



Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

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LV Communities Get \$5.1 Million for Pedestrian Safety Projects

Seven Lehigh Valley communities will be benefiting from state grants designed to make their streets, neighborhoods, trails and development projects more welcoming to pedestrians, bicyclists and people with disabilities.

Grants from the Multimodal Transportation Fund were approved in November for safety improvement projects in Albutis Borough, Coopersburg Borough, Easton, Fountain Hill Borough, Lower Macungie Township, Macungie Borough and Upper Saucon Township.

The \$5.1 million in Lehigh Valley area grants were part of nearly \$80 million in grants approved for 141 projects in 42 counties across the state.

“Supporting Pennsylvania’s infrastructure supports our communities and our economy,” said Governor Wolf. “By making infrastructure investments in projects across the commonwealth, we will make it easier for commuters to get to and from work safely, and for businesses to transport their goods efficiently. These are investments with far-reaching impacts.”

The Multimodal Transportation Fund was established by Act 89 in 2013 to fund road, bridge trail, rail, traffic safety and public transportation projects. With nearly \$500 billion in goods and services moving through Pennsylvania every year, dependable infrastructure is vital for promoting economic development, while also improving conditions for residents and visitors, Wolf said.

The Lehigh Valley Planning commission staff assists the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in reviewing applications to the Multimodal Transportation Funding, supporting the implementation of the transportation for the region.

Lehigh Valley projects approved for grants were in:

- Albutis – \$726,000 for sidewalk replacement, stormwater runoff improvements and accessibility enhancements and road improvements along Lockridge Lane, Roberts Street and Second Street.
- Coopersburg – \$1 million for sidewalk, road and pedestrian safety improvements. Provco Pinegood Coopersburg, LLC will complete roadway and pedestrian improvements to include turning lanes, accessibility ramps and signal upgrades along the intersection of Passer Road and Route 309, in association with the construction of a Wawa convenience store

- Easton – \$1.33 million to improve connections from city neighborhoods to the Karl Stirner Arts Trail, including developing alternative transportation links throughout the Bushkill Drive corridor, better connecting to Bushkill Drive, transforming a railroad trestle into a pedestrian bridge, and adding sidewalks, bike paths, streetlights and landscaping. The proposed improvements will promote a balanced transportation system that allows residents, workers, and visitors to choose their preferred transportation mode.
- Fountain Hill - \$1 million for safety improvements along Broadway, including sidewalk replacement, new accessibility ramps and storm sewer repairs. The project will replace missing and deteriorated curbs and sidewalks, install accessibility upgrades to driveway aprons within the pedestrian route, replace a deteriorating culvert on Broadway near the intersection of Dodson Street, and perform storm sewer repairs.
- Lower Macungie – \$677,719 for improvements in the area around the proposed new headquarters of Air Products and Chemicals Inc., in Lower Macungie Township. Air Products will be constructing offsite improvements to satisfy improvements required from a land development approval Traffic Impact Study. The work will include signal and timing changes to three existing traffic lights, extending turning lanes and adding sidewalks along portions of Mill Creek Road and Grange Road.
- Macungie -- \$450,000 for Main Street streetscape improvement to include new sidewalks, 72 new streetlights, 50 trees, decorative brick pavers, landscaping and signage along Main Street, from Lea Street to Chestnut Street.
- Upper Saucon Township -- \$1 million for improvements to the intersection of Passer Road and Route 309, including new turning lanes, road widening, upgraded traffic signals and improved pedestrian accessibility.

A complete list of Multimodal Transportation Fund projects approved at this month can be found at https://dced.pa.gov/library/?wpdmc2=approved_projects/.