and transportation system and makes recommendations for addressing deficiencies and new issues. The Transportation Improvement Program serves as a capital budget and provides details on transportation projects to be undertaken over the next four (4) years.

FOUR PUBLIC MEETINGS TO REVIEW THE DRAFT DOCUMENTS WILL BE HELD:



TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2026 | IN-PERSON: 1:30PM
 First Floor Conference Room
 Berks County South Campus
 400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Mohnton, PA 19540

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026 | IN-PERSON: 6:00PM
 Harvest Room at Berks County Agricultural Center
 1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533



2 VIRTUAL MEETINGS
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026
11:00AM AND 6:00PM
 using Microsoft Teams*

*Registration is required to
 receive the link to participate
 in the virtual meetings:

<https://arcg.is/OXO4Wu1>



For more information on the public
 review and comment period, please visit:

bit.ly/RATS-CommentPeriod



COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED

BEGINNING SUNDAY MARCH 22, 2026, THROUGH THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026


Berks County Planning Commission
 March 24 -

Opportunity for Public Comment! The Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee announces the availability for citizens, local governments and interested organizations to review and comment on the following documents: the Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Community Demographic Assessment for Berks County. These are planning documents that list various roadway, public transit, and off-road transportation projects and planning efforts in Berks County. Join us at one of our 4 public meetings in April 2026! See the attached flyer for more information, and visit the following link below to view the draft and comment: https://www.berkspa.gov/.../LegalAd_PublicNotice_EN.pdf



READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

DRAFT FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
DRAFT FFY 2027-2030 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
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<https://ercg.io/9XG4Wyl>



For more information on the public review and comment period, please visit:
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COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED

BEGINNING SUNDAY MARCH 22, 2026, THROUGH THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026

 1
  2 shares



Berks County Planning Commission

March 31 at 9:09 AM · 🌐

3/31/26 – Join us to learn more about transportation planning in Berks County! The first meeting for the Reading Area Transportation Study Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Community Demographic Assessment will be held on April 7, 2026, beginning at 1:30PM in the first floor Conference Room at Berks County South Campus (400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton, PA 19540). Learn more about these plans at

BERKSPA.GOV

www.berkspa.gov

 How to get to Berks County South Campus?

What are the key components of the

 1

1 share



Berks County Planning Commission

April 8 at 1:25 PM · 🌐

We want to hear from you! Join us on April 14, 2026, beginning at 6:00PM in the Harvest Room at the Berks County Agricultural Center (1238 County Welfare Road, Leesport, PA 19533) to hear about the Reading Area Transportation Study's transportation planning documents and provide your input.

 What is the agenda for the meeting?

What is the Berks County Agricultural Center

 1

1 share

 Berks County Planning Commission
April 15 at 9:05 AM · 🌐

There's still time to join us and provide your input! The final two meetings for the Reading Area Transportation Study's transportation planning documents will be held virtually on April 21, 2026. The first meeting begins at 11:00AM and the second meeting begins at 6:00PM. Registration is required to receive the Microsoft Teams meeting link. Register at the link below:



SURVEY123.ARCGIS.COM
RATS LRTP/TIP Public Outreach

 What topics will be discussed? What topics will be covered in the meetings? ...

 1 1 share

 Berks County Planning Commission
April 22 at 9:14 AM · 🌐

The Reading Area Transportation Study Public Review and Comment Period will end by close of business on April 24, 2026. There is still time to provide your feedback on the Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and the Draft Community Demographic Assessment for Berks County. For information on the plans and how to submit comments, please visit:

BERKSPA.GOV
www.berkspa.gov

 What's the Air Quality Conformity Analysis? How does the Draft plan impact the c > unit

 Like  Comment  Share

Transportation Improvement P...

Berks County - DRAFT FFY 2027

talkpatransportation.com/how-it-works/tip

Managed bookmarksWeatherNEWSWelcome to AOL...Reading TrafficBerks CountyPA State GovFed GovCounty-PC-MPO W...Contracts, Scope, B...Sign OutHELP Desk Client Po...Adobe Acrobat

HOW IT WORKS

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

A Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) lists planned projects and assigns funding over a four-year period. TIPs cover regional projects and statewide initiatives.

Who creates it?

Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organizations (MPOs and RPOs) create local TIPs that include all the projects for a region. PennDOT creates two statewide-managed TIPs that span multiple regions including the Interstate Management Program TIP and Statewide Initiatives TIP.

When is it updated?

Pennsylvania TIPs are updated every two years. The 2027 Regional TIPs are currently being updated. Each of the state's Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organization (MPOs and RPOs) hold an individual Public Comment Period between March and July 2026. View the Regional TIP Map to find the Public Comment Period dates for your region.

How does it impact the planning process?

PennDOT combines the 24 individual regional TIPs with two statewide TIPs to create the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is also the first four years of the 12-Year Program.

What laws, regulations, and guidance are involved?

- Title 23 Code of Federal Regulations 450
- Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations 535
- 49 U.S. Code 5303
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), otherwise known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
- Pennsylvania Act 120 of 1970
- Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes Title 74
- Pennsylvania Code Title 67
- 2027 Transportation Program Financial Guidance
- 2027 Transportation Program General and Procedural Guidance
- PennDOT Design Manual
 - Part 1A: Pre-TIP and TIP Program Development Procedures

Public Participation Opportunities

- Click a region to view the region's Public Comment Period dates.
- You can comment on any Draft TIP during the Public Comment Period every two years. The Regional TIP Public Comment Periods will be available from March through June 2026.

TIPs are regional

STIP is Statewide

Draft 2027 Regional TIPs

All draft 2027 Regional TIPs are available for individual 30-day public comment periods between March and July 2026. To comment on your region's draft TIP, click on your region on the interactive map below. This tool will allow you to identify your planning region and its public comment period.

Map Legend

Not Open

Open

Closed

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For more information

Contact Us

PO Box 3365 Harrisburg, PA 17105

RA: PennDOTSTIC@pa.gov

ACCESSIBILITY

PRIVACY & DISCLAIMERS

MEMBER LOGIN

State Transportation Commission

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation

Reading MPO

403

bctv 50 YEARS

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Posted on March 15, 2026

Opportunity for Public Comment: Reading Area Transportation Study



**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

From Berks County Planning Commission

The Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee announced the availability for citizens, local governments, and interested organizations to review and comment on the following documents: Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program, Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis, and Draft Community Demographic Assessment for Berks County.

These planning documents list various roadway, public transit, and off-road transportation projects and planning efforts in Berks County. The Long Range Transportation Plan provides detailed background materials on Berks County's land use, demographics, and transportation system, and makes recommendations for addressing deficiencies and new issues. The Transportation Improvement Program serves as a capital budget and provides details on transportation projects to be undertaken the next four years.

The public review and comment period began March 22, 2026, with an advertisement in the Reading Eagle and extends through April 24, 2026. ([English](#)) ([Español](#))

The documents can be accessed and viewed online at bit.ly/RAIS-CommentPeriod.

There will be four public meetings held during this period to review the plans and accept comments:

- **In-Person:** Tuesday, April 7, at 1:30 p.m., in the first-floor Conference Room at Berks County South Campus (400 E. Wyomissing Ave., Mohnton)
- **In-Person:** Tuesday, April 14, at 6 p.m., in the Harvest Room at the Berks County Agricultural Center (1330 County Welfare Road, Leesport)
- **Virtual:** Tuesday, April 21, at 11 a.m., via Microsoft Teams*
- **Virtual:** Tuesday, April 21, at 6 p.m., via Microsoft Teams*

*Registration is required to receive the link to participate in the virtual meetings (arcg.io/88D4Wyz).

Comments may also be submitted in writing to:

- LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Blvd., Ste. D
Mohnton, PA 19540

Comments may also be emailed to planning@berkspu.gov.



**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**DRAFT FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
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BEGINNING SUNDAY MARCH 22, 2026, THROUGH THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2026



HOT OF THE PRESSES

**BERKS COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**PLANNING ADVICE
FOR DATA CENTERS**

READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

DRAFT FFY 2027-2050 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
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For the documents, more information on the public review and comment period, please visit: bit.ly/RATS-CommentPeriod

Planning in Action

Our monthly Planning in Action roundup highlights planning-related matters happening throughout Berks County, including projects, partnerships, plan implementation, and municipal planning reviews.

**EXPLORE THE FULL LIST
OF ARTICLES**

Ag Literacy Week

Executive Director Ashley Showers was able to join elementary classrooms during Agricultural Literacy Week in March. During the classroom visits the book: Cows Can Moo! Can You? All About Farms was read to students and an activity exploring the products of agriculture was conducted. In support of the Berks County Department of Agriculture and Growing Berks, it was a pleasure to share with the students the importance our agricultural community is in our County.

2026 Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant Program Now Accepting Applications

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 4:00 PM
Thursday, May 16**

Applications are now being accepted for the 2026 Round of the Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant Program, which provides up to \$15,000 in funding for projects within the Schuylkill Highlands geography that advance the goals of the Schuylkill Highlands Conservation Landscape. Funding requests must come with non-DCNR (PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) match of at least 25% of the amount requested.

**CLICK FOR MORE INFO
AND APPLICATION**

EARTH-A-PALOOZA!

INTRODUCING OUR COMMUTE SUPER HEROES!

During Earth Month, they are uniting to help our region move better, one commute at a time.

**CHOOSE YOUR HERO.
CHOOSE YOUR COMMUTE.**

In April, record your non-drive alone trips and go head-to-head against other organizations to see who the top hero is.

Earn chances to win with every trip recorded.

Scan to start using your commute super powers!

COMMUTE PA
 COMMUTEPA.ORG 1.866.5PA.RIDE

HEALTHY KIDS DAY

**PRE-ORDER
NOLT'S
CHICKEN BBQ**

Chicken BBQ Dinners

**Chicken Dinners
\$16 each**

Pick Up
April 25th from 11am-1pm
Berks County Heritage Center
1102 Red Bridge Road

To Buy Tickets
Parks Department Office
Email: LGauker@berkspa.gov
County Health Fair

**Berks
County
PARKS**

This Month's Subdivision and Land Development Report

**VIEW THE
REPORT**

**VIEW THE
DASHBOARD**

Swordfish Road Show

Thursday, April 23 - 8:30 AM
 Borough of Fleetwood
 502 W. Vine Street - Fleetwood

Electro Scan is hosting a demonstration in partnership with Entech Engineering and the Borough of Fleetwood of their Swordfish technology, the no-dig solution for finding lead in buried pipes.

