



Executive Summary

PENNSYLVANIA MOBILITY PLAN



The Pennsylvania Mobility Plan, our statewide long-range transportation plan, sets direction for transportation investment for 2006 through 2030.

The Mobility Plan VISION:

Provide the best performing transportation system for people, business, and places.



The Mobility Plan GOALS:

1. Move people and goods safely and securely.
2. Improve quality of life by linking transportation, land use, economic development, and environmental stewardship.
3. Develop and sustain quality transportation infrastructure.
4. Provide mobility for people, goods, and commerce.
5. Maximize the benefit of transportation investments.



Challenges and Opportunities

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) developed the Mobility Plan to be:

- **Responsive**...to federal and state policy
- **Supportive**...of economic growth and quality of life
- **Strategic**...in how we invest our time and money
- **Unified**...in the priorities we pursue
- **System-Oriented**...in supporting all modes
- **Collaborative**...in establishing and working toward a desired future direction
- **Focused**...on implementation and results

Pennsylvania's economy continues to evolve. We face growing congestion. The average age of our residents is increasing, and homes and workplaces are more spread out from city and town centers. Transportation funding falls short of transportation needs.

These and many other current challenges, as well as opportunities offered by technology, the global economy, and the broader "quality of life" factors considered in transportation planning today, make this an important time for strategic thinking and bold action.

The statewide long-range transportation planning process is an opportunity to consider what we would like life in Pennsylvania to be like in the future, how transportation can support that future, and how we can move toward that vision amid the trends and challenges we face today and are likely to face down the road.

The Pennsylvania Mobility Plan builds on the strengths of Pennsylvania's previous statewide long-range transportation plan, PennPlan MOVES!, and updates it for the 2006 through 2030 planning horizon. The Mobility Plan articulates a transportation vision and establishes five goals for achieving that vision.

Working collaboratively to achieve those goals will make transportation more multimodal, entrepreneurial, and collaborative, and will better link investment decisions with goals for Pennsylvania's economy and quality of life.



Mobility Plan Documents: One Plan, Four Parts

1 Summary	2 Direction	3 Implementation	4 User's Guide
Description:			
Provides highlights of the planning and implementation process and the three other plan documents.	Presents the broad direction for Pennsylvania transportation through a vision, goals, objectives, and strategies.	Details the actions for achieving plan strategies. Includes specific responsibilities and timelines for implementation.	Assists planning partners and other stakeholders in integrating the statewide long-range plan into their day-to-day work.
Most useful for:			
Those who want a quick overview of the Mobility Plan.	Those interested in a more detailed look at Pennsylvania's transportation priorities.	Those who want specifics on how the plan's strategies will be achieved.	Those involved in implementing the plan.

Unprecedented Public Involvement



17 focus groups provided their viewpoint on transportation priorities.



Telephone surveys of 751 Pennsylvanians and 250 PA businesses formed the basis of the transportation vision.



A Mobility Plan "Summit" considered feedback from 36 regional outreach meetings involving 800 people.

The Mobility Plan is a Pennsylvania plan, not strictly a PennDOT plan. PennDOT led the development of the Mobility Plan in partnership with the many entities that influence transportation in Pennsylvania, along with interested members of the general public.

A 75-member Development Team representing state and local government, businesses, and other organizations met at the start of the planning process and at key milestones to guide Mobility Plan development. The Development Team helped ensure that the plan's direction and implementation are "appropriately bold," address our most pressing needs, and are broadly supported across the state.

The general public had several formal and informal opportunities to participate throughout the two-year process. Focus groups, telephone and written surveys, workshops, and the project web site and online feedback forms encouraged individuals to contribute ideas and weigh in on statewide priorities.

As the plan's direction began to take shape in the form of a vision and supporting goals, objectives, and strategies, nearly 350 stakeholders participated in implementation workshops. These 20 workshops brought together representatives of organizations with a common focus—from bicycling advocates and environmental groups to real estate developers—to evaluate the Mobility Plan's direction and develop specific actions to effectively implement the plan's strategies.

In a state as diverse as Pennsylvania, many voices must be heard and difficult decisions must be made about how to best serve all Pennsylvanians. The Mobility Plan set a new precedent for public and stakeholder involvement in statewide long-range transportation planning.

Detailed web-based surveys of nearly 150 transportation stakeholders and public officials identified top transportation issues and tradeoffs.



Surveys on the project web site provided another means for the public and stakeholders to provide feedback.



14 transportation "visionaries" across the U.S. offered insight and ideas.



50 tourists from other states were interviewed, as were freight shippers and carriers and representatives of all modes.



20 implementation workshops involved 347 stakeholders in developing actions to implement the plan's direction.



The 75-member Development Team and its sub-committees met regularly throughout the two-year planning process.

This is truly Pennsylvania's plan.

From a Broad Vision to Specific Actions

The Mobility Plan VISION is to:
Provide the best performing transportation system for people, business, and places.

The Mobility Plan is developed in layers, from one broad, overarching vision through increasingly specific steps—goals, objectives, and strategies—to a list of nearly 90 actions that will carry us toward that vision.



General statements of direction for the entire transportation system

Specific outcomes to achieve under each goal

Specific programs, initiatives, or policies to achieve the stated objectives

Major tasks or steps required to implement strategies



Mobility Plan Goals & Objectives

Goal 1: Move people and goods safely and securely.

