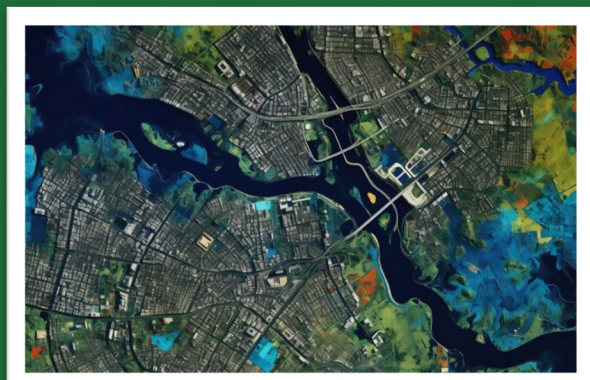
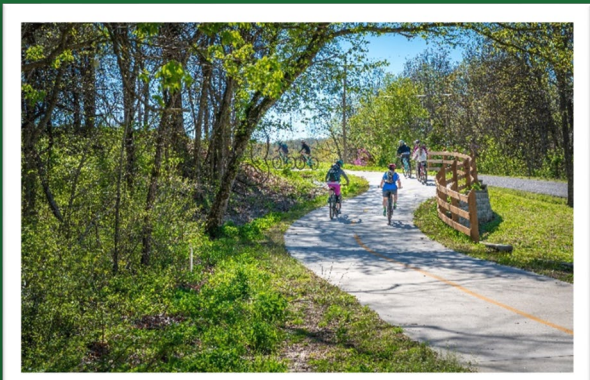
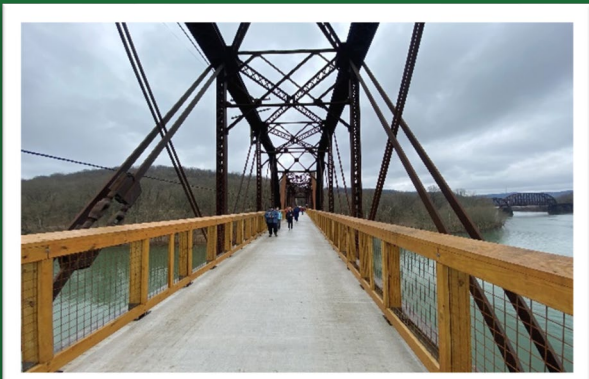
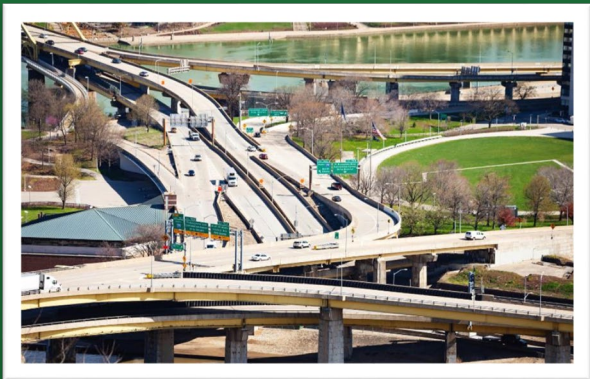


# Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation



# Commission Executive Committee & Corporation Board of Directors

April 22, 2024

3 p.m.



# Opening Agenda Items

## Call to Order

- Quorum
  - Conflict of Interest
- Declarations on Action  
Items

## Action on Minutes from February 26, 2024 Meeting

## Public Comment



**Action Item: Resolution 1-24  
Proclaim May as National Bike Month in SWPA**

**Leann Chaney, Sr. Active Transportation Coordinator**

**Agenda Item: 4**



# May is National Bike Month

LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS

*presents*

**BIKE  
MONTH**

**MAY 2024**

**NAT'L RIDE A BIKE DAY • SUN MAY 5**

**BIKE TO WORK WEEK • MAY 13-19**

**BIKE TO WORK DAY • FRI MAY 17**



[BIKELEAGUE.ORG/BIKEMONTH](https://bikeleague.org/bikemonth)