CLICK FOR MORE INFO

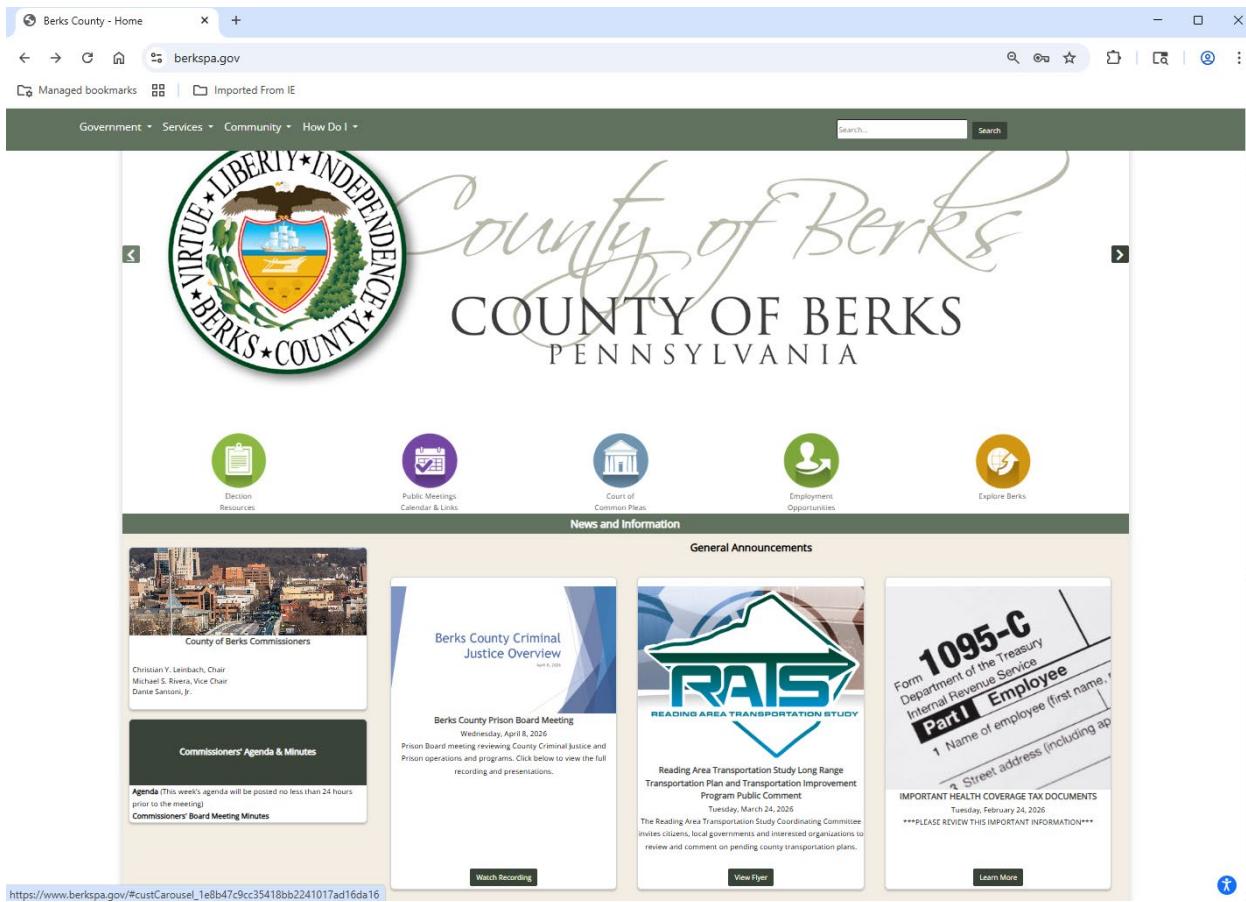
electroscaninc.

LTAP

LTAP Courses

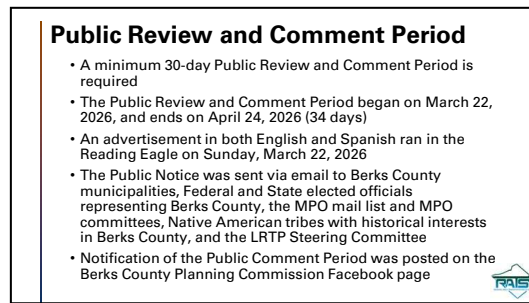
ASPHALT ROAD MAINTENANCE
 Wednesday, May 6, 2026
 8:00 AM-12:00 PM
 Berks County South Campus
 Multi-Purpose Room
 400 E. Wyomissing Ave. - Mohnton
TO REGISTER: gis.penndot.gov/ltap/

Or Contact **Matt McGough** at the Berks County Planning Commission at **610 478-6300 Ext. 6306** or via email at mmcgough@berkspa.gov

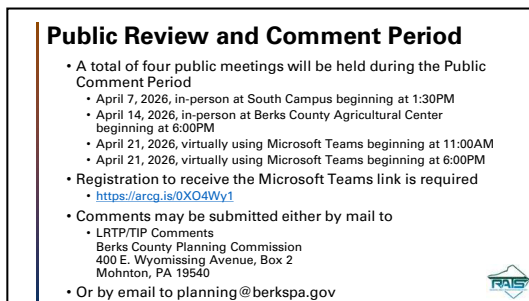




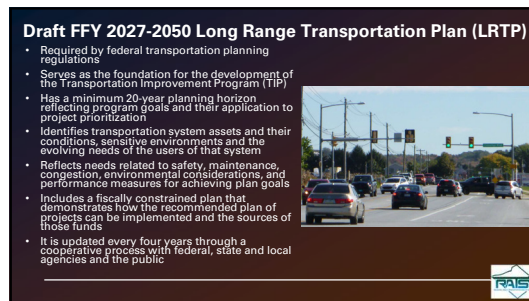
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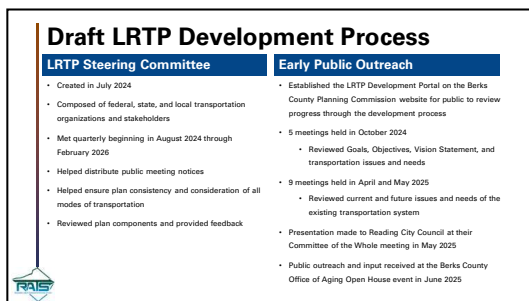
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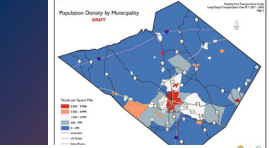
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6

PRESENTATION MADE AT:

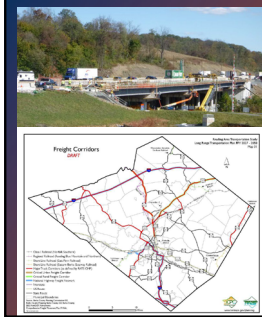
- **FOUR (4) RATS PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT MEETINGS**
- **GREATER READING CHAMBER ALLIANCE BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ADVOCACY COUNCIL**
- **READING-BERKS COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL**
- **BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION**



Draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP Contents

- Chapter 2 – Background
 - Demographics
 - Economics
 - Environmental Integration
 - Resiliency

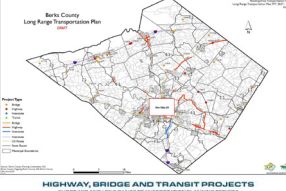
7



Draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP Contents

- Chapter 3 – State of the System
 - Provides an overview of the components of the current transportation system
 - Roads and Bridges
 - Congestion Management Process
 - Safety
 - Security
 - Freight
 - Transit
 - Non-Motorized Transportation
 - Passenger Rail
 - Aviation
 - Issues and Needs

8



Draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP Contents

- Chapter 4 - Recommendations
 - Goals and Strategic Performance Measures
 - Project Prioritization
 - Project Listing and Financial Planning
 - Travel Demand Modeling
 - Air Quality Conformity

9

Federal Planning Factors

- Support the economic vitality of the metropolitan area, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Increase the safety of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase the security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users.
- Increase accessibility and mobility of people and freight.
- Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, improve the quality of life, and promote consistency between transportation improvement and State and local planned growth and economic development patterns.
- Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.
- Promote efficient system management and operation.
- Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
- Improve the resiliency and reliability of the transportation system and reduce or mitigate stormwater impacts of surface transportation.
- Enhance travel and tourism.

Draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP Goals and Federal Planning Factors

Goal	Description
Goal 1	Keep travelers safe and secure for all modes of transportation.
Goal 2	Maintain and improve the existing multimodal transportation system and services within local constraints.
Goal 3	Invest in projects that strengthen and enhance economic development and tourism opportunities.
Goal 4	Give travelers a variety of well-designed transportation choices that are in good condition.
Goal 5	Enhance the County transportation system to address environmental impacts.

