



# PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE COMMISSION

**Bradley Heigel, P.E. – Chief Engineer**

**Matthew Burd, P.E. – Assistant Chief Engineer – Construction**

**ACEC/PA**

**September 8, 2025**



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2029 FRAMEWORK

## VISION

To be a leader in mobility services at the forefront of innovation in transportation, safety and customer experience.

## MISSION

To operate a safe, reliable, customer-valued toll road system that supports national mobility and commerce.

## VALUES



**SAFETY  
ALWAYS**



**COMMUNICATE  
OPENLY**



**CUSTOMER  
DRIVEN**



**RESPONSIBILITY  
MATTERS**



**TEAMWORK  
DELIVERS**



**ADVANCING  
EXCELLENCE**

## GOALS

**CONNECTION**

**CULTURE**

**GROWTH**

**SAFETY**

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Continuous Improvement:**

Focus on enhancing processes for the benefit of the workforce, customers and business partners



**Best-in-Class:** Embodies a commitment to being best-in-class and encourages self-reflection and evaluation at all levels.

**Evaluation Over Routine:**

Encourages employees to assess if tasks and processes can be improved, avoiding the mindset of “we’ve always done it this way.”

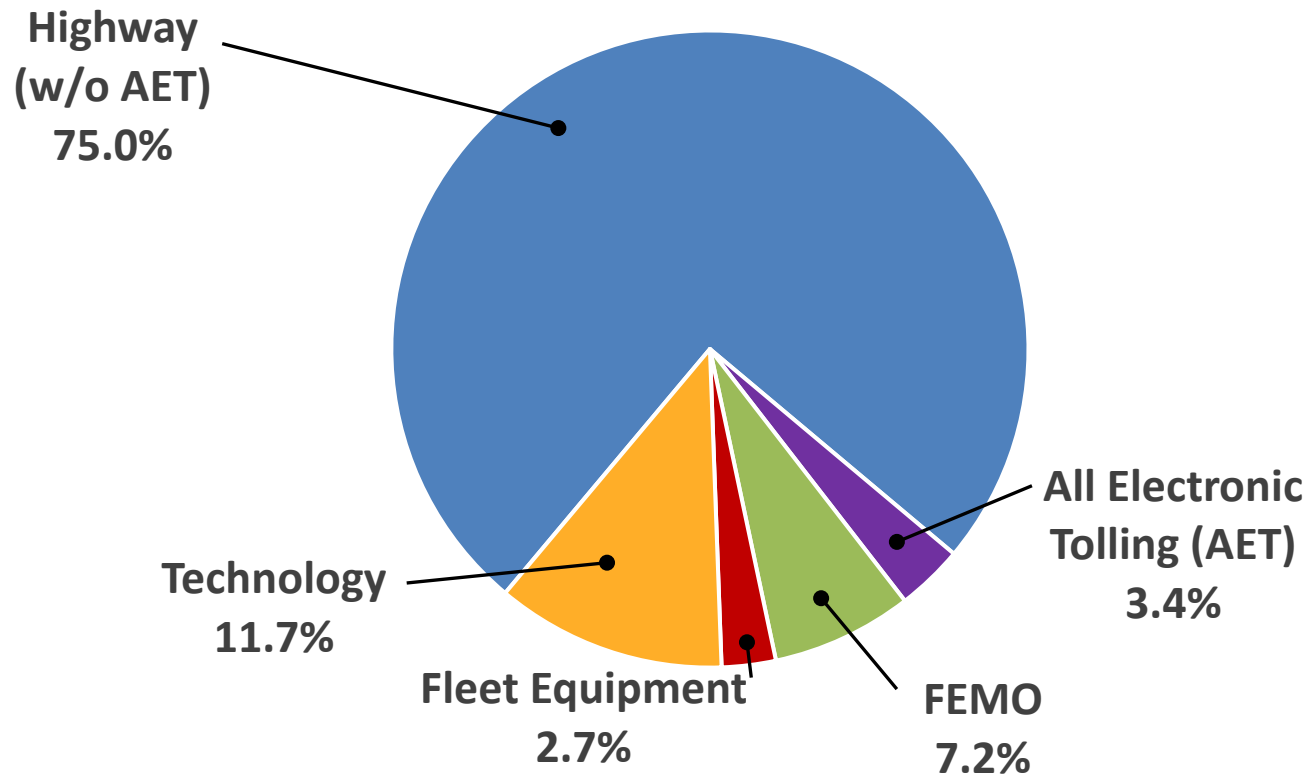
**Innovation Without Disruption:**

Supports everyday improvements and evaluation without necessarily requiring large-scale changes.

