

**Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Member
Designated Projects – Member Day Testimony for Rep. Fred
Keller**

April 14, 2021

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. I
APPRECIATE YOU HOLDING THIS
HEARING TO GO OVER SOME OF
THE PRIORITY TRANSPORTATION
PROJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED AS
PART OF THE UPCOMING
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION
REAUTHORIZATION ACT.

PENNSYLVANIA'S 12TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
INCLUDES 15 COUNTIES, EACH
FACING ITS OWN UNIQUE
INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES.
I WOULD LIKE TO TOUCH ON A
FEW PRIORITIES THAT ARE
IMPORTANT TO THE PEOPLE OF
PA-12.

FIRST IS A PROJECT IN
WOODWARD TOWNSHIP NEAR
LOCK HAVEN ON STATE ROUTE
1001 ON FARRANDSVILLE ROAD.
THE GOAL IS TO CONSTRUCT A
RETAINING WALL WITH
SIDEWALK FROM THE JAY
STREET BRIDGE TO THE LOWER
PORTION OF THE WOODWARD
TOWNSHIP PARK AREA.

THE AREA HAS BEEN UNSAFE
FOR QUITE SOME TIME AND IS IN
DESPERATE NEED OF
ATTENTION.

A GUIDE RAIL PROTECTING
VEHICLES FROM A STEEP DROP
TO THE RIVER ON ONE SIDE AND
A STEEP ROCK FACE ON THE
OTHER PRESENTS UNNECESSARY
DANGERS FOR PEDESTRIANS
AND TRAFFIC COMING THROUGH
THE AREA ON THEIR WAY TO
THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER,

SPORTS FIELDS, AND
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT WILL
WIDEN STATE ROUTE 1001,
REALIGN AND IMPROVE
INTERSECTION SIGHT LINES,
UPGRADE PAVEMENT
CONDITIONS, AND ADD A FOUR
FOOT SHOULDER ON EACH SIDE.

ANOTHER PRIORITY IS THE
CENTRAL SUSQUEHANNA
VALLEY THROUGHWAY IN
SNYDER COUNTY, WHICH IS ONE
OF THE LARGEST
TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN
PENNSYLVANIA.

THIS ONGOING PROJECT NEEDS
STRONG FEDERAL INVESTMENT
FOR EARTHWORK AND
CONTINUED CONSTRUCTION IN
THE SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH
TO JUST NORTH OF
KRATZERSVILLE ROAD IN
WINFIELD.

SUCH INVESTMENT WOULD
IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS
AND SPUR ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
IN THE SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS
MY SUPPORT FOR A HIGHWAY
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT ON
ATHERTON STREET IN STATE
COLLEGE BOROUGH, PATTON
AND HARRIS TOWNSHIPS, IN
CENTRE COUNTY.

THE PROJECT IN QUESTION
WOULD IMPROVE THE DRAINAGE
SYSTEM AND EXISTING
PAVEMENT. IT WOULD ALSO
INCLUDE MINOR WIDENING,
TRAFFIC SIGNAL WORK, AND THE

INSTALLATION OF CCTV
CAMERAS TO AID IN
INTEGRATED CORRIDOR
MANAGEMENT.

ADDITIONALLY, A PROJECT THAT
RUNS THROUGH LOYALSOCK
AND ELDRED TOWNSHIPS ALONG
WARRENSVILLE ROAD HAS
NEEDED ATTENTION FOR SOME
TIME. THE EMBANKMENT FAILED
IN 2019 AND HAS SINCE BEEN
SHUT DOWN DUE TO SAFETY
CONCERNS. SINCE THAT TIME,

RESIDENTS HAVE HAD TO
TRAVEL ALONG A 10-MILE
DETOUR AROUND THIS CLOSURE.
FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT
WOULD GO A LONG WAY
TOWARD IMPROVING SAFETY
AND REDUCING FLOOD RISK IN
THE COMMUNITY.

ALSO OF NOTE ARE SEVERAL
PROJECTS IN LYCOMING AND
CLINTON COUNTIES THAT WILL
UPGRADE THE BUS AND SERVICE
VEHICLE FLEET AND INSTALL
COVERING TO PROTECT THESE
VEHICLES AND EXTEND THEIR
USEFUL LIFE, THEREBY
ALLOWING THESE AREAS TO
MAKE THE MOST OUT OF THIS
PUBLIC INVESTMENT.

FINALLY, I WOULD ADD THAT
THE VALUE OF BUILD OR RAISE
GRANTS CANNOT BE
OVERSTATED FOR THE
COMMUNITIES IN PA-12.

SINCE 2009, THE PROGRAM HAS
AIDED 678 PROJECTS IN ALL 50
STATES. THE PROGRAM ENABLES
COMMUNITIES TO LEVERAGE
FUNDING TO MAKE MEANINGFUL
INVESTMENTS IN THEIR LOCAL
INFRASTRUCTURE LEADING TO
GREATER ECONOMIC

DEVELOPMENT, WHICH IS
ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT FOR
RURAL AREAS LIKE THOSE I AM
PROUD TO REPRESENT.

MAKING SURE THAT MUCH
NEEDED INFRASTRUCTURE
PROJECTS ARE ABLE TO GET THE
ASSISTANCE THEY NEED IS A
STRONG BIPARTISAN OBJECTIVE.

I HOPE THIS COMMITTEE AND
THE DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION WILL

CONTINUE TO LEND SUPPORT TO
THIS IMPORTANT PROGRAM.

THANK YOU AND I YIELD BACK.