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Draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP Performance Measures

Measure	Baseline (2020-2024)	Target (2027-2030)
2025 Safety Measures and Targets (Statewide)		
Number of fatalities	1,154	1,084
Rate of fatalities per 100 million VMT	1.15	1.08
Number of serious injuries	4,362	4,320
Rate of serious injuries per 100 million VMT	4.36	4.32
Number of non-involvement fatalities & serious injuries	884	880
2022-2025 Pavement Performance Measure Targets (Statewide)		
% of Interstate pavements in Good condition	66.0%	67.0%
% of Interstate pavements in Poor condition	0.6%	2.0%
% of non-Interstate NHS pavements in Good condition	37.2%	31.0%
% of non-Interstate NHS pavements in Poor condition	1.5%	6.0%
Bridge Performance Measure Targets (Statewide)		
% of NHS bridges by deck area in Good condition	27.3%	30.0%
% of NHS bridges by deck area in Poor condition	4.4%	7.5%

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Draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP Transit Performance Measures

South Central Transit Authority Transit Asset Management Plan

- Outlines the performance measures, targets, and implementation strategies SCTA will use to maintain its transit system assets
- Performance Measure Targets
 - Rolling Stock – Percentage of revenue vehicles within a particular vehicle asset class past their Useful Life Benchmark (ULB)(age only)
 - Facilities – Percentage of facilities that are below a 3 on the Transit Economic Recovery Model (TERM) Scale
 - Equipment – Percentage of non-revenue, support-service and maintenance vehicles and equipment with a value of \$50,000 or more past their ULB (age only)

FISCAL YEAR	CAPITAL NEEDS	FEDERAL	STATE	LOCAL	TOTAL
2020	REPLACE 17 2010 BUSES/HYBRIDS	\$10,200,000	\$2,400,000	\$42,200	\$12,642,200
	REPLACE 17 2010 BUSES/HYBRIDS	\$10,200,000	\$2,400,000	\$42,200	\$12,642,200
	REPLACE TWO COPIES	\$40,000	\$5,000	\$121	\$50,000
	REPLACE 1 2021 SUPERVISORY VEHICLE	\$32,000	\$7,744	\$158	\$40,000
	COMPUTER HARDWARE/SOFTWARE	\$80,000	\$15,360	\$645	\$100,000
	MOBILE TICKETING UPGRADES	\$400,000	\$96,000	\$3,275	\$500,000
	ADA SERVICE	\$164,108	\$38,148	\$1,937	\$205,193
	TOTAL	\$11,116,248	\$2,690,152	\$89,425	\$13,895,825

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Draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP Projected Reading MPO Transportation Funding by Plan Period (\$000)

TRANSPORTATION PLAN ESTIMATED FUNDING SUMMARY (\$000)				
Element	Short Range (2027-2030)	Mid Range (2031-2038)	Long Range (2039-2050)	Total
Highway Funds	\$281,075	\$492,587	\$451,502	\$1,225,163
Bridge Funds	\$99,377	\$196,985	\$295,420	\$591,782
Transit Funds	\$82,944	\$159,368	\$244,394	\$486,706
Total Funds	\$463,396	\$848,940	\$991,316	\$2,303,651

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**UNFUNDED HIGHWAY,
BRIDGE AND TRANSIT PROJECTS**
(ALL COSTS ARE ESTIMATES IN FFY 2026 DOLLARS) FEBRUARY, 2026

[illegible]

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READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range
Transportation Plan

Questions??

The complete Draft Long Range Transportation Plan can be found at <https://www.berkspa.gov/departments/planning-commission/transportation-reading-mpo/plans-and-programs/draft-plan-elements>
Questions can be submitted to planning@berkspa.gov

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Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- It is an agreed upon list of specific priority transportation projects that intend to use federal funds along with non-federally funded projects that are regionally significant
- It shows estimated costs and funding sources and documents the anticipated schedule for each project and project phase
- It covers a four-year period and is updated every two years
- It must be fiscally constrained to the amount of funding that is available based on Financial Guidance – it is not a 'wish list'
- It is NOT a final schedule of project implementation and it not a guarantee of implementation



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Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

- Includes funding based on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) approved in November 2021
 - The IIJA identifies transportation funding for the 5-year period from FFY 2022 to FFY 2026
 - Funding amounts are assumed 'flat' – funding is assumed to be no less and no more than the FFY 2021 amount
 - At the time of writing and preparing the document, there is no new federal transportation funding bill enacted, nor has the IIJA been reauthorized
- In November 2019, PennDOT announced discretionary "Spikes" funding allocations of \$321 million relative to the US 422 West Shore Bypass and US 222 North Widening projects. These commitments have been carried forward, and will be funded to be available in FFY 2026 and will extend through FFY 2036.



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Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development Process

- Candidate projects were solicited
- Prior program reviewed
- Preliminary priorities were established
- Five TIP development meetings were held with PennDOT between October 2025 and November 2025 to match the highway and bridge priorities with the available funds
- Coordination was held with SCTA/BARTA on the development of a listing of transit projects
- The MPO approved submittal of the draft project listing to PennDOT in November 2025
- An initial draft TIP project listing was submitted to PennDOT in December 2025



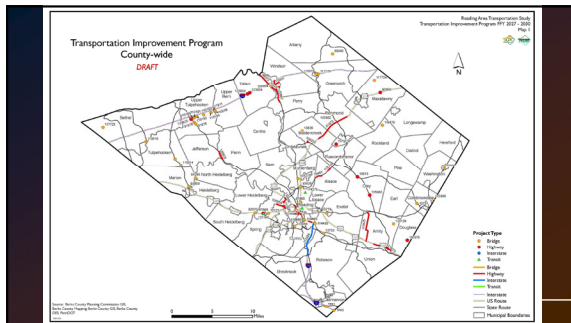
19

Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development Process

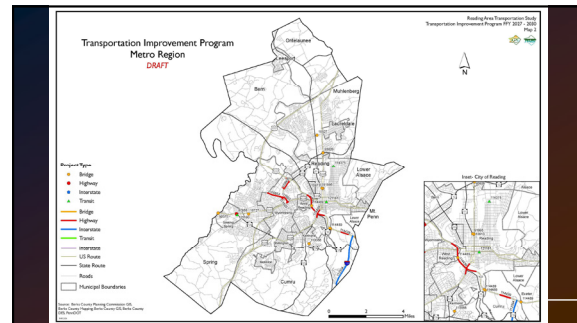
- The MPO approved the final draft project listing in January 2026
- Staff prepared the draft documents being presented today
- The Reading MPO FFY 2027-2030 TIP contains 102 projects with a total investment of \$464.2 million
 - 89 Highway and Bridge projects (\$385.3 million)
 - 13 Transit projects (\$78.9 million)
- The document also identifies 1 project in Berks County included in the Statewide Interstate Program with a value of \$740,313
- There is 1 Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission project that extends into Caernarvon Township – total project cost is approximately \$35 million



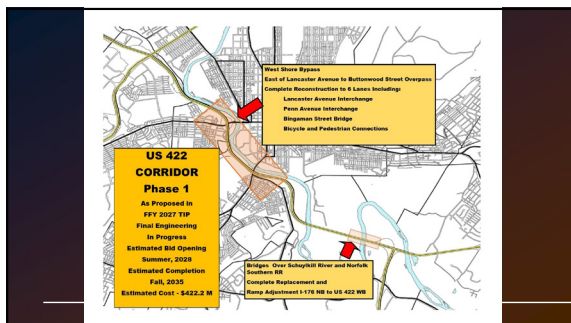
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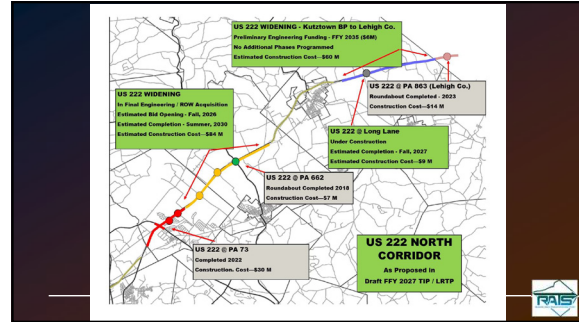
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25



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SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS ANTICIPATED TO START DURING READING MPO FFY 2027-2030 TIP	Federal Fiscal Year	Project Description/Municipality	Estimated Total Project Cost (2025\$) Does not include costs obligated prior to FFY 2027
	FFY 2027		
	MPMS# 110318	SR 12 Alasca Manor - Alasca Township	\$4,636,000
	MPMS# 134687	SR 12 Elizabeth Avenue - Alasca Township	\$13,882,000
	MPMS# 108687	PA 61 Restoration Phase 2B - Perry and Windsor Townships	\$21,085,000
	MPMS# 41972	US 222 Widening - Maiden Creek and Richmond Townships	\$56,774,000
	MPMS# 110080	SR 222 Auxiliary Lane (Southbound) - Wyomissing Borough	\$12,391,000
	MPMS# 91006	PA 419 Bridge over Turplocken Creek - Marion and Heidelberg Townships	\$7,840,000
	MPMS# 87688	SR 422 Intersection at SR 124 and Mill Avenue - Sinking Spring Borough	\$4,615,000
	MPMS# 110076	SR 422 Ben Franklin Highway Signal Coordination - Amity Township	\$4,120,000
	MPMS# 114480	SR 422 RATS Bridge Preservation #11 (US 422 Bridge) - City of Reading, Cumru and Exeter Townships	\$12,380,000
	MPMS# 10527	SR 2016 Bellevue Avenue Bridge over RBMN RR - Muhlenberg Township	\$6,203,000
	MPMS# 117602	SR 2023 State Hill Road - SR 222 SB Ramps to NS RR - Wyomissing Borough	\$11,120,000

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SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS ANTICIPATED TO START DURING READING MPO FFY 2027-2030 TIP	Federal Fiscal Year	Project Description/Municipality	Estimated Total Project Cost (2025\$) Does not include costs obligated prior to FFY 2027
	FFY 2028		
	MPMS# 91976	SR 163 Bridges over Little Northkill Creek and Tributary - Upper Township	\$2,927,000
	MPMS# 114420	US 422 West Street Bypass Phase 1 - City of Reading, West Reading Borough, Cumru Township	\$375,550,000
	MPMS# 105983	PA 662 @ Olney Tompkins Road - Olney Township	\$4,676,000
	MPMS# 105954	SR 2023 State Hill Road - Colony Drive to SR 222 SB Ramps - Wyomissing Borough	\$19,869,000
	FFY 2029		
	MPMS# 53626	SR 2005 (North 9 th Street) Bridge Preservation over SR 12 - Muhlenberg Township	\$3,711,000
	FFY 2030		
	MPMS# 91095	SR 2087 Centre Avenue over NS RR - City of Reading	\$12,272,000
	MPMS# 10813	SR 2005 Fifth Street over NS RR - City of Reading	\$4,584,000

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Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Appendix

- Pennsylvania's 2027 Transportation General and Procedural Guidance
- Pennsylvania Transportation Performance-Based Management Procedures
- Reading MPO CMAQ Project Selection Process
- Pennsylvania's 2027 Transportation Financial Guidance
- Reading Area Transportation Study Organizational Structure
- Title VI Policy
- Public Participation Plan
- Public Participation Documentation

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READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program

Questions??