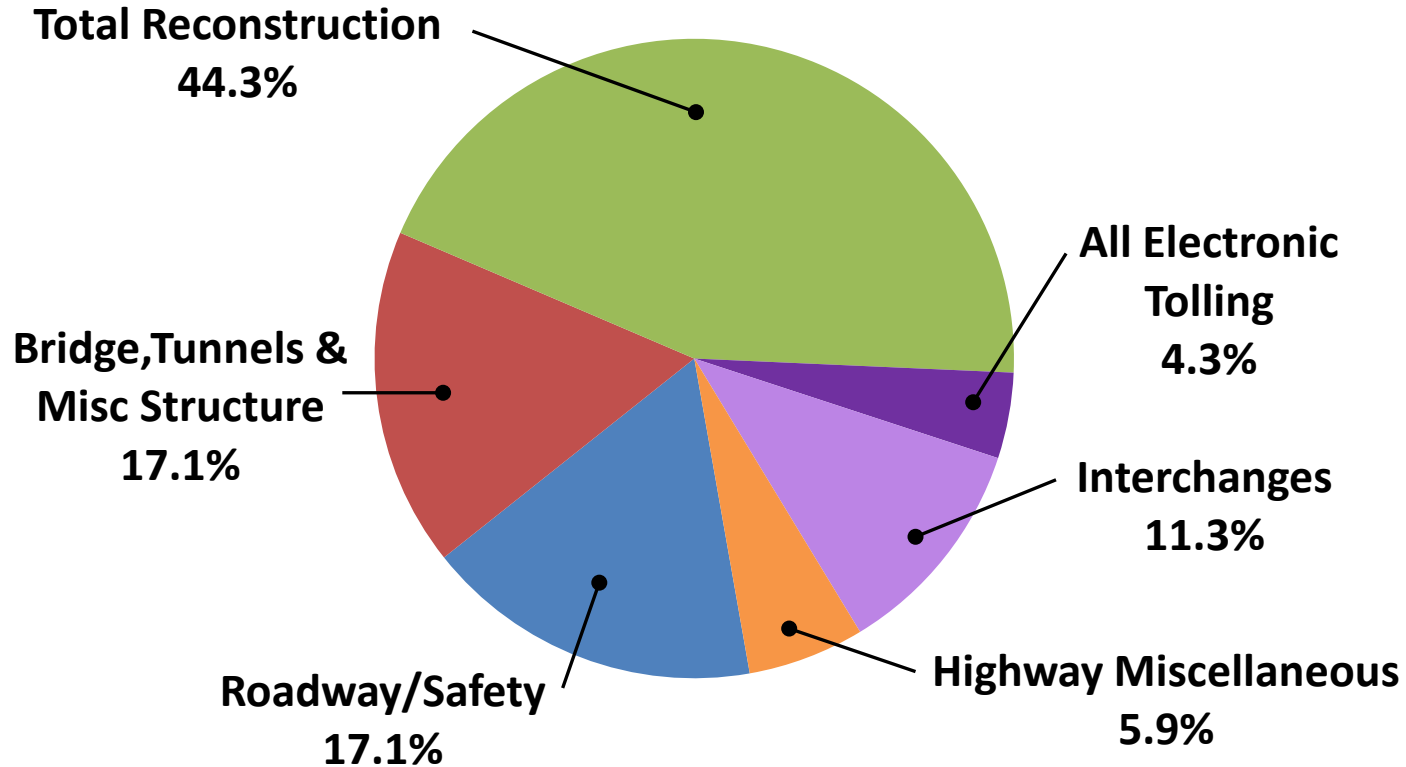
**Mindset of Excellence:**

Exemplifies asking, “Could this be done better?” in all work areas.

