

October 2022 Newsletter



PennDOT Efficiencies and Innovations

PennDOT continuously evaluates operations to find opportunities to save time and money, streamline processes, apply updated technology and enhance collaboration and transparency.

The Department has saved nearly \$100 million over the past five years by instituting organizational efficiency practices, like \$38.5 million saved by using lower-cost materials for secondary roads and \$10 million saved by implementing efficiency improvements identified by PennDOT employees.*

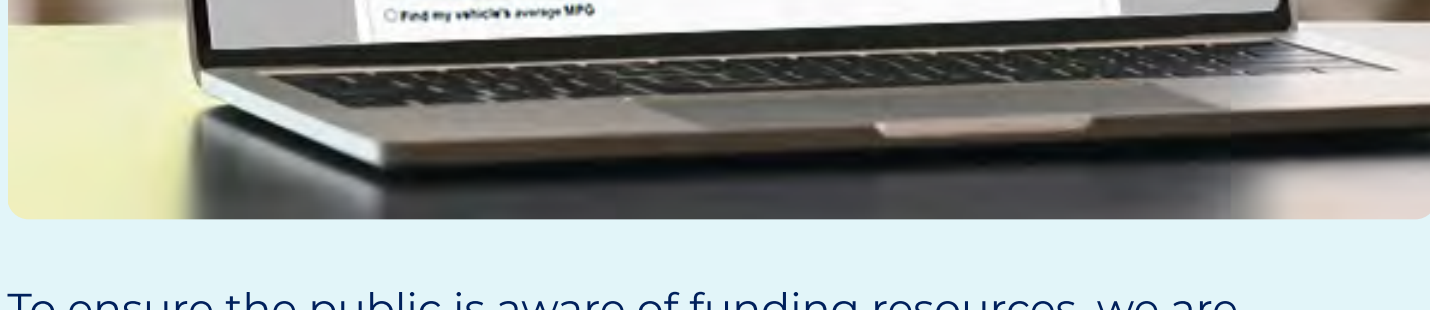
[PennDOT's 2021 Efficiencies Report](#) provides 88 other examples of improvements and streamlining costs.

Stories of innovation at PennDOT are updated in the [PennDOT Way blog's "Innovations" section](#), like advancements in winter maintenance, innovations in bridge longevity, success of roundabouts and diverging diamonds and many other advancements.

While working toward funding solutions and operational improvement, PennDOT projects and construction contracts are ongoing at the local level. [PennDOT's Results webpage](#) provides updated statistics on both statewide projects and those in your district.

**Source: Transportation Revenue Options Commission Report, August 2021.*

Funding Focus: Interactive Information on the Internet



To ensure the public is aware of funding resources, we are featuring new and interactive components on [the funding section of our website](#). We've added interactive tools to educate and inform drivers on a variety of potential transportation funding solutions as we continue to explore alternative options to phase out the gas tax.

This month, we are featuring the [MBUF Gas Tax Comparison Calculator](#). Use this interactive feature to find out what your estimated monthly costs might be if the state gas tax is replaced with a Mileage-Based User Fee model.

Let us know what you think about these new features and the potential alternative transportation funding solutions they focus on. You can submit comments or questions through the form on the [Contact Us page of our website](#) or email us at PennDOTPathways@pa.gov.



Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Funding

PennDOT to Distribute to Pennsylvania Businesses and Organizations

PennDOT will host [an informational webinar about the 2022 National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure \(NEVI\) Grant Program](#) on **Tuesday, November 1, 2022**, from 10 a.m. to noon for all audiences interested in applying for the matched PennDOT grant program funds. The NEVI Program provides resources to help support and build the infrastructure needed for the growing number of Electric Vehicles (EVs) on our roads. PennDOT will receive and distribute more than \$171.5 million over the next five years from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). In the first fiscal year, **[\\$25.4 million will be available in matched grants for PA businesses and organizations](#)**.

"The NEVI program will help Pennsylvania build out its EV charging infrastructure," said PennDOT Secretary Yassmin Gramian. "As this is a new program for Pennsylvania and the nation at large, we want to give our partners and businesses as much opportunity as possible to prepare for application submission to support our efforts of transparency and equity."

The event will include an overview of the PennDOT NEVI grant program, as well as information on eligibility, types of projects funded, how to apply, eligible and non-eligible costs and application best practices. PennDOT plans to issue a formal notice for the grant program in late 2022 or early 2023.

In the News

Pennsylvania is not alone in examining alternative funding sources as fuel taxes become a less reliable method to fund transportation needs. The [Pathway's July 2022 Newsletter](#) highlighted several states facing similar challenges and their alternative funding efforts. Here are examples of how Virginia and Wisconsin are exploring potential solutions to address the sustainability of their transportation funding.

• **Virginia's Mileage Choice: [Virginians can pay new fee by the mile to boost gas tax - The Washington Post](#)**

The Mileage Choice program launched in July. It is a voluntary option for drivers of eligible vehicles to pay their highway use fee on a per-mile basis at the time of registration renewal instead of an annual highway use fee. According to [a spokeswoman for the program](#), the launch of the program has been extremely successful with more than 1,800 people signing up in the first two weeks.

• **Wisconsin's Flex Lanes: [Flex Lanes have cut Beltline travel times by 30% - Channel3000.com](#)**

Also in July, a Flex Lane was opened to ease backups and improve traffic flow on Madison Wisconsin's Beltline (US 12/18), one of the state's busiest highways. Flex lanes are only used during peak traffic times, during incidents like crashes or for special events. Data has shown that travel time reliability has improved along the Beltline by 30 minutes.

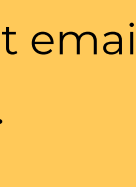
For more information about PennDOT Pathways, visit our website at penndot.pa.gov/funding.

Want to share information on your social or digital platforms?

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Website Comment Form: [Click here](#)



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