The complete Draft Transportation Improvement Program can be found at
[https://www.berkspa.gov/getmedia/50ca538a-1b04-4311-842e-2bfd449818be/08-DRAFT-27-30-TIP-2-26-26-\(Reduced\).pdf](https://www.berkspa.gov/getmedia/50ca538a-1b04-4311-842e-2bfd449818be/08-DRAFT-27-30-TIP-2-26-26-(Reduced).pdf)

Questions can be submitted to planning@berkspa.gov

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Draft FFY 2027 Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report

- Required under the Clean Air Act (CAA)
- Must demonstrate that the plans, programs and projects meet the transportation conformity requirements of the CAA and the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) in nonattainment areas
- Berks County is currently nonattainment for 2008 8-hour Ozone standards
- The conformity determination includes an assessment of future highway emissions and must show that the required conformity tests were met for each analysis year



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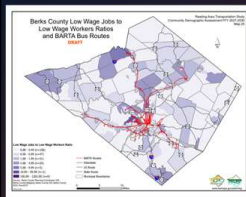
Draft FFY 2027 Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report

- Interagency consultation is used to determine applicable emissions models, analysis years and emissions tests
- Evaluation includes traffic modeling based on current highway network and planned improvements for the years 2030, 2040, and 2050
- Model outputs are run through EPA's MOVES model for estimating emissions
- Result – Draft FFY 2027-2050 LRTP and Draft FFY 2027-2030 TIP are found to conform to the applicable air quality State Implementation Plan and EPA requirements



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Draft FFY 2027-2030 Community Demographic Assessment



- Identifies concentrations of populations by race and income level throughout Berks County
- Identifies locations of motorized and non-motorized reportable crashes and severity, pavement and bridge conditions, transit service, as well as TIP and LRTP projects against various population concentrations
- Report found no disproportionately high or adverse effects to concentrations of any population type



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Additional Questions??

The complete Draft Air Quality Conformity Report can be found at
<https://www.berkspa.gov/getmedia/35905bfc-2087-47a8-8031-2471d84ac0b0/DRAFT-Reading-Conformity-Determination-FY27TIP-and-2050LRTP-March-2026.pdf>
 The complete Draft Community Demographic Assessment can be found at
<https://www.berkspa.gov/getmedia/5fbd9e44-6304-4169-9a3d-c938c0dd9611/CDA-2026-DRAFT.pdf>
 Questions can be submitted to planning@berkspa.gov



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Next Steps

- The Public Review and Comment Period began on March 22, 2026, and ends on April 24, 2026
- Comments may be submitted either by mail to
 - LRTP/TIP Comments
 - Berks County Planning Commission
 - 400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2
 - Mohnton, PA 19540
- Or by email to planning@berkspa.gov
- Comments received must be reviewed by the MPO committees prior to adoption of the plans
- Responses must be issued to all comments
- Adoption by RATS is anticipated on May 21, 2026
- Anticipated adoption by US DOT by September 30, 2026
- LRTP and TIP Implementation begins on October 1, 2026



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!!

Amanda Timochenko
Transportation Planner II
Berks County Planning Commission
amanda.timochenko@berkspa.gov

Alan Piper
Transportation Planner III
Berks County Planning Commission
alan.piper@berkspa.gov



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RATS LRTP/TIP PUBLIC MEETING 4-7-2026 NOTES

Attendees: Ross Stowell
Bev Leonti (Cumru Twp)
Mike Golembiewski
Alan Piper
Amanda Timochenko
Matt McGough
Ashley Showers
Leo Scott

- Ross - Is there any state funding included for public transit/commuter funding specifically for commuting to Philadelphia, whether bus or train? Alan explained some of the intricacies of private commuter buses and the SRPRA and the CID Program relating to potential restoration of passenger rail.
- Ross - Are the projects identified on Route 61 in relation to the proliferation of warehouses in the area? Alan stated that some of the projects closer to Shoemakersville may have been part of the warehouse's HOP processes but generally, no, they are not because of the warehouses.
- Bev - How long does it take to get an HOP approved? Alan said it depends on the projects and what is needed in relation to that project.
- Bev - For a turning lane through Bernville (Route 183 study) will there have to be properties taken through eminent domain? Alan stated that there will probably be some acquisitions but the final determination on that is still not complete.
- Bev - Route 724 between 10 and 176...any plans for that corridor? Alan said some stuff has been talked about and minor planning completed but nothing definite. He agreed that something needs to be done but nothing is on the immediate horizon.
- Bev - The bridges...are they only state owned? Alan stated that no, it includes all bridge ownership type – state, local, county.
- Bev - When is the 724/Penn Ave intersection in Sinking Spring going to be complete? Alan said it is scheduled to start next year (2027).
- Bev - The airport...there are rumors that a commercial airline may be moving in. Is this true? Alan said they are expanding services but we have not heard about a carrier. We typically do not include that type of thing in the LRTP/TIP.
- Bev - Crosswalks near where the bike path/trail along Museum Road/Lancaster Ave near Sheetz and Wawa? Alan stated we typically defer to the municipality for projects of this nature. There is limited funding for these types of projects other than the TASA program.
- Ross - So the Thun trail completion would not be under our programs? Alan stated we recognize the Schuylkill River Trail but they are not a standalone part of these programs except through special funding programs.

RATS LRTPA/TIP PUBLIC MEETING 4-14-2026 NOTES

Attendees: Wynton Butler (Reading)
Paul Prutzman (Supervisor, Lower Heidelberg)
Margie Prutzman (Lower Heidelberg)
“Woody” DR Degler (municipality not listed)
Sarah Phillips (BCPC Board)
Devon Hain
Alan Piper
Amanda Timochenko
Leo Scott

- Paul – Is funding decreasing over the years? Amanda stated that we do not have new federal surface transportation legislation, we are under IIJA, so we need to base future funding off flat funding from 2026. Alan explained SPIKE funding as the reason it looks like the funds are decreasing. The Secretary of Transportation can allocate funding. They set aside over \$300 million for us to put into the reconstruction of the West Shore Bypass project and into the middle section of 222. This SPIKE funding was included in the graphic which makes it look like out years are receiving less funding.
- Paul – Do the numbers include local funding? Alan stated that funding for local projects from the TIP is very limited but is included. County organizations are promoting the BASIC Act, a federal carve out that would allocate more money to go to local bridges and systems.
- Paul – Does this include all bridges in Berks County? Alan stated that a limited number of local bridges are included in the programs, and that we are trying to grow that right now. We noted the local system, especially local bridge funding, as an issue in the LRTP.
- Wynton – Who suggested roundabouts? Alan stated that the initial roundabout designs at some intersections around Berks County were decided upon by PennDOT engineers and consultants with MPO approval. Roundabouts have also been identified as a Proven Safety Countermeasure by the FHWA, and we have seen a decrease in fatalities and suspected serious injuries at these locations.
- Paul – The SR 61 and 78 improvements in northern Berks County seem like they have been going on forever, will they be completed soon? Alan reviewed the projects in this area and their timelines.
- Paul – Noted there are not any projects on SR 422 in western Berks County. The Berks County Planning Commission has identified this corridor as somewhere that is still available for development in Berks County. Citizens already use Brownsville Road and alternate routes to avoid SR 422. Alan addressed by stating that he does not think SR 422 will have capacity if the corridor is fully built out. We recognize that Brownsville Road and Lincoln Drive are being used as alternate routes. As areas along 422 in western Berks are developed, developers need to work with BCPC, RATS, and PennDOT through the HOP process, with hopes that developers help improve the roadways.
- Paul – When is the 724/Penn Ave intersection in Sinking Spring going to be complete? Alan said it is scheduled to start next year (2027). This will also help improve the 422 corridor in western Berks as this congested area is likely one of the worst areas on the corridor. Other potential

improvements would include realignment of South and North Church Road in Wernersville Borough and better synchronization of the traffic lights along this corridor west of Sinking Spring.

- Woody – Does the money allocated in the TIP apply to the efforts of passenger rail by SRPRA? Alan stated the funding is currently through the Federal Railroad Administration. He further explained the corridor and development program which is complete as Phase 1. Federal approval is required to move ahead with Phase 2. The proposal now is for intercity rail provided by Amtrak. If it were commuter rail, that would need to be on the Transit TIP.
- Woody – Has the Governor mixing up money/funding for various programs effected transportation projects and planning? Alan stated it has not really impacted us because the transit dollars get allocated to the transit authority directly. This has not taken money away from other projects at this time.

RATS LRTP/TIP VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING 4-21-2026 NOTES**(11:00AM)**

Attendees: Amanda Timochenko
Devon Hain
Alan Piper
Mike Golembiewski
Matt McGough
Andrew Kline
Kent Himmelright
Jeanne Johnston
Lisa Walter (11:47am)

- Kent – There has been a lot of serious vehicular incidents, is that part of this assessment? Alan responded that in the LRTP there are very detailed evaluations of crash data. Our recommendations incorporate high incident areas into our plans. The plans do not reflect crash data from the most recent year (2025) because that data is not yet available.
- Andrew - Can you elaborate on how collaboration is conducted with the school districts who may be impacted by any of these projects? I am a school board member in Oley Valley and noted multiple projects which may drastically impact our student transportation. For the record, all of the projects in the Oley area are all things I am excited about and supportive of, but just thinking of logistics. Alan responded that the school would be brought into the process and get this information when we work with the municipalities and in the actual design phase. Alan stated that he will be happy to discuss more offline as well. Andrew welcomed that and thanked Alan for his time and presentation.
- Lisa - Could I get a copy of the slides presented today emailed to me? Amanda responded that we would be happy to provide that and stated that she will do so after the meeting.

RATS LRTP/TIP VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING 4-21-2026 NOTES**(6:00 PM)**

Attendees: Amanda Timochenko
Alan Piper
Mike Golembiewski

- Though there were three (3) members of the public registered, they did not arrive online. No other members of the public arrived and staff concluded the meeting @ 6:25 p.m.

COMMENT FORM

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
LRTP \ TIP PUBLIC MEETING
April 7, 2026, 1:30 PM
Berks County Planning Commission
South Campus First Floor Conference Room**

Please take a few minutes to fill out this comment form so we may gather your input and better understand your concerns.