# SPC Bike + Walk to Work Day...since 2016



# Yellow GOAT Bike Club



Panhandle Trail  
4.27  
Meet-Up:  
McDonald

Coal + Coke Trail  
6.22  
Meet-Up:  
Mt. Pleasant

Great Allegheny Passage  
7.27  
Meet-Up:  
Homestead

Sheepskin Trail  
8.24  
Meet-Up:  
Point Marion

Westmoreland Heritage Trail  
9.28  
Meet-up:  
Murrysville

Armstrong Trail  
10.26  
Meet-Up:  
Schenley



Yellow GOAT Bike Club  
Ride Schedule 2024

# Proud to be a Bicycle Friendly Business



The League of American Bicyclists recognizes the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission as a Silver level Bicycle Friendly Business, earning it a place alongside over 1,450 businesses contributing to the movement to build a more Bicycle Friendly America.



# Resolution 1-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION to proclaim May 2024 as “National Bike Month” in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

WHEREAS, throughout the month of May, Southwestern Pennsylvania, will celebrate biking and the freedom, the joy, and the well-being it imbues within us, as well as the power that more people riding bikes has in making life better for everyone; and

WHEREAS, May 13-27, 2024 is “Bike to Work Week” and May 17, 2024 is “Bike to Work Day”; and

WHEREAS, throughout the month of May, the residents of Southwestern Pennsylvania and its visitors will experience the joys of bicycling through rides, commuting events, educational programs, and/or by simply getting out and going somewhere by bike; and

WHEREAS, bicycling has been shown to improve citizens’ health, well-being, and quality of life, growing the economy of the region, attracting local business spending and reducing pollution, congestion and parking costs on our streets and roads; and

WHEREAS, the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, schools, parks and recreation departments, police departments, public health districts, hospitals, businesses and civic groups will be joining the League of American Bicyclists in promoting bicycling during the month of May 2024; and

WHEREAS, these groups are also promoting the use of the bicycle as both a means of transportation and recreation year-round to attract more visitors to enjoy our region’s parks and trail systems, as well as restaurants, hotels, retail establishments, and cultural and scenic attractions; and cultural and scenic attractions; and

WHEREAS, these groups are also promoting greater public awareness of bicycle operation and safety education during Bike Month and year-round in an effort to reduce collisions, injuries and fatalities and improve health and safety for everyone on the road; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Committee on behalf of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission does hereby proclaim May 2024 as Bike Month and urges all residents to join in this special observance in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

I, Betsy McClure, HEREBY CERTIFY that I am Secretary-Treasurer of the SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION, that the foregoing resolution was adopted, in accordance with the By-Laws at a Meeting duly called and held on the 22nd day of April 2024, a quorum being present; and that said resolution is now in full force and effect.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF I hereto subscribe my name as Secretary-Treasurer.

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Secretary-Treasurer

# Financial Report

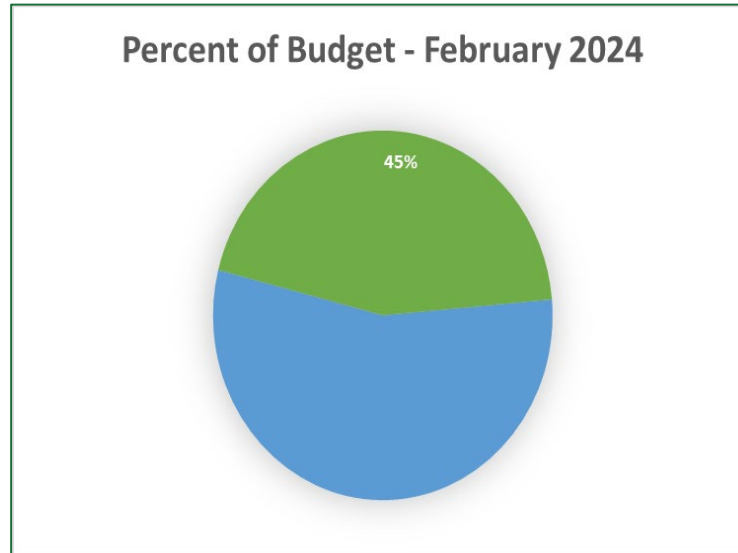
**Ailisa Sobien, Finance Director**

**Agenda Item: 5**



# FY23-24 Status-Feb. 29, 2024

- FY23-24 Budget \$24,003,761
- Revenue and Expenses: \$10,718,057
- Percent of Budget: 45.0%