## FY 2026 Capital Plan 10 Year Program

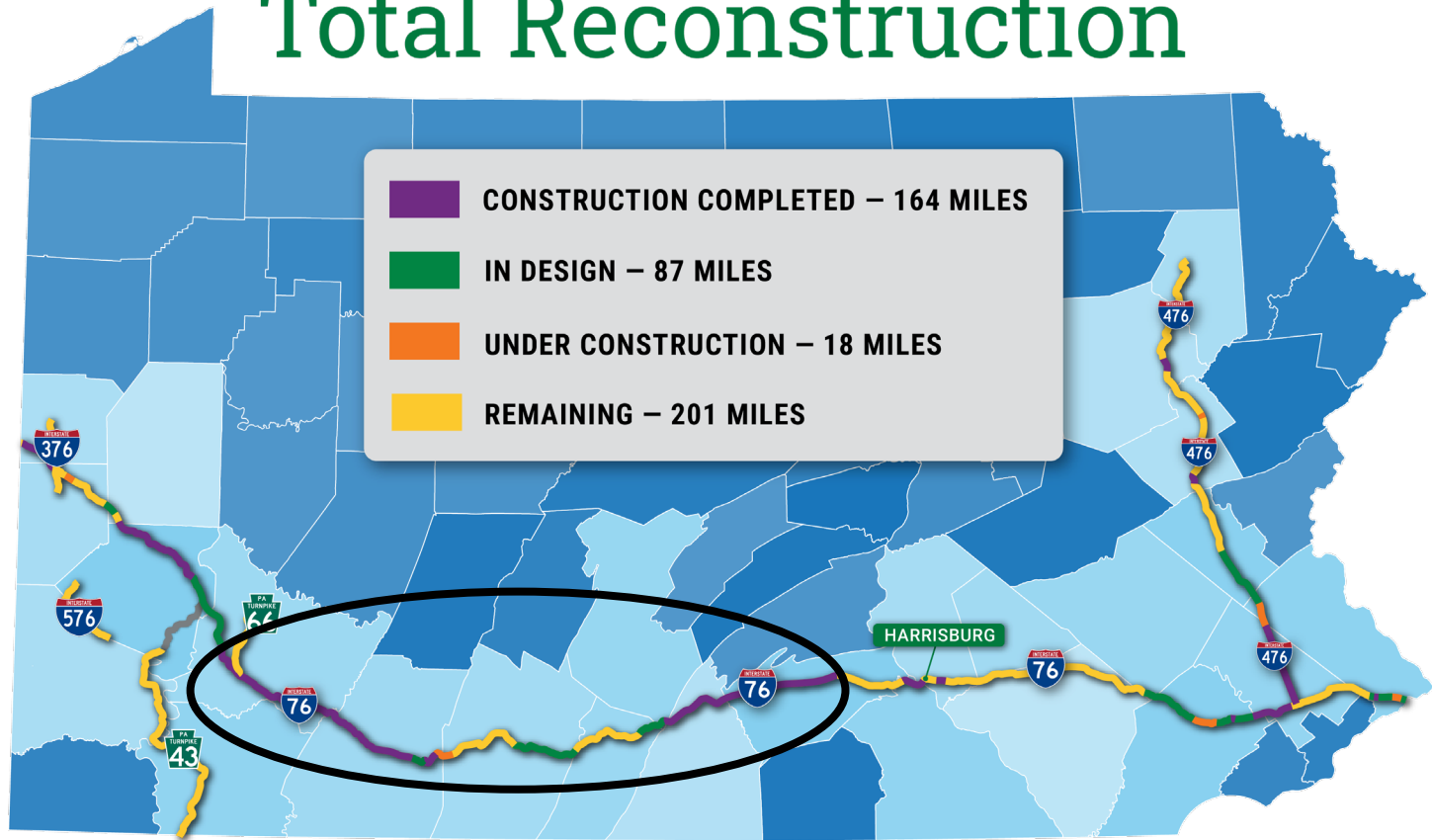


## FY 2026 Capital Plan - Highway Program





# Total Reconstruction



**“When we opened as  
America’s first  
superhighway, we set the  
national standards for  
interstate highway design  
and engineering. Open  
road tolling continues  
that legacy”**







## Meets customer expectation

- Clear preference for electronic tolling methods; 85%+ adoption of E-Z Pass
- National standard



## Increases access

- Built at a fraction of the cost of an interchange
- Increases ability to fulfill the access requests we receive from communities across the Commonwealth
- \$25 million in savings per year on operations and maintenance



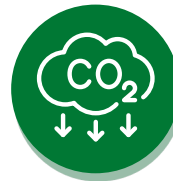
## Safer

- Eliminates confusion and lane switching at exit/entry



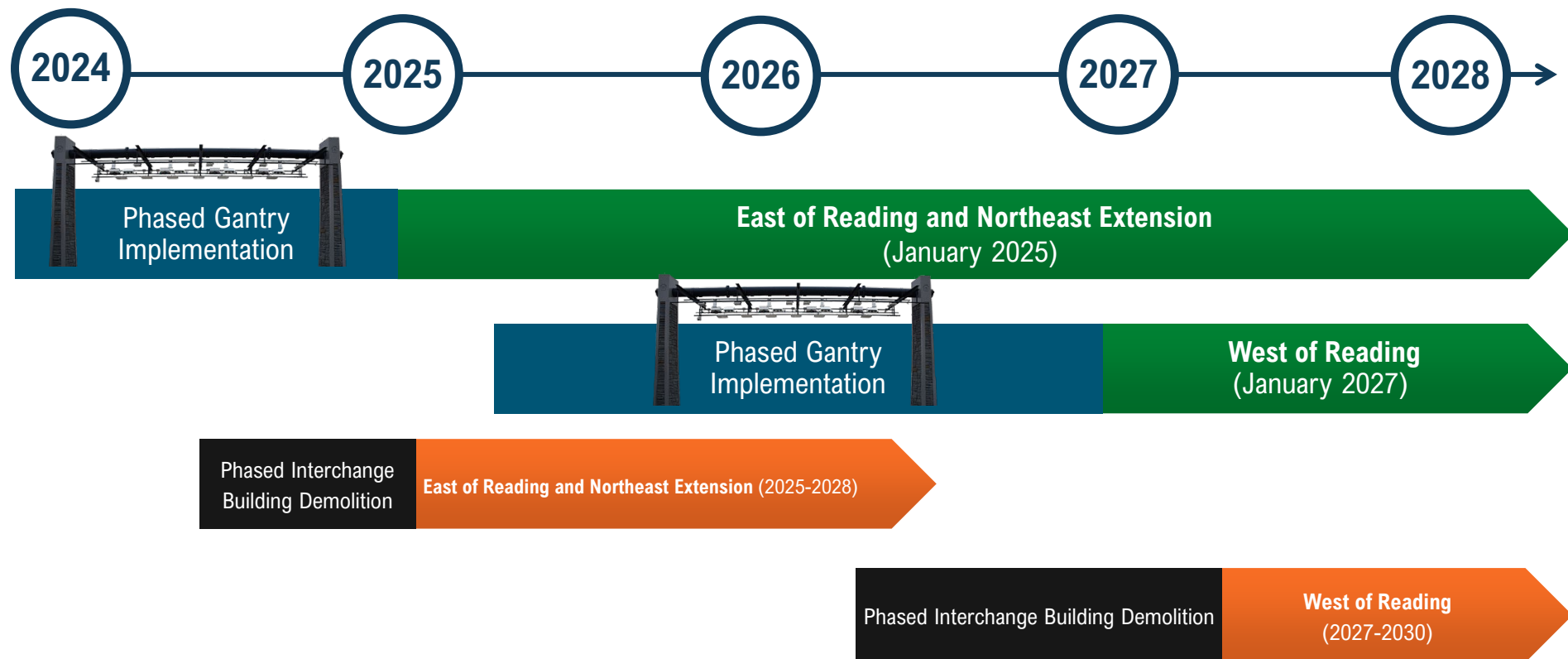
## Increases mobility

- Eliminates travel-time impacts of traditional tolling



## Better for the environment

- Continuous travel results in lower carbon emissions
- Smaller physical footprint