1. How did you find out about today's meeting? (*Check all that apply*)

- ☐ Local Newspaper ☐ Email ☐ Flyer ☐ Website ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Other _____
(Please Specify)

2. Was the presentation easy to understand and informative?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. What suggestions do you have for improving our outreach for future public meetings?

4. Please provide any comments you may have regarding the Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, the Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program and related documents.

(Please use the reverse side of this form for any additional comments)

OPTIONAL

Please print clearly

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Please return completed form to a BCPC staff member or the box on the table.

If you would prefer, completed forms
may be mailed or sent by e-mail no later
than April 24, 2026

LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2
Mohnton, PA 19540
E-mail: planning@berkspa.gov

Or complete the Public Meeting
Comment Form online no later than
April 24, 2026

<https://arcg.is/1CTuef1>



South Campus First Floor Conference Room

[illegible]

COMMENT FORM

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
LRTP \ TIP PUBLIC MEETING
April 7, 2026, 1:30 PM
Berks County Planning Commission
South Campus First Floor Conference Room**

Please take a few minutes to fill out this comment form so we may gather your input and better understand your concerns.

1. How did you find out about today's meeting? (Check all that apply)

- ☒ Local Newspaper ☐ Email ☐ Flyer ☐ Website ☐ Facebook
☐ Other _____
(Please Specify)

2. Was the presentation easy to understand and informative?

- ☒ Yes ☐ No

3. What suggestions do you have for improving our outreach for future public meetings?

All needed Buses, Train, Trails!

4. Please provide any comments you may have regarding the Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, the Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program and related documents.

(Please use the reverse side of this form for any additional comments)

OPTIONAL Please print clearly

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Address: _____

Please return completed form to a BCPC staff member or the box on the table.

If you would prefer, completed forms
may be mailed or sent by e-mail no later
than April 24, 2026

LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2
Mohnton, PA 19540
E-mail: planning@berkspa.gov

Or complete the Public Meeting
Comment Form online no later than
April 24, 2026

<https://arcg.is/1CTuef1>



COMMENT FORM

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
LRTP \ TIP PUBLIC MEETING
April 7, 2026, 1:30 PM
Berks County Planning Commission
South Campus First Floor Conference Room**

Please take a few minutes to fill out this comment form so we may gather your input and better understand your concerns.

1. How did you find out about today's meeting? *(Check all that apply)*

- ☐ Local Newspaper ☐ Email ☐ Flyer ☒ Website ☐ Facebook
☐ Other _____
(Please Specify)

2. Was the presentation easy to understand and informative?

☒ Yes ☐ No

3. What suggestions do you have for improving our outreach for future public meetings?

NOTICES ON MUNICIPAL TAX OR WATER/SEWER BILLS

4. Please provide any comments you may have regarding the Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, the Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program and related documents.

(Please use the reverse side of this form for any additional comments)

OPTIONAL *Please print clearly*

Name: BEV LEONTI

Email Address



Please return completed form to a BCPC staff member or the box on the table.

If you would prefer, completed forms may be mailed or sent by e-mail no later than April 24, 2026

LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2
Mohnton, PA 19540
E-mail: planning@berkspa.gov

Or complete the Public Meeting Comment Form online no later than April 24, 2026

<https://arcg.is/1CTuef1>



Berks County Agricultural Center Harvest Room

[illegible]

COMMENT FORM

**READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY
LRTP \ TIP PUBLIC MEETING
April 14, 2026, 6:00 PM
Berks County Agricultural Center
Harvest Room**

Please take a few minutes to fill out this comment form so we may gather your input and better understand your concerns.

1. How did you find out about tonight's meeting? (*Check all that apply*)

- ☒ Local Newspaper ☐ Email ☐ Flyer ☐ Website ☐ Facebook
☐ Other _____
(Please Specify)

2. Was the presentation easy to understand and informative?

☒ Yes ☐ No

3. What suggestions do you have for improving our outreach for future public meetings?

4. Please provide any comments you may have regarding the Draft FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan, the Draft FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program and related documents.

(Please use the reverse side of this form for any additional comments)

OPTIONAL Please print clearly

Name: DR Degler

Email Address: _____



Please return completed form to a BCPC staff member or the box on the table.

If you would prefer, completed forms
may be mailed or sent by e-mail no later
than April 24, 2026

LRTP/TIP Comments
Berks County Planning Commission
400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2
Mohnton, PA 19540
E-mail: planning@berkspa.gov

Or complete the Public Meeting
Comment Form online no later than
April 24, 2026

<https://arcg.is/1CTuef1>



**Reading MPO
Public Comment Period for the
FFY 2027-2050 Long Range Transportation Plan
FFY 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program,
Air Quality Conformity Analysis Report and FFY 2027 Community Demographic
Assessment**

The Public Comment Period began March 22, 2026 and ended April 24, 2026

Comments and Response to Comments:

Complete copies of all written comments follow this summary.

**Responses as Approved by Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating
Committee May 21, 2026**

Ross Stowell – Citizen

Verbal Comments During April 7, 2026 Public Meeting

Comment: Is there any state funding included for public transit, either by bus or train, specifically for commuting to Philadelphia?

Response: Neither the LRTP nor the TIP includes funding related to commuting to Philadelphia at this time. The LRTP does recognize that there are limited opportunities for private bus services (OurBus and FlixBus) that provide service to / from the Philadelphia region but these are not supported with public funding. SCTA (BARTA) does not currently provide connections to surrounding transit systems (LANTA, Pottstown Transit, SEPTA, Red Rose or Lebanon). The SCTA Transit Development Plan does not anticipate the provision of links to these areas at this time due to limited ridership potential, length of trip and limited population density. The proposed Schuylkill River Passenger Rail service will support some level of commuting if implemented but the actual schedule for this remains unclear at this time as they await advancement into the next phase of the Federal Railroad Administration's Corridor Identification and Development Program.

Comment: Are the projects identified on Route 61 (in and around Hamburg Borough)(MPMS#'s 10867, 10328, 96373, 97258, 113325, 109894) a result of establishment of warehouses in the area?

Response: The development of the current projects along the PA 61 corridor preceded the warehouse development in that region of Berks County. They are the concluding phases of a staged implementation of safety improvements that

have extended northward along the PA 61 corridor from Reading to the Schuylkill County line over time. Additionally, developers are required to go through a Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) process through PennDOT. In some instances, part of the HOP may require the developer to perform roadway improvements if the development will have an impact on the transportation system near the development. That was the case for improvements made in Perry Township just north of Shoemakersville Borough.

Comment: Is the completion of the Thun Trail part of RATS plans and programs?

Response: The LRTP acknowledges the Schuylkill River Trail (SRT) as the backbone of the off-road trail network in Berks County and its role in both recreational and commuting uses. The Thun Trail represents a section of this important off-road trail network. Specific funding for the “completion” of this trail is not included in the LRTP or TIP. The LRTP and TIP do include funding for improvements to the SRT where it is impacted by the reconstruction of the US 422 West Shore Bypass. Funding for improvements to this trail is also supported during applications made by the Schuylkill River Greenway Association under the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) program and either the PennDOT or DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund.

Bev Leonti – Cumru Township

Verbal Comments During April 7, 2026 Public Meeting

Comment: How long does it take to get a Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP) approved?

Response: The length of time for an HOP approval depends upon the type of project and the needs in relation to the project.

Comment: As part of the improvements along Route 183 near Bernville Borough (MPMS# 120974), will properties have to be taken through the eminent domain process?

Response: The final determination for the overall needs of this project are not yet defined. If there is a need to obtain Right-of-Way (ROW) or any properties, PennDOT will work with the landowners to minimize impacts. Property owners will be compensated for any required acquisitions. PennDOT appraises property for its fair market value and attempts to reach an amicable settlement with property owners. If that is not possible, the property can be acquired through the eminent domain process as defined by State and federal legislation. The property owner is still compensated.

Comment: Are there any planned improvements, either in the TIP or the LRTP, for Route 724 between Route 10 and I-176?

Response: The only planned improvement in this area is MPMS# 110012 on the LRTP. This project calls for the upgrade of the existing concrete barrier and fence system on SR 724 (Philadelphia Avenue) from Valley Stream Road to Kennel Road to better withstand the debris and rocks that fall down the slope in Cumru Township.

Comment: Are the bridge projects identified only state-owned bridges?

Response: The bridges identified in both the Transportation Improvement Program and Long Range Transportation Plan include state, county, and local bridges.

Comment: When is the Route 422 (Penn Avenue) intersection with Route 724 and Mull Avenue (MPMS# 87688) anticipated to be completed?

Response: This project is anticipated to go out for bids in mid-2027 and to be completed by September, 2029.

Comment: There are rumors that a commercial airline may be moving into the Reading Regional Airport. Is this true?

Response: The Reading Regional Airport is not funded through RATS. Their Capital Improvement Plan is included in RATS Long Range Transportation Plan in support of their goals and objectives and to ensure coordination with other transportation modes. The Reading Regional Airport Authority is open to discussions with potential commercial passenger carriers operating out of the Reading Regional Airport but no agreements are in place at this time.

Comment: If a request was made to include crosswalks near the bike/trail path along Museum Road, extending across Lancaster Avenue near Wawa and Sheetz, in Cumru Township, who would need to request the improvement and how would the improvement be funded?

Response: Generally, requests of this nature are deferred to the municipality. Unless the crosswalk would be included in a separate highway improvement project (none planned at this location), there is limited funding available for these types of projects. The Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) Program would be

the best funding opportunity for these types of improvements. Other options could include either the PennDOT or PADCED Multimodal Transportation Fund programs.

Paul Prutzman – Lower Heidelberg Supervisor
Verbal Comments During April 14, 2026 Public Meeting

Comment: Is funding for transportation improvements decreasing over the years?