# Member Dues Allocation – Feb. 29, 2024

Balance @ June 30, 2023	\$ 65,937.82
Member Dues Collected - September 2023 Invoices	\$ 243,560.50
Member Dues Used:	
Economic Development	\$ 58,837.55
PennDot	\$ 256,231.18
Commission General	\$ 3,890.42
Balance @ February 29, 2024	\$ (9,460.83)

# Transportation Report

**Dom D'Andrea, Director of Transportation Planning**

**Agenda Item: 6**



# 2025-2028 TIP SCHEDULE

## Fall 2023 (through end of this year)

- TIP Workgroup meetings (20) and project selection for Draft 2025-2028 TIP-Completed
- TA, CMAQ, and CRP Projects selected via competitive application processes-Completed
- First round PPP and Public Meetings for feedback-Completed

## Winter 2023/2024

- Pre-Draft TIP completed and forwarded to PennDOT Central Office for review-Completed

## Spring 2024

- PennDOT review-Completed; TTC and TOC endorsement-Completed
- AQ Conformity & EJ Analysis; document preparations-Started
- Smart Transportation Program solicitation –Solicitation completed. Evaluation ongoing.
- 30 Day Public Comment Period-including 11 public meetings (May 8-June 7) and Comment/Response documentation -Meetings are all scheduled
- 2025-2028 TIP adoption at June, 2024 Commission meeting

# Public/PPP Meeting Schedule

County	Date	Time	In-Person/Virtual
Indiana	5/8/2024	3-5pm	In-Person
Beaver	5/9/2024	11:00-1:00 pm	In-Person
City of Pittsburgh	5/10/2024	1:30-3:30pm	Hybrid
Westmoreland	5/13/2024	1:00-3:00pm	In-Person
Armstrong	5/14/2024	2:00-4:00 pm	In-Person
Allegheny	5/16/2024	6:00-8:00pm	Virtual
Fayette	5/21/2024	2:00-4:00pm	In-Person
Washington	5/22/2024	3:00-5:00pm	In-Person
Greene	5/29/2024	5:00-7:00pm	In-Person
Butler	6/3/2024	4:30-6:30pm	Virtual
Lawrence	6/4/2024	11:30-1:00pm	In-Person

# STLC Program: 2024 Applications

Name of Project/County	Project Description	Sponsor
Sheepskin Trail Southern Extension (FACO)	New trail segment	Fayette County
PA 356 Corridor Improvements (BUCO)	ADA, Sidewalk	PennDOT District 10-0
Leechburg Road Pedestrian and School Zone Safety Improvements (WECO)	ADA/Sidewalk	Westmoreland County
SR 68 Adams St/Virginia Ave Reconstruction (BECO)	Roadway reconstruction	PennDOT District 11-0
West Liberty Avenue (ALCO)	ADA/Sidewalk/Signals	PennDOT District 11-0
SR 158, S. New Castle St/N. Market St (LACO)	Roadway safety, shoulder	PennDOT District 11-0
Grand Avenue Road Diet Study (ALCO)	Study for road diet	Allegheny County
Westmoreland Heritage Trail Murrysville Crossing (WECO)	Study trail crossings	PennDOT District 12-0
Sheepskin Trail Crossings (FACO)	Flashers at trail crossings	PennDOT District 12-0
Equitable Access Butler Twp.-Pullman Ctr. (BUCO)	Pedestrian,transit,EV charging	Butler County