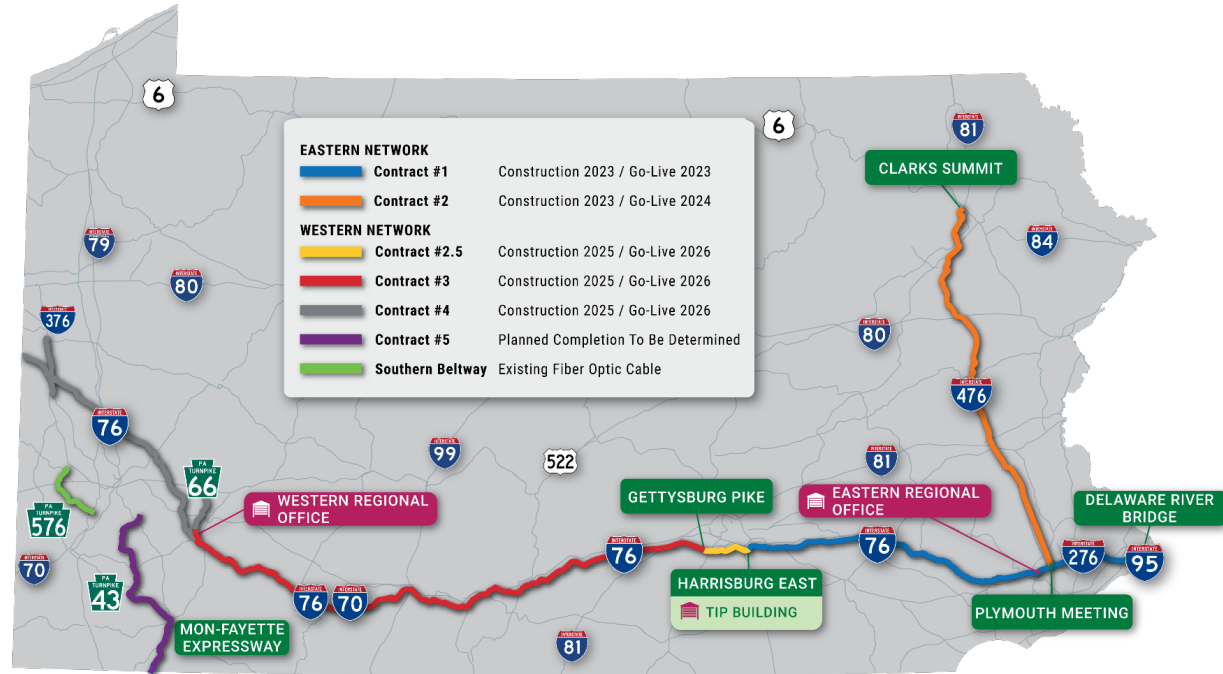
## Prior Efforts

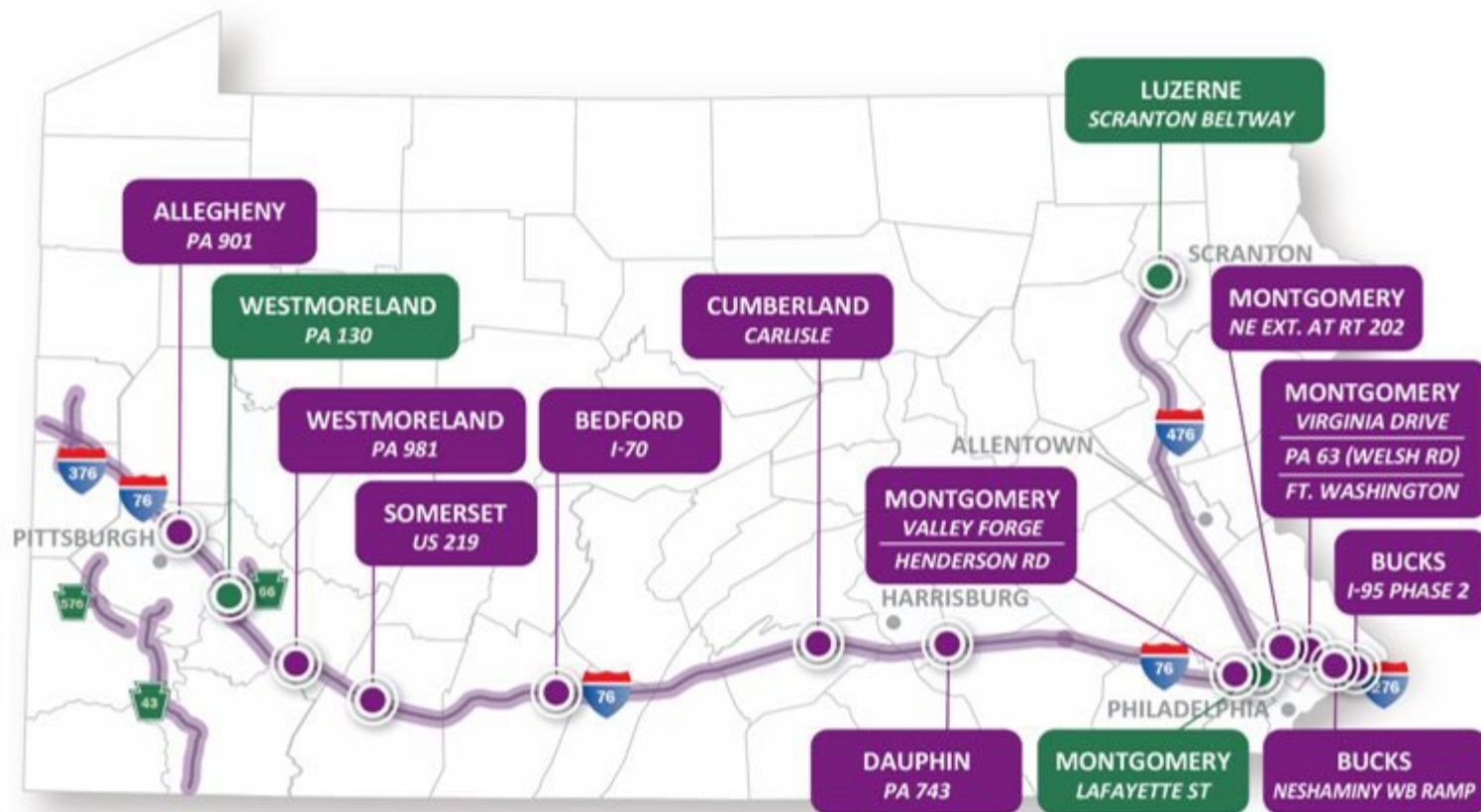
- Total Reconstruction – Early 2000s
- Public-Private-Partnership(P3) – 2016 to 2018

## Design Build

- Sections 1, 2 & 2.5– Operational
- Section 3 & 4 by end of 2026

## Operations, Maintenance and Commercialization





Constructing a trailhead to provide better access to this popular outdoor recreation area for our customers, truckers, and those in the local community.