Response: At the time of writing the documents, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which is the current federal transportation funding legislation, has not been reauthorized nor has new federal transportation funding legislation been established. As a result, funding amounts are assumed 'flat' at the last year of the authorized legislation which would be FFY 2026. Additionally, the Reading MPO received SPIKE funding for the US 422 West Shore Bypass Widening project (MPMS#114439) beginning in FFY 2027 through FFY 2038. A portion of those SPIKE funds were permitted to be used to complete the US 222 Widening project (MPMS# 61972) in FFY 2027. The SPIKE funding was included in the funding summaries. Since the SPIKE funding only extends to FFY 2038, the funding amounts in the later years appear to decrease as a result.

Comment: Do the funding amounts include local funding sources?

Response: Yes. Local funding is included where it is a required match for State or federal funds. Funding for local projects in the TIP is very limited. Counties are currently promoting legislation that would allocate more money to local bridges and roadways.

Comment: Do the bridge projects identified include local bridges?

Response: Yes. There are 8 local bridge projects included in the TIP – 3 County-owned bridges and 5 municipal bridges. There is also a Municipal Bridge Line Item (MPMS# 120995) with limited funding in the TIP that will allow RATS to work with local municipalities to identify and program local bridge improvement projects throughout Berks County.

Comment: When will the Route 61 and I-78 projects (MPMS#'s 10867, 10328, 96373, 97258, 113325, 109894) near Hamburg Borough be completed?

Response: There are numerous projects both underway and proposed in this area, each with their own schedule. The last project in this group (MPMS# 10867) is the proposed restoration of PA 61 and installation of median barriers in Perry and Windsor Townships and Hamburg Borough. This also includes a revised design for the intersection of PA 61 with Fourth Street. It is anticipated to go out for bids in mid-2027 and be completed by November, 2030.

Comment: There doesn't seem to be any planned improvements along Route 422 in western Berks, but this area has been identified by the Berks County Planning Commission as an area that is still available for development. How will improvements be made if development along this corridor occurs?

Response: Other than the congestion addressed by the intersection of US 422 and 724 (See below), the US 422 corridor west of Sinking Spring has only one area of moderate congestion (east end of Wernersville Borough) and no identified high crash locations. There is a bridge replacement planned over the Cacoosing Creek at the Sinking Spring / Lower Heidelberg / South Heidelberg line. As new developments are proposed throughout this corridor, they will need to go through PennDOT's Highway Occupancy Permit process if accessing state highways. Traffic studies will be required and specific improvements may be required based on site generated traffic. It is important that the Berks County Planning Commission and RATS track these developments and be aware of their cumulative impacts to the highway system and be prepared to identify projects to address those impacts.

Comment: When is the Route 422 (Penn Avenue) intersection with Route 724 and Mull Avenue (MPMS# 87688) anticipated to be completed?

Response: This project is anticipated to go out for bids in mid-2027 and to be completed by September, 2029.

DR Degler – Citizen**Verbal Comments During April 14, 2026 Public Meeting**

Comment: Does the money allocated in the TIP apply to the efforts of reestablishing passenger rail by the Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority (SRPRA)?

Response: At this time, no funding for the SRPRA is included in either the TIP or the LRTP. Funding for Step 1 of the Corridor Identification and Development Program was provided by the Federal Railroad Administration. The SRPRA is awaiting approval to enter Step 2 of the program and will use these same funds. Future updates of the LRTP or TIP may require federal funding for this project as it progresses through the process, but these would not impact base highway, bridge or public transit allocations. Currently Flix bus and OurBus provides service to Philadelphia on a daily basis.

Comment: Has funding for various transportation projects and programs been impacted by the Governor of Pennsylvania adjusting state funding allocations to address transit issues in major urban areas?

Response: The most recent changes only affect transit funding. Certain transit systems were allowed to shift some capital funding to support operations. This will ultimately impact their ability to maintain those systems if no replacement funding is generated. At this time BARTA has sufficient funding to continue service, however SCTA (BARTA) continues to reach out to the Governor for additional funding needs.

Wynton Butler – Reading**Verbal Comments During April 14, 2026 Public Meeting**

Comment: Who initially suggested roundabouts as intersection improvements?

Response: The inclusion of roundabouts into the various highway improvement projects were developed through a collaborative process involving the Federal Highway Administration, PennDOT, consultants, and local representatives. Studies were conducted based on several factors including but not limited to traffic volumes, existing roadway design, etc. that determine the best type of improvement to meet the needs of the transportation system. Additionally, roundabouts are a proven safety countermeasure that reduces fatality and serious injury crashes.

Kent Himelright – Schuylkill River Greenways**Verbal Comments During April 21, 2026 Virtual Public Meeting**

Comment: There has been a lot of serious vehicular incidents lately in Berks County. Is that part of this assessment?

Response: Data relating to crashes, as identified in the RATS Annual Traffic Safety Report, is incorporated into the Long Range Transportation Plan in the Safety section. Recommendations incorporate high incident areas into our plans and programs. Crashes that have occurred within the past year are not factored into current project recommendations but will be evaluated again in the next TIP update.

Andrew Kline – Oley Valley School Board Member**Verbal Comments During April 21, 2026 Virtual Public Meeting**

Comment: Can you elaborate on how collaboration is conducted with the school districts regarding how student transportation may be impacted by any of these projects?

Response: School districts have multiple opportunities to participate in project development and implementation. A starting point is by attendance at MPO meetings or by contacting planning staff directly.

[Meeting Schedule](#)

E-mail: Planning@berkspa.gov or Phone: (610) 478-6300

Ideas can be offered for any suggested new projects or comments can be made on the potential impacts of existing projects. A second step could be school district input into what are referred to as PennDOT Connects meetings with the impacted municipalities prior to the beginning of design for a particular project. Issues identified at that time can potentially be avoided up front rather than requiring design changes. The final stage is by attendance at a public meeting conducted by PennDOT during the design of a project but prior to finalization of the plans. School districts are also generally involved during construction by receiving notices of proposed changes in traffic patterns as the project progresses.

Comment: Mr. Kline expressed support for the projects planned in Oley Township.

Response: Mr. Piper thanked him for his support.

Daniel Mateo – Developer**Emailed Comments Received on April 23, 2026**

Comment: Mr. Mateo requested infrastructure improvements along the Franklin Street Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Corridor in the City of Reading related to a mixed-use development proposal between 7th and 8th Street.

Response: We have forwarded Mr. Mateo’s comments to the City of Reading’s Planning and Public Works Departments for their input. Here are their responses followed by ours.

City of Reading - Planning Department:

It is encouraging to see development interests align with the City’s Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and zoning policies. While a formal land development application for this project has not yet been submitted, the City has established a regulatory framework thorough the TOD overlay District that is intended to support high density, mixed-use development of this nature.

From the infrastructure standpoint, the City is well positioned to accommodate anticipated growth in this area. Recent improvements, including the 19th Ward pump station in coordination with Berks County significantly enhanced sewer system capacity. In addition, the Reading Area Water Authority has capacity to support such developments within this corridor.

Streetscape and multimodal improvements are also being evaluated through the City’s implementation of the Vision Zero Action Plan, which focuses on creating safer and more accessible streets for all users.

We have made significant progress on the TOD Ordinances and are now looking forward to an approval in the near future.

We look forward to receiving this project and encourage continued coordination with City staff regarding site specific infrastructure and development considerations.

City of Reading - Public Works Department:

In response to the public comment, we request that you add the priority improvements from Vision Zero to the long-range plan. It includes the Franklin (Street) area plus others. The excerpt below was taken from Vision Zero.

Priority Improvements Plan

The Priority Improvements Plan was developed as a way to group improvements along corridors. These corridors are a logical geographical grouping of improvements that can be accomplished with low cost proven counter-measures that will help to create multimodal improvements in the Downtown.

These six (6) recommended corridors have the following characteristics that they share in common:

- These roads are not state or PennDOT routes, thus not needing review by that agency.
- They are relatively the lower volume / lower speed routes in the Downtown.
- These routes are generally disbursed through the Downtown, create a good distribution of proposed cycling routes through the Downtown in a manner that reaches many destinations in the Downtown and beyond.

Since each priority corridor has a definable 'achievement', they represent a more desirable funding application for the funding opportunities described later in this chapter. The design and construction summary cost estimates for these corridors are estimated below:

- 2nd / Canal Street \$ 310,046.00
- Court Street \$ 280,478.00
- Penn Street \$ 99,814.00
- Cherry Street \$ 288,132.00
- 7th Street \$ 684,510.00
- Spruce Street \$ 236,686.00
- Total: \$1,899,666.00
- Design and Engineering (10%): \$189,967.00
- **Total Cost: \$2,089,633**

RATS Follow- up Response:

The existing street system in Reading can absorb the traffic to be generated by the development proposal. Based on the City's comments above, we will modify the text of our **Long Range Transportation Plan** to more fully address the City's Vision Zero Action Plan in the Non-Motorized Transportation section in Chapter 3. We currently state that we will work with the City of Reading to achieve their safety goals as expressed in the Vision Zero Plan in the Issues and Needs section of Chapter 4. We will also include a specific line item in the Unfunded Highway, Bridge and Transit Projects for **Implementation of the Reading Vision Zero Plan** with the cost data provided above.

We will then work with our State and Federal partners to try to identify a funding source to allow this effort to proceed to implementation.

Ronnique Bishop - Federal Highway Administration**Emailed Comments Received on April 24, 2026****Comment: LRTP Project Listing**

For the highway, bridge, and transit projects listed in the Goals and Strategic Performance Measures chapter, there should be sufficient detail of design concepts and design scope descriptions of all existing and proposed transportation facilities to develop cost estimates. [(23 CFR 450.324(f)(9))]

Response: Text will be added to the Long Range Transportation Plan in this section referring the reader to the Appendix document where we will include the FFY 2027-2038 TYP Public Narratives for Highway and Bridge and Interstate Projects. Transit information is derived directly from the SCTA/BARTA Capital Improvement Program.

Comment: TIP System Performance Report

It's great that the MPO includes the relevant TIP projects that improve the system performance measures. In addition, the system performance report should also include any regional actual data points in comparison to the baseline data and performance recorded in previous reports. [(23 CFR 450.324(f)(4))]

Response: Text will be added to the Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement program including a link to both the *Reading Area Transportation Study Traffic Safety Report 2020-2024* and the *Reading Area Transportation Study Annual Pavement and Bridge Condition Report 2020 - 2024* which contain the requested information.