# Recent Transportation Staff Activity

- Data and Letters of Support for Congressional Budget Requests;
- Presented to Leadership Pgh., Leadership Butler, Leadership Washington;
- Meetings with PennDOT to assist with Karns Crossing federal BIP application;
- Meeting with Pgh. Technology Council to discuss collaboration opportunities;
- Meeting with Allegheny Conference and others to discuss downtown Pgh. Vision Plan
- Kickoff mtg. with FHWA, PennDOT, PRT for \$142.2M Mega grant-review agreement;
- Meeting with CMU, PennDOT, City of Pgh. to discuss proposed CMU revisions to Forbes Avenue Bridge
- Meeting with University of Pittsburgh Impactful Resilient Infrastructure Science and Engineering (IRISE) consortium to discuss membership and collaboration opportunities.
- Meetings with Enterprise to negotiate and finalize new contract for SPC vanpool program
- Meeting with developer of Cool Valley/Southpointe to provide update to development plan and discuss roadway improvements/funding.
- Meeting with PennDOT, Fayette County, and Wharton Township to discuss safety on State Route 40
- Meeting with PennDOT, Butler County, and 4 Townships to review preliminary results of Road Safety Audit

# SPC Transportation Congressional Budget Requests

<b>12 - HON. Summer Lee</b>		
Project Name	County	Requested Amount
Bigelow Boulevard Betterment	Allegheny	\$3,000,000
Connor Road Bridge Replacement	Allegheny	\$2,000,000
I-376/Banksville Interchange Improvements	Allegheny	\$3,000,000
SR 286 Signal Upgrades	Allegheny	\$500,000
Saunders Station Road Bike/Ped Improvements	Allegheny	\$295,000
Haymaker Road Bike/Ped Improvements	Allegheny	\$415,000
SR 4003 - East St to Babcock Blvd Signal Improvements	Allegheny	\$1,000,000
<b>Total Amount Requested:</b>		<b>\$10,210,000</b>
<b>14 - HON. Guy Reschenthaler</b>		
Project Name	County	Requested Amount
Indiana Bypass Repair & Latex	Indiana	\$7,000,000
US 22-SR 403 underpass paving	Indiana	\$2,750,000
US 30 Corridor @ PA 48 Intersection Improvement	Westmoreland	\$5,000,000
Municipal Bridge Management	District wide	\$2,000,000
Municipal Bridge Risk Management and Preservation	Washington & Westmoreland	\$2,000,000
PA 201 @ I70 Interchange PEL	Westmoreland	\$2,000,000
Charleroi Betterment	Washington	\$2,000,000
<b>Total Amount Requested:</b>		<b>\$22,750,000</b>

# SPC Transportation Congressional Budget Requests

15 - HON. Glenn Thompson		
Project Name	County	Requested Amount
Graff Bridge Preservation	Armstrong	\$7,000,000
1/112th Infantry Bridge/Graff Ramp Rehabilitation	Armstrong	\$7,000,000
<b>Total Amount Requested:</b>		<b>\$14,000,000</b>
16 - HON Mike Kelly		
Project Name	County	Requested Amount
Ekastown West 3R	Butler	\$7,000,000
Zeli Latex Overlay	Butler	\$1,829,300
SR 18 , Wilmington Road Betterment	Lawrence	\$2,000,000
SR 422, Benjamin Franklin Highway Betterment	Lawrence	\$3,000,000
<b>Total Amount Requested:</b>		<b>\$13,829,300</b>

# SPC Transportation Congressional Budget Requests

17 - HON Chris Deluzio		
Project Name	County	Requested Amount
22/30 Over the Parkway West Reconfiguration	Allegheny	\$3,000,000
I-79 at PA 910 Interchange Improvement	Allegheny	\$3,000,000
SR 8 and Sandy Hill Road Widening Project	Allegheny	\$500,000
SR 8 Signal Upgrades	Allegheny	\$500,000
SR 50 Signal Upgrades	Allegheny	\$500,000
Pearce Mill Rd Bike/Ped Improvements – Phase 2	Allegheny	\$3,025,117
PA 65, Country Club Bridge Replacement	Beaver	\$2,000,000
Aliquippa East End Gateway	Beaver	\$3,000,000
Midland Beaver Road Restoration	Beaver	\$3,000,000
Total Amount Requested:		<b>\$18,525,117</b>
<b>Total Amount Requested (House):</b>		<b>\$76,314,417</b>