- Reduce the number of fatalities and crashes.
- Ensure the uninterrupted operation of vital transportation services.

Goal 2: Improve quality of life by linking transportation, land use, economic development, and environmental stewardship.

- Direct resources to support economic and community development.
- Integrate land use and transportation.
- Preserve natural, historical, and cultural resources.
- Promote energy conservation.

Goal 3: Develop and sustain quality transportation infrastructure.

- Advance a program to achieve desired maintenance cycles.
- Accelerate the use of innovative construction techniques, better materials, and improved maintenance practices.

Goal 4: Provide mobility for people, goods, and commerce.

- Improve connectivity and accessibility throughout the transportation network.
- Improve transportation system operating efficiency.
- Improve transportation system reliability.

Goal 5: Maximize the benefit of transportation investments.

- Improve transportation investment decision-making.
- Focus statewide planning and investments on a Core PA Transportation System.
- Secure funding to preserve Pennsylvania's transportation infrastructure and to make strategic capacity improvements.
- Improve project delivery to expedite project development and reduce cost.

Breakthroughs: Shifts in How PennDOT Does Business

The Mobility Plan also identifies four “breakthroughs” that are essential to successful implementation:

- Improving guidance and planning linkages
- Implementing a Core PA Transportation System
- Implementing Smart Transportation
- Encouraging institutional change to support plan direction

Each breakthrough is discussed in Part 2 of the Mobility Plan, the Direction Document.





From Objectives to Strategies

Each objective is further defined by supporting strategies. The example below presents one of the Goal 4 objectives and its three strategies:

Goal 4: Provide mobility for people, goods, and commerce.

Objective 4-A: Improve connectivity and accessibility throughout the transportation network.

- Strategy 4-1: Expand cost-effective transportation options for all Pennsylvanians.
- Strategy 4-2: Invest in technologies that improve connectivity.
- Strategy 4-3: Implement PennDOT's Transportation System Operations Plan (TSOP) to reduce congestion while improving safety.

For more detail on the vision, goals, objectives, and strategies, see Part 2 of the Mobility Plan, the Direction Document.

The Implementation Plan: Action!

Part 3 of the Mobility Plan, the Implementation Plan, translates the plan's general direction into specific actions. It identifies parties with lead and support roles in implementing the actions, along with timeframes and expected results.

In all, the Implementation Plan contains nearly 90 actions that will lead Pennsylvania closer to its vision of a best performing transportation system for people, business, and places.

Certain actions will be implemented immediately and others will be implemented gradually. Similarly, while some actions are expected to produce near-term measurable results, others will produce gradual advancement over 10 or more years.

Sample actions are shown on the following page.



Sample Mobility Plan Actions

Sample Action Item

When fully implemented, this means...

Build upon a major bridge rehabilitation initiative for Pennsylvania.

Renewed emphasis will be placed on repair of Pennsylvania's aging bridges to ensure mobility and safety.

Use infrastructure condition and performance data as the primary basis for prioritizing transportation investments.

The transportation infrastructure most in need of improvement will be fixed first.

Advance a comprehensive statewide initiative to identify priority goods movement investments, operating improvements, and related partnering opportunities.

PennDOT will develop a plan to improve freight movement through and within Pennsylvania.

Support non-traditional service delivery methods for human/social services transportation.

PennDOT will support the efforts of other state agencies to better coordinate paratransit service (such as special bus transportation for the elderly or disabled to medical appointments) across human service organizations.

Reinforce the Keystone Principles and Criteria through regional long-range transportation plans, county and municipal comprehensive plans, and Transportation Improvement Programs.

Transportation will be better linked with economic development, environmental stewardship, and land use. For more information on the Commonwealth's Keystone Principles and Criteria, see www.landuseinpa.com.

Expand the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank's capitalization to leverage funding for public and private investment.

PennDOT will seek additional funds to help accelerate transportation projects.



Moving Forward through Partnership

Part 4 of the Mobility Plan, the User's Guide, assists PennDOT staff and other transportation professionals in integrating the plan's directions into day-to-day work activities, including strategic planning, regional and county transportation and land use planning, project evaluation and prioritization, and coordination among modes. Guidance focuses on desired project outcomes, and includes techniques to enhance communication and coordination among entities.

Implementation efforts will be monitored and updated annually, ensuring accountability while providing flexibility for adjustments. The Mobility Plan's Implementation Plan—the action level of the plan—is being integrated into PennDOT's strategic planning effort. Tracking the implementation and completion of the plan's many actions (which include timelines and responsible parties) will become part of PennDOT's business planning process. Progress will be reported annually.

A State of the System report will also be produced annually. It will focus on the performance of the transportation system as a whole, rather than on a checklist of Mobility Plan actions. The State of the System will analyze progress toward outcomes sought through Mobility Plan objectives. Those outcomes may be influenced by, but not directly controlled by, PennDOT. Still, they are vital indicators of how well we are achieving the vision of a best-performing system, and what adjustments, if any, are needed to sharpen our focus and produce stronger results.

The Mobility Plan seeks to produce major progress for improving each transportation mode and the integrated system. The foundation for all progress from this point forward is partnership.

**Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
Center for Program Development and Management
c/o Statewide Planning
P.O. Box 3365
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3365
phone: 717-787-2862**