- Expanded parking areas
- A pavilion with seating
- Expanded green space
- Bike repair stations
- Bike wash station
- Bike racks
- EV Bike Charging Stations
- Wayfinding signage
- Landscaping/planters







**NEW DRIVER**

## **WORK ZONE SAFETY PROGRAM**



Pennsylvania  
Department of Transportation

### **What's in the course?**

- ✓ Powerful testimonials from workers & drivers
- ✓ Safe driving behaviors
- ✓ Real-world driving scenarios
- ✓ PA work zone laws and regulations
- ✓ Interactive elements teaching work zone components and features
- ✓ Videos, quizzes, and more!



## **Available in English and Spanish!**

Visit:  
[PennDOT.pa.gov/WorkZoneSafety](https://PennDOT.pa.gov/WorkZoneSafety)



- Text messaging service to communicate about unexpected traffic backlogs
- Not for daily commuter traffic or construction
- Provides real-time, automated alerts about clearance times
- First for any transportation agency and is designed only for PA Turnpike customers.

## Unexpected Traffic Backlog?



# 47676

**TEXT INFO TO 47676 FOR UPDATES**

# Innovation Month

Commission has a major focus on Innovation

One of the PTC's core values

PTC Shark Tank highlights Innovation Month



# Intern Projects

CEO Interns – wide variety of backgrounds, come in each summer and are assigned a project

Engineering Interns – Work across the state in the Construction Engineering Department

Goal is to give them a positive, engaging varied experience

# Summer Intern Presentation

Samantha McHugh – Engineering Intern (2<sup>nd</sup> Summer)

Joey Richmond – CEO Intern

Matthew Siletta – Drexel University Co-op



# Proposed Solutions to Power Blue & Kittatinny Mountain Tunnels Microgrid

Summer 2025 Engineering Interns

Samantha McHugh

Joey Richmond

Matthew Siletta



# Proposed System Expected Annual Energy Output



Annual load of tunnels is assumed to be 6.6 GWh/year

	ENERGY GENERATION	LOAD COVERAGE
3 MW Solar (fixed-tilt)	3.6 – 3.8 GWh	55 – 57%
5 MW Solar (fixed-tilt)	6.0 – 6.3 GWh	91 – 95%
3 MW Wind	7.9 – 10.5 GWh	120 – 159%
5 MW Wind	13.1 – 17.5 GWh	198 – 265%
1 MW Solar + 3 MW Wind	9.5 – 12.3 GWh	144 – 185%

# Solar Investment Comparison

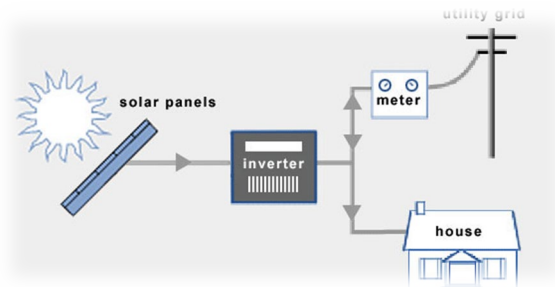
3 MW

5 MW

3 MW Systems	Fixed Tilt	Single Axis	Dual Axis
Total Solar Cost	\$1.23M - \$1.69M	\$1.66M - \$2.21M	\$2.07M - \$2.84M
Annual Expenses	\$36k - \$54k	\$45k - \$75k	\$60k - 90k
Annual Electric Saved	\$478k - \$482k	\$466k - \$589k	\$449k - \$628k
Payback Years	2.8 - 3.9 years	3.9 - 4.3 years	5.3 years
Lifespan	25 - 30 years	20 - 25 years	15 - 20 years
Total Expected Payback	\$9.82M - \$11.16M	\$6.76M - \$10.64M	\$3.76M - 7.92M
Annual Energy Output	3.6 - 3.8 GWh/year	3.5 - 3.7 GWh/year	3.4 - 3.6 GWh/year

These calculations only include solar components and excludes a backup power source. The payback time remains the same for each mounting type if the system is modified to 5 MW, but fixed tilt saves significantly more power and cost. The engineering interns recommend a 5 MW fixed tilt solar field unless 3 MW is the maximum power allowed.