Comment: LRTP Amendment Procedures

We appreciate the MPO sharing the LRTP amendment procedures with FHWA in advance. Our comments provided from that previous coordination are addressed in the draft LRTP and we do not have any further comments.

Response: Thank you.

No On-Line Comment forms were received.

Additional Comments / Responses

During the early public outreach efforts related to the Long Range Transportation Plan and Transportation Improvement Program, certain areas were identified for either study or improvements that could not be incorporated into a funded project at this time. As such, we have added the following items to the Unfunded Highway, Bridge and Transit Projects listing in the **Long Range Transportation Plan** as candidates for future funding considerations:

Womelsdorf Area Traffic Study – evaluation of truck movements along PA 419 through the Borough of Womelsdorf travelling to or from points in Lebanon County to / from either US 422 to the north of the Borough or continuing on PA 419 to I-78 in northern Berks County.

PA 724 Congestion / Safety Study – evaluation of PA 724 from US 222-B (Lancaster Avenue) in Cumru Township, through Spring Township and the US 222 interchange area to US 422 (Penn Avenue) in the Borough of Sinking Spring. This corridor is identified as a concern on both the RATS Congestion Management Process as well as the RATS Annual Safety Report.

Douglass Township SR 2022 (Ben Franklin Highway) Road Diet – The Ben Franklin Highway (SR 2022) in Douglass Township was at one time the main highway between Reading and Pottstown and the Philadelphia urban area. It has a wide four-lane cross section, only a low mountable median barrier, and primarily unsignalized intersections with no separate turn lanes. With the construction of the US 422 expressway around Pottstown in the 1960's, most regional traffic was diverted away from this roadway. Douglass Township has expressed a desire to create a more pedestrian friendly commercial corridor here and would like consideration of completing a "road diet" to narrow the existing highway to a single lane in each direction, provide safe turning lanes as necessary and promote safe bicycle and pedestrian movements along both sides of the highway including connections to the parallel Schuylkill River Trail.

Three other corridors were also identified during these meetings but are already included on the unfunded list:

PA 183 Safety Improvements (SR 4016 to I-78) in Jefferson and Upper Tulpehocken Township

SR 737 Safety Improvements (US 222 to I-78) in Kutztown, Maxatawny and Greenwich Townships.

SR 3222 Lancaster Avenue (SR 422 / 10 interchange) to Kenhorst Boulevard.

Each of these had studies funded under prior LRTP/TIP's that have either been completed or are wrapping up but implementation phases could not be included in the current plans due to lack of funding.

Piper, Alan

From: DANIEL Mateo <towerheights610@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2026 3:23 PM
To: Planning Department; Piper, Alan
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment: FFY 2027–2050 LRTP and 2027–2030 TIP – Franklin Street TOD Project
Attachments: 700 Development plan pptx(1).pdf; Franklin_Tower_Investor_Ready_2Page_v2.pdf; Franklin_7th_Prospectus_Clean.pdf

County of Berks Warning: This is an external email. Please exercise caution.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **DANIEL Mateo** <towerheights610@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Apr 23, 2026, 3:03 PM
Subject: Public Comment: FFY 2027–2050 LRTP and 2027–2030 TIP – Franklin Street TOD Project
To: Daniel Mateo <danielmateo1118@gmail.com>

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to submit a public comment regarding the Franklin Street Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) corridor in Reading, PA.

I am an owner and active developer within the 702–724 Franklin Street cluster. My intent is to develop a high-density, mixed-use, transit-oriented residential project under the current TOD overlay and “By-Right” zoning provisions.

Given the scale and timing of this development, I strongly request that infrastructure improvements on this block—including water, sewer, and streetscape upgrades—be prioritized within the upcoming TIP and LRTP planning cycles.

This project aligns directly with the City and County’s long-term transit and housing goals, and early infrastructure support will ensure successful execution and long-term economic impact in the corridor.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Daniel Mateo
917-504-5541

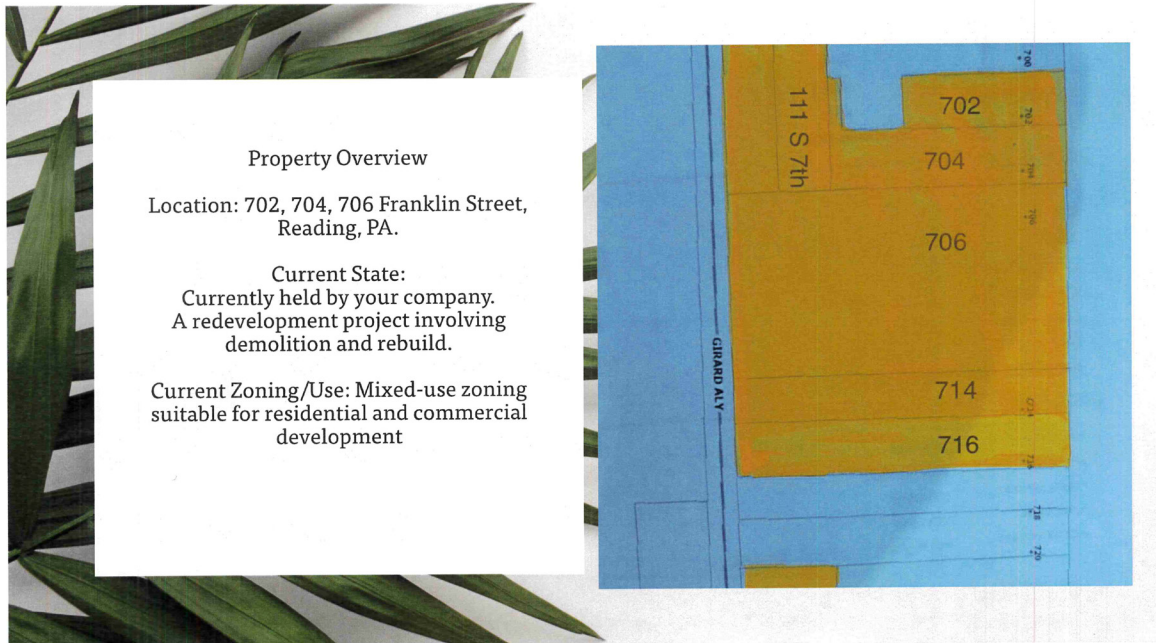


700 Franklin Towers

Overview

Executive Summary

- Development of a mixed-use building located at 702, 704, 706 Franklin Street, Reading, PA.
- The building will house 70 residential units and 7 commercial spaces.
- Focus on creating a semi-luxury living experience, with high tenant retention through modern amenities and convenient access to transportation.
- Investment in both residential and commercial units, contributing to community revitalization.

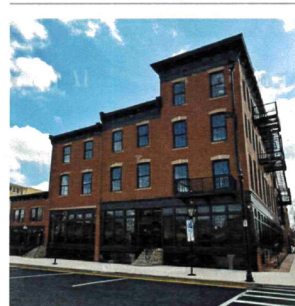


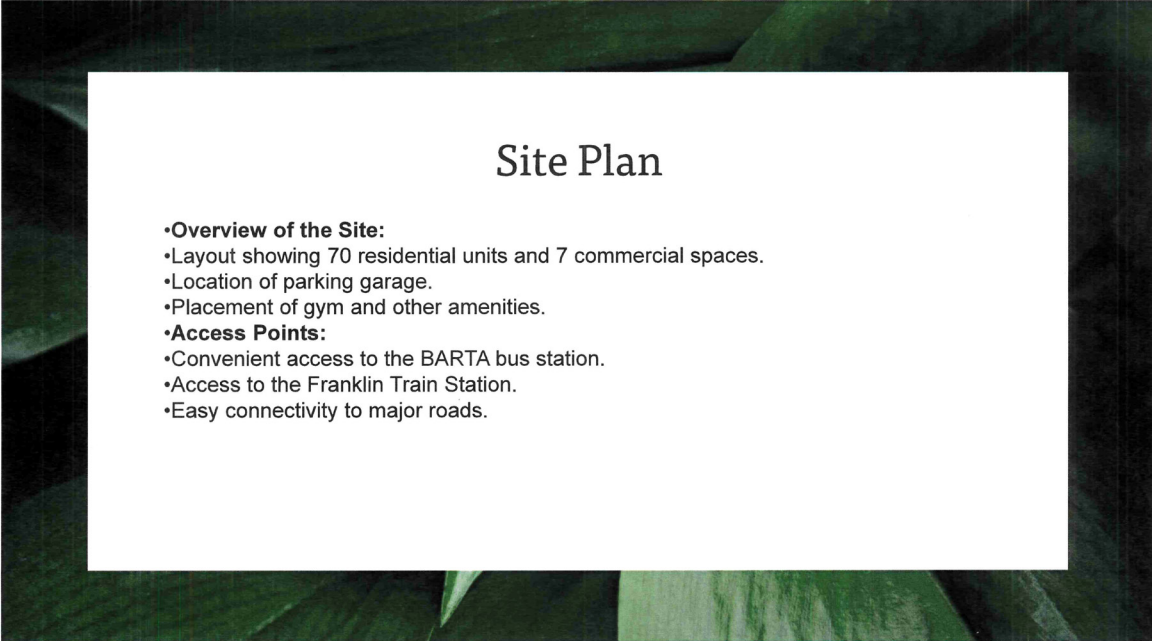
Project Vision & Objectives

• **Project Vision:** Transforming an underutilized property into a sustainable and vibrant mixed-use development that integrates residential and commercial spaces to serve the community.

• **Key Objectives:**

- **70 Residential Units:** A mix of modern apartments targeting a semi-luxury market.
- **7 Commercial Spaces:** Attracting retail or office tenants to foster local economic growth.
- **Amenities:** On-site gym, parking for tenants, and sustainable design.
- **Accessibility:** Proximity to public transportation hubs like the BARTA bus station and Franklin Train Station.





