

Chapter 2

# Introduction

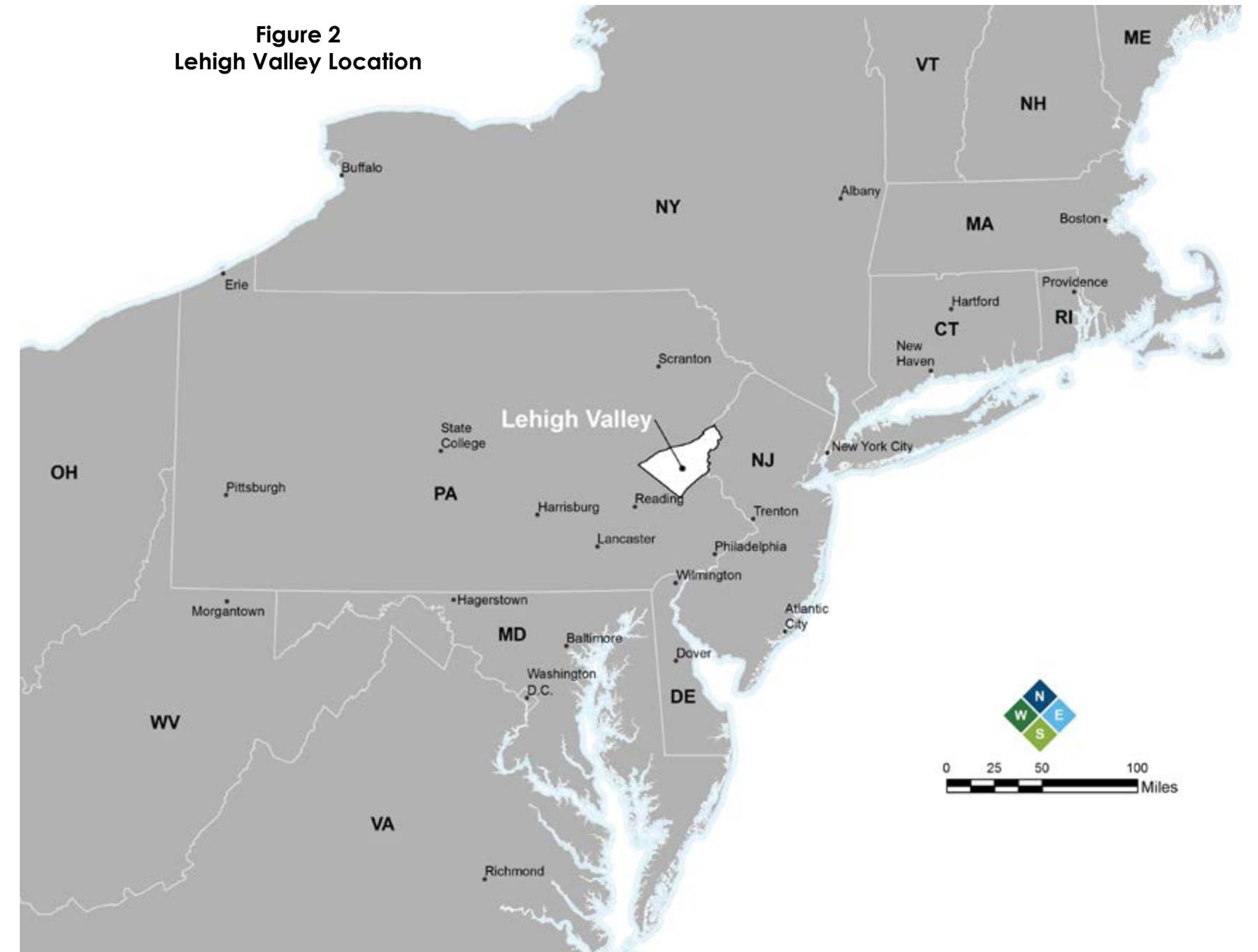
Freight loaded at L+M Fabrication in Bath

The Lehigh Valley region, situated in eastern Pennsylvania, is comprised of 62 municipalities in Lehigh and Northampton counties. Historically, the transportation system within the region has played a critical role in the development of the Lehigh Valley, and a significant section of the local economy relies on the efficient movement of freight across this system. However, the dynamic nature of land use periodically redefines how the transportation network is used. As the region continues to grow and evolve, it is important to assess the current transportation system in order to provide a better understanding of future needs.

This document establishes an inventory of freight transportation assets within the Lehigh Valley based on a review of the following public documents:

- *Lehigh Valley Rail Freight Study 2007* (August 2007)
- *Lehigh Valley Surface Transportation Plan 2011-2030* (October 2010)
- The National Highway System Map produced by PennDOT Bureau of Planning and Research (January 14, 2013)
- *2007 State Aviation System Plan (SASP) Update* (2007)
- Lehigh Valley International Airport, *Airport Master Plan* (2004)
- PennDOT's *Pennsylvania Highway Statistics 2012 Highway Data* (September 2013)
- *Pennsylvania Intercity Passenger and Freight Rail Plan* (February 2010)
- The Pennsylvania STRAHNET Routes map produced by PennDOT Bureau of Planning and Research (October 24, 2012)
- Truck Parking In Pennsylvania, produced by the Pennsylvania State Transportation Advisory Committee (December 2007)
- Lehigh Valley International Airport (LVIA) website: <http://flylvia.com/AboutLNAA.html>
- Lehigh Valley Planning Commission website: <http://www.lvpc.org>
- PennDOT website: <http://www.dot.state.pa.us>; and
- PennDOT Maintenance Division website: <http://www.papostedroads.pa.gov>.

**Figure 2  
Lehigh Valley Location**



Further detailed information has been obtained through interaction with the following key freight stakeholders:

- Becky Bradley  
Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC)
- Brian Wall  
PennDOT Central Office
- Ray Green  
PennDOT Central Office
- Darren Betters  
Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority (LNAA)
- Charles Everett  
LNAA
- Jesse Moose  
Norfolk Southern (NS)
- Owen O'Neil  
Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority (LANta)
- Jack Pfunder  
Manufacturers Resource Center (MRC)
- Rodney Rehnert  
PennDOT District 5-0
- Pat Sabatino  
Lehigh Valley Rail Management (LVRM)
- Wendy Schlappich  
Rep. Julie Harhart's office
- Jarrett Witt  
Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC)
- Kerry Wrobel  
Lehigh Valley Industrial Park (LVIP)
- Michelle Young  
Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce (GLVCC)



Train yard near Route 412 in Bethlehem viewed from Lynn Avenue Bridge