# 3 MW vs 5 MW Fixed Tilt Solar & 2 MW Diesel Gen



Grid-tied solar microgrid with emergency diesel backup  
expected to run 12-20 hours per year during grid outages

	3 MW	5 MW
Total Cost	\$1.79M - \$2.78M	\$2.61M - \$3.9M
Annual Expenses	\$61k - \$114k	\$85k - \$150k
Annual Savings	\$478k - 482k	\$796k - \$804k
Payback Years	4.3 - 7.5 years	3.7 - 6.0 years
25 Year Payback	\$8.63M - \$6.43M	\$12.44M-\$15.18M

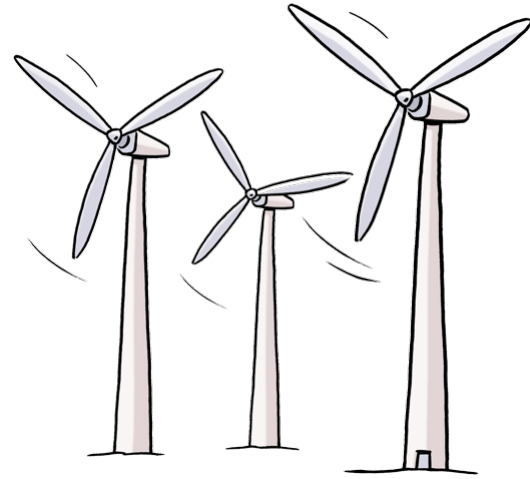
# Grid-Tied Solar with Emergency Backup

	3 MW Solar + Diesel	5 MW Solar + Diesel	3 MW Solar + BESS	5 MW Solar + BESS
Total Cost	\$1.79M – \$2.78M	\$2.61M – \$3.9M	\$4.2M - \$6.9M	\$5.02M - \$8.03M
Annual Expenses	\$61k – \$114k	\$85k – \$150k	\$69k - \$120k	\$93k - \$156k
Annual Savings	\$478k – 482k	\$796k – \$804k	\$478k – 482k	\$796k - \$804k
Payback Years	4.3 – 7.5 years	3.7 – 6.0 years	10.3 – 19.1 years	7.1 – 12.4 years
25 Year Payback	\$8.63M – \$6.43M	\$12.44M – \$15.18M	\$2.16M – \$6.02M	\$8.17M-\$12.57M

These calculations assume a 2 MW diesel generator will run 12-20 hours per year during grid outages and a 2 MW/6.6MWh BESS with a full power capacity of 4 hours to the tunnels. The interns recommend installing a 5 MW solar field to supply power to the tunnels, paired with a 2 MW diesel generator for use during grid outages. If a 5 MW system is not feasible due to budget and permitting constraints, they suggest a 3 MW solar field with the same 2 MW diesel generator backup.

# 5 MW Wind Turbine & Diesel Generator

- **5 MW Wind Turbine System backup by a 2 MW Diesel Generator**
- Predicted to generate 13.14 – 17.52 GWh/year
- Cost for diesel to run generator \$442/hour - \$510/hour
- 12-20 hours per year expected runtime of diesel generator
- 5 MW Wind Turbine Cost: \$3.30M - \$5.35M
- 2 MW Diesel Generator Cost: \$500k - \$1.1M



Total Cost	\$3.87M	\$6.44M
Yearly Expenses	\$105,000	\$140,000
Yearly Revenue	\$790,000	\$1.32M
Payback Years	2.6 years	3.3 years
20 Year Payback	\$25.76M	\$33.09M



# Wind Turbine + Solar & Diesel Generator

- **3 MW Wind Turbine System to primarily power tunnels with a 1 MW solar field to charge 2 MW Diesel Generator and sell all excess energy back to grid**
- If wind is down, system would run off solar and diesel
- 50-200 hours/year expected runtime of diesel generator
- Entire system predicted to generate 9.45-12.25 GWh/year
- Approximately 1,800 solar panels
- 2 MW Wind Turbine Cost: \$2.5M - \$3.65M
- 1 MW Solar Cost: \$5M – \$5.4M for approximately 1,800 solar panels
- 2 MW Diesel Generator Cost: \$550k - \$1.1M



Total Cost	\$8.16M	\$10.15M
Yearly Expenses	\$108,000	\$130,000
Yearly Revenue	\$409,000	\$430,000
Payback Years	7.4 years	9.3 years
20 Years Payback	\$11.76M	\$13.77M

# Investment Comparison

4-5 MW Systems	Wind & Diesel	Wind & BESS	Wind + Solar & Diesel	Wind + Solar & BESS
Total Cost	\$3.87M - \$6.44M	\$6.36M - \$10.65M	\$8.16M - \$10.15M	\$9.6M - \$12.26M
Annual Expenses	\$105k - \$140k	\$105k - \$130k	\$108k - 130k	\$113k - \$142k
Annual Revenue	\$790k - \$1.32M	\$790k - \$1.32M	\$409k - \$430k	\$345k - \$685k
Payback Years	2.6 – 3.3 years	4.3 - 5.4 years	7.4 – 9.3 years	9.2 – 9.3 years
20 Years Payback	\$25.76M – \$33.09M	\$27.3M - \$29.1M	\$11.76M – 13.77M	\$11M - \$14.5 M

These calculations assume a 2 MW diesel generator will run 12-20 hours per year during grid outages or a 2 MW/6.6MWh BESS with a full power capacity of 4 hours at a time to the tunnels. The engineering interns propose a 5 MW wind turbine with a 2 MW diesel generator as backup unless 3 MW is the maximum power allowed, then a 3 MW wind turbine system with a 2 MW diesel generator is recommended.

# Batricity

- Proposed deal with Batricity for **1 MWh for \$300,000** which may allow for BESS to enter back into the equation

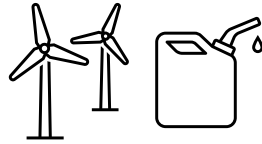
## Solutions



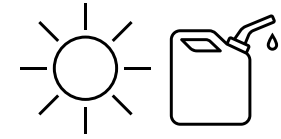
# 2 MW Diesel vs 2 MW Biodiesel



	DIESEL GENERATOR	BIODIESEL GENERATOR
Total Cost	\$565k - \$1.09 M	<b>\$610,000 - \$1.39M</b>
Hourly Cost for Fuel	\$442 - 510\$	\$416 - \$479
Expected Runtime	50 hours/year - 300 hours/year	50 hours/year - 300 hours/year
Expected Yearly Fuel Cost	\$22,100 - \$153,000	\$20,800 - \$143,700



# Proposed Solutions



## 5 MW Grid-Tied Wind Turbine + 2 MW Emergency Diesel Generator

### Purpose:

- Self-Sustainability: Designed to make the tunnels as self-sustainable as possible.
- Profit Generation: Potential to generate profit through excess energy production.