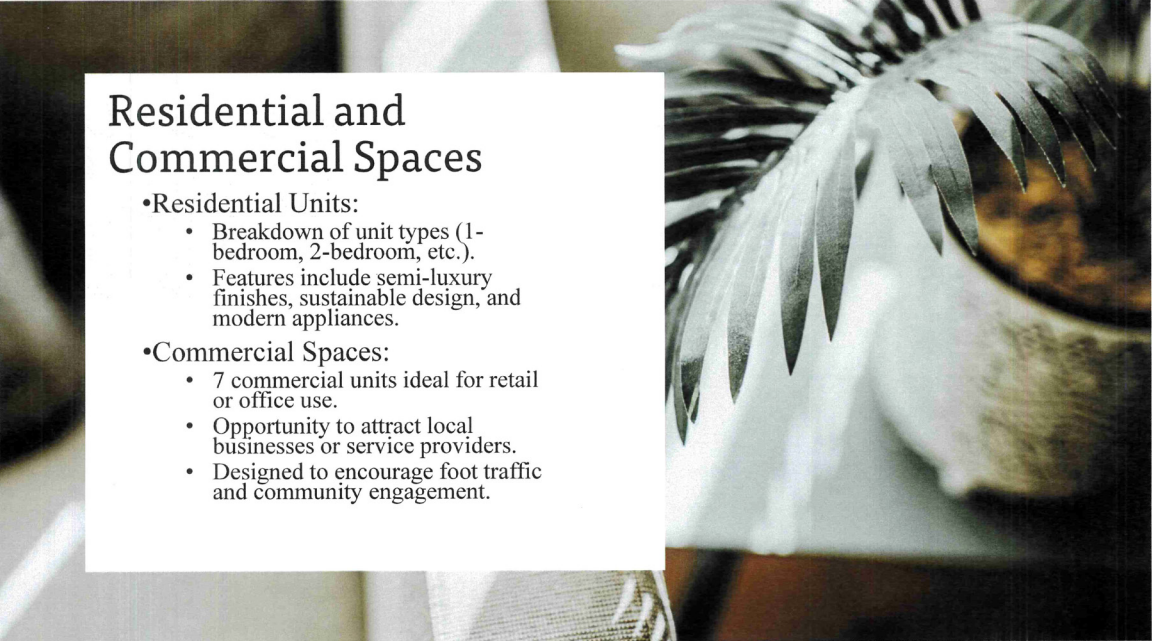
Site Plan

- Overview of the Site:**

- Layout showing 70 residential units and 7 commercial spaces.
- Location of parking garage.
- Placement of gym and other amenities.

- Access Points:**

- Convenient access to the BARTA bus station.
- Access to the Franklin Train Station.
- Easy connectivity to major roads.



Residential and Commercial Spaces

- Residential Units:**

- Breakdown of unit types (1-bedroom, 2-bedroom, etc.).
- Features include semi-luxury finishes, sustainable design, and modern appliances.

- Commercial Spaces:**

- 7 commercial units ideal for retail or office use.
- Opportunity to attract local businesses or service providers.
- Designed to encourage foot traffic and community engagement.

Design Features & Amenities

•Residential Design:

- Modern, energy-efficient construction materials.
- Semi-luxury finishes: spacious floor plans, stylish interiors, and quality fixtures.
- High tenant retention through attractive living environments.

•Amenities:

- Gym facilities for residents.
- Ample parking spaces.
- Green spaces and communal areas for socializing.

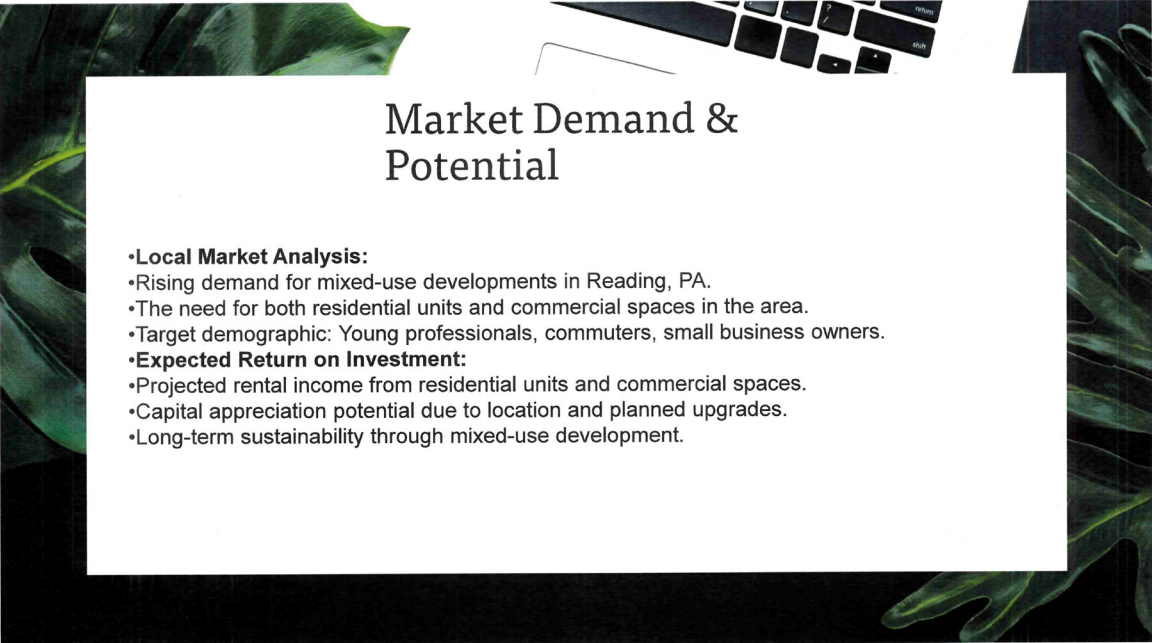
Location & Accessibility

•Proximity to Transportation:

- Directly in front of the BARTA Bus Station and Franklin Train Station.
- Ideal for residents who use public transport daily.
- Accessible to major roadways, enhancing the area's connectivity.

•Community Impact:

- Revitalizing the downtown area with both residential and commercial spaces.
- Close to local amenities and essential services.



Market Demand & Potential

- Local Market Analysis:**

- Rising demand for mixed-use developments in Reading, PA.
- The need for both residential units and commercial spaces in the area.
- Target demographic: Young professionals, commuters, small business owners.

- Expected Return on Investment:**

- Projected rental income from residential units and commercial spaces.
- Capital appreciation potential due to location and planned upgrades.
- Long-term sustainability through mixed-use development.



Thank you

Piper, Alan

From: Bishop, Ronnique <ronnique.bishop@dot.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 24, 2026 1:04 PM
To: Piper, Alan; Timochenko, Amanda
Cc: Nonnemaker, Nyomi; Raio, Nick; Lidiak, Timothy (FTA)
Subject: FHWA Comments on RATS 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan
Attachments: FHWA Comments - RATS 2050 LRTP Draft_4.24.26.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

County of Berks Warning: This is an external email. Please exercise caution.

Good afternoon, all.

Great work on the 2050 LRTP! FHWA offers a few comments.
Please see the attachment.

Thank you,



Ronique Bishop, AICP
Community Planner
PA Division Office/FHWA
U.S. Department of Transportation
(717) 221-2276
Ronique.Bishop@dot.gov

Project Listing

- For the highway, bridge, and transit projects listed in the Goals and Strategic Performance Measures chapter, there should be sufficient detail of design concepts and design scope descriptions of all existing and proposed transportation facilities to develop cost estimates. [(23 CFR 450.324(f)(9))]

System Performance Report

- It's great that the MPO includes the relevant TIP projects that improves the system performance measures. In addition, the system performance report should also include any regional actual data points in comparison to the baseline data and performance recorded in previous reports. [(23 CFR 450.324(f)(4))]

LRTP Amendment Procedures

- We appreciate the MPO sharing the LRTP amendment procedures with FHWA in advance. Our comments provided from that previous coordination are addressed in the draft LRTP and we do not have any further comments.

Reading Area Transportation Study

March 2026

Coordinating Committee

PennDOT District 5-0	Mr. Chris Kufro, District Executive (Chairman) Ms. Jennifer Ruth, Planning & Program Manager*
PennDOT Central Office	Mr. Ray Green, Division Chief, Center for Program Development and Management. Mr. Nick Raio, Trans. Planning Specialist Supervisor *
Berks County Commissioners	Mr. Michael Rivera, Commissioner
Berks County Planning Commission	Mr. Thomas McKeon, Board Member (Vice Chairman) Mr. Alan Piper, Transportation Planner III (MPO Secretary)*
City of Reading	Ms. Donna Reed, Council Member Mr. O. Chris Miller, Council Member*
Berks County Boroughs	Mr. Brian Hoffa, Borough Council Member (Sinking Spring Borough)
Berks County 1 st Class Townships	Ms. Lisha Rowe, Township Commissioner (Cumru Township)
Berks County 2 nd Class Townships	Mr. Arthur “Ray” Lambert, Township Supervisor (Upper Bern Township)
South Central Transit Authority / Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority	Mr. Greg Downing, Executive Director Mr. Keith Boatman, Assoc. Director of Capital Projects/Planning
Reading Regional Airport Authority	Mr. Dante Santoni, Jr., Board Member

Technical Committee

PennDOT District 5-0	Mr. Scott Vottero, District Executive for Design (Chairman) Mr. Michael Donchez, Transportation Planning Specialist*
PennDOT Central Office	Ms. Nyomi Nonnemaker, Trans. Planning Specialist (Vice Chair) Mr. Nick Raio, Trans. Planning Specialist Supervisor *
Berks County Planning Commission	Mr. Alan Piper, Transportation Planner III (MPO Secretary) Ms. Amanda Timochenko, Transportation Planner II*
Berks County Planning Commission	Mr. Michael Golembiewski, Transportation Modeler Ms. Amanda Timochenko, Transportation Planner II*
City of Reading	Mr. Donald Edwards, Reading City Engineer
City of Reading	Mr. Kyle Zeiber, Department of Public Works
South Central Transit Authority / Berks Area Regional Transportation Authority	Mr. Keith Boatman, Assoc. Director of Capital Projects/Planning Ms. Lauri Ahlskog, Manager of Transit Planning & Compliance*
Reading Regional Airport Authority	Mr. Zackary Tempesco, Airport Manager

* denotes alternate

Reading Area Transportation Study

C/O Berks County Planning Commission

400 E. Wyomissing Avenue, Box 2

Mohnton, PA 19540

610-478-6300