### Advantages:

- Renewable Energy: Utilizes wind, a reliable renewable resource.
- High Energy Output: Consistent energy production in windy conditions.
- Environmental Impact: Lower carbon footprint compared to fossil fuels.

### Challenges:

- Initial Cost: Higher upfront investment.
- Variable Output: Dependent on wind availability.
- Space Requirement: Requires a large area for installation.
- Net Metering Policies: need special approval up to 5

## 5 MW Grid-Tied Solar Fixed Tilt Solar Field + 2 MW Emergency Diesel Generator

### Purpose:

- Cost Reduction: Aims to reduce the operational costs of the tunnels quickly and easily.

### Advantages:

- Renewable Energy: Utilizes solar power, a renewable resource.
- Lower Initial Cost: Generally lower upfront investment compared to wind turbines.
- Predictable Output: More predictable energy production based on sunlight availability.

### Challenges:

- Efficiency: Lower efficiency in cloudy or rainy conditions, no energy production at night.
- Net Metering Policies: Need special approval up to 5 MW for microgrids or emergency systems.
- Smaller Investment: Longer and less payback.

# Takeaways from Presentation

Allowed freedom to explore alternatives, under direction of Keith Jack, Director of Facilities Operations

Three of them worked well in a team environment

When talking with them, they were excited about what they were doing. Felt they were doing something worthwhile

PTC looking at possibility of working this into the Tunnel rehab job, may see their work come to fruition

# CEO Interns Project

Solar Power Integrated Marketing Campaign

Faith Daniels

Keyur Nallani

Joey Richmond

Omar Rodriguez

Carley Strohecker

# CEO Interns Project

Project is done with guidance from PTC

PTC Communications lead the project this year

Present their project to PTC Executive staff and Commissioners at the end of the summer



# Solar Powered Integrated Marketing Campaign

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Faith Daniels, Keyur Nallani, Joey Richmond,  
Omar Rodriguez, & Carley Strohecker



August 5, 2025

**The purpose of the 2025 CEO Intern project is to research, analyze, and recommend an integrated marketing campaign to promote the PA Turnpike's integration of solar energy.**



RESEARCH



BRAND  
STRATEGY



INTERNAL &  
EXTERNAL  
MARKETING



GAME CHANGING  
IDEAS



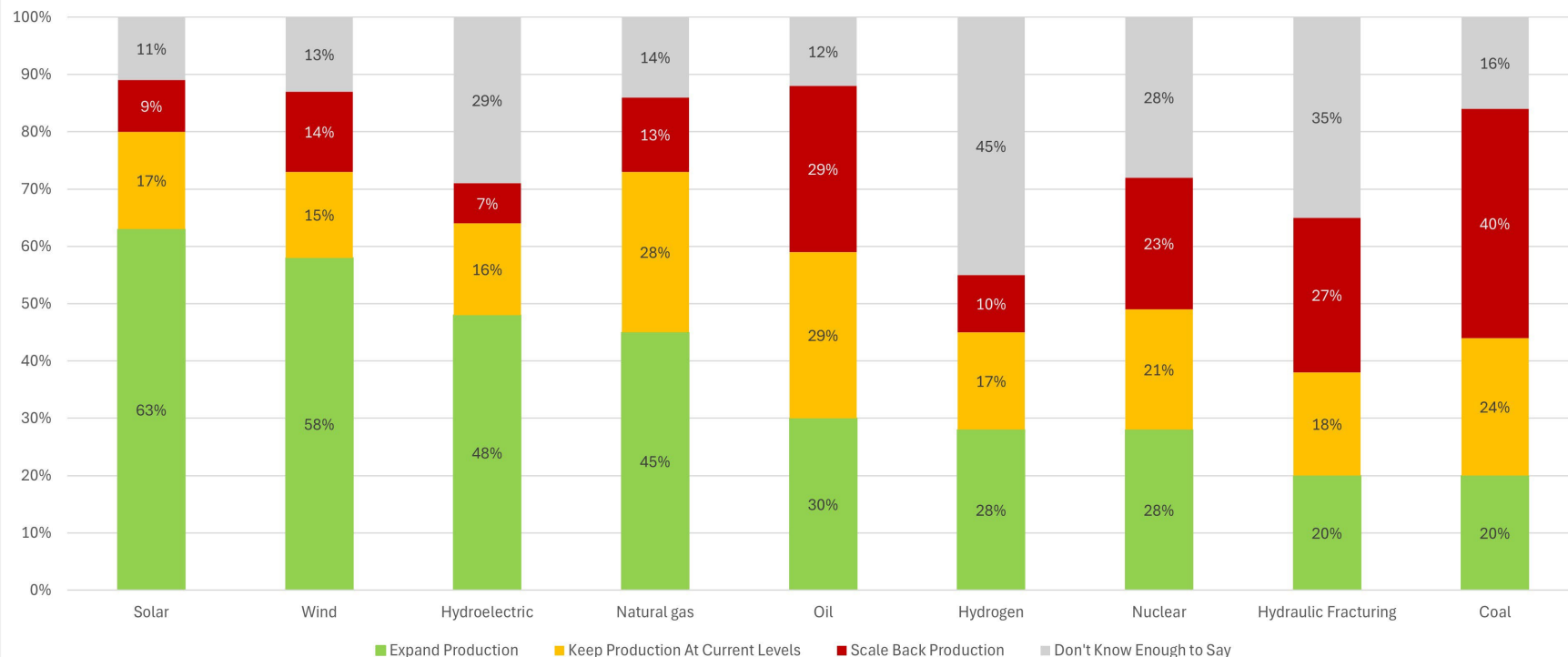
WHAT EXCITES  
US

# Research Phase

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Please indicate whether you believe the state of Pennsylvania should enact policies to expand the production of that type of energy, scale back production of that type of energy, or keep production of that type of energy at the current levels.



# Brand Strategy

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# Internal Communications

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# External Marketing

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## Instagram and Facebook



(Earned, Owned and Paid)

- Target audience
- ✓ Posts educating the public of solar energy
- ✓ Feature stories or testimonials
- ✓ Quizzes and polls

## Spotify and YouTube



(Earned, Owned and Paid)

- Balanced audience
- Location based advertising
- Video and audio
- ✓ Using time as an advantage

## Snapchat (Paid)



- Largest performing platform

## Reddit (Earned)

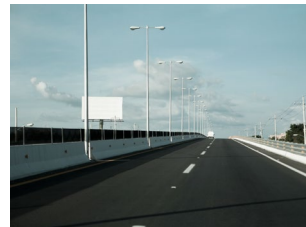


## Landing Page (Owned)

- ✓ Understanding our goals and future
- ✓ Supporting solar energy

## Billboard (Paid)

- Types of billboards
- Reaching the public



# Game Changing Ideas

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# Forza Platform & Gaming Technology

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## PA Turnpike E-Racing Platform

- Digital Turnpike Fleet
  - Branded EV Fleet (F-150, Mach-E, Rivian)
  - Branded Sports EVs (2024 Corvette E-Ray)
  - Branded Supercars (PA Turnpike Lamborghini)
  - Description metatags with QR Code and Links to PA Turnpike sustainability projects



- **Custom PA Turnpike Commission Racetracks**
  - Solar Field/Microgrid and Inductive Test Track
  - In-Game Billboards Showcasing Initiative
- **Time Trials with Turnpike-Based Rewards System**
  - Quarterly
  - Apparel, Food Vouchers, E-ZPass Bonuses

# Educational Outreach

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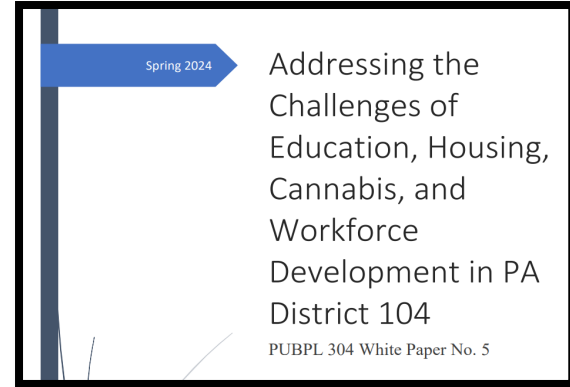


- Cumberland Valley (**Carley is a proud alum**) installed alpacas, emu, sheep to keep grass down around its solar arrays
  - ✓ 6 Alpacas, 6 Sheep, 1 Emu
  - ✓ 2-acre plot
- Could be installed along the turnpike as an education tool (**Harrison City**) for schools and universities
- Would be installed alongside solar microgrids placed along the Turnpike
- Being implemented at Somerset



## University of Pittsburgh

- GEOL 1333 and Pitt Green Fund
- Solar Picnic Tables
- Need for additional Capstone Sites



## Penn State University – Harrisburg Campus

- PUBPL 304 – Public Policy and Analysis
- 4 Groups: Education Funding, Housing, Cannabis, and Workforce Development
- Final Presentation and Report – State Rep. Dave Madsen

# Other PTC Innovations

## Mobile Lane Signaling (MLS) System

- Subcommittee on Work Zone Safety



*The Mobile Lane Signaling system can be set up at any work zone and near any event to help regulate traffic on the PA Turnpike.*



# MLS Device



# Other PTC Innovations



# Other PTC Innovations

## Installing SNAPs

- Invented at the Pa Turnpike
- Neal Wood, P.E.
- First installed in 1987 on a downgrade with a history of drift off accidents
- After 18 months, only 1 accident occurred, prompting installation systemwide and then nationwide

# Safety Reminder

End of Construction Season Rush to Complete Projects

- See increased Safety Incidents

Consultants that do work on our construction projects

- Safety needs to be their top priority
- If there is something unsafe, say something
- If ignored, move it up the escalation ladder



## SAFETY AT WORK

Sometimes it's really important!

# Access Gate Reminder

Consultants doing CM/CI please keep an eye out for abuse and report it if found

Remember to follow the policy

It is NOT permitted to open the gates for contractors or anyone else, aside from Emergency Responders and PSP

# Reminders from Kevin!

Younger Staff – Work into your training time, reduce Errors and Omissions.

Submission Quality – Need to continually work at providing quality submissions

Quality is EVERYONE's responsibility

# Thank You ACEC/PA

Michael Girman – President

Rosanna Smithnosky – President Elect

Eric Meyer – Vice President

Casey Moore – Treasurer

Anthony Dougherty – Secretary

Mark Markosky – Immediate Past President

Brent Sailhammer – Executive Director

Sarah Babski – Director Member Engagement/Meeting Planner



## Questions

*“One Man Can Be A Crucial Ingredient on a Team but One Man Cannot Make a Team”*

- Kareem Abdul-Jabbar