# SPC Transportation Congressional Budget Requests

<b>Senator Casey/Senator Fetterman</b>		
<b>Project Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Requested Amount</b>
1/112th Infantry Bridge	Armstrong	\$2,000,000
Ekastown West 3R	Butler	\$2,000,000
Indiana Bypass Repair	Indiana	\$2,000,000
Bigelow Boulevard Betterment	Allegheny	\$3,000,000
Connor Road Bridge Replacement	Allegheny	\$2,000,000
I-376/Banksville Interchange Improvements	Allegheny	\$3,000,000
SR 286 Signal Upgrades	Allegheny	\$500,000
SR 4003 - East St to Babcock Blvd Signal Improvements	Allegheny	\$1,000,000
22/30 Over the Parkway West Reconfiguration	Allegheny	\$3,000,000
I-79 at PA 910 Interchange Improvement	Allegheny	\$3,000,000
SR 8 and Sandy Hill Road Widening Project	Allegheny	\$500,000
SR 8 Signal Upgrades	Allegheny	\$500,000
Pearce Mill Rd Bike/Ped Improvements – Phase 2	Allegheny	\$3,025,117
Saunders Station Road Bike/Ped Improvements	Allegheny	\$295,000
Haymaker Road Bike/Ped Improvements	Allegheny	\$415,000
SR 50 Signal Upgrades	Allegheny	\$500,000
PA 65, Country Club Bridge Replacement	Beaver	\$2,000,000
Aliquippa East End Gateway	Beaver	\$3,000,000
Midland Beaver Road Restoration	Beaver	\$3,000,000
SR 422, Benjamin Franklin Highway Betterment	Lawrence	\$3,000,000
US 30 Corridor @ PA 48 Intersection Improvement	Westmoreland	\$2,000,000
Municipal Bridge Management	District wide	\$2,000,000
Municipal Bridge Risk Management and Preservation	Washington & Westmoreland	\$2,000,000
PA 201 @ I70 Interchange PEL	Westmoreland	\$2,000,000
Charleroi Betterment	Washington	\$2,000,000
<b>Total Amount Requested (Senate):</b>		<b>\$47,735,117</b>

# Strategic Initiatives & Policy Report

DJ Ryan, Director of Strategic Initiatives & Policy

Agenda Item: 7



# Workforce & Economic Development Report

Jenn Lasser, Director of Workforce &  
Economic Development

Agenda Item: 8



# PREP & Community Performance

## Export International Trade Assistance

39 Companies Assisted; 56 Counseling Sessions

Work Orders

- 10 Companies
- 19 Overseas Work Orders to 11 Countries

Event: Bringing the World to PA – 60 attendees

## Government Contract TA

8 Companies Assisted; 11 Counseling Sessions

Contract Awards

- 13 companies – 58 awards – \$2.3M

## Commercial Lending Assistance

16 Companies Assisted; 19 Counseling Sessions

Loans Closed – 2 (EDA CARES)

- Superior Fine Grind / Youghiogheny Realty LP \$300,000
- Ace Wire Spring & Form Co., Inc. \$335,851

## Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZ)

Inquiries 7

Applications Received 6

Businesses Served - Improved 3/3

Investment - \$969,110

Jobs Created – Retained 17 / 61



# ARC/EDA Grant Technical Assistance

- ARC POWER
  - 19 regional applications (PA had 38 total)
  - Due date April 17 at 5 p.m.
- ARC AREA Development – on hold til July
  - Record 12 SWPA selected to move forward (6.7M)
- ARC ARISE – still open (rolling deadline) – multiple state required
- EDA – Looking for projects
  - 2 projects assisted with TA

# Spotlight: Bringing the World to PA #BTW2PA

## Event was held March 15 at CMU

- The Office of International Business Development (OIBD) through DCED and the Regional Export Network (REN) partnered to host 13 countries
- 30 Companies in attendance resulting in 110 one-on-one meetings
- Rich kicked off the event spoke on international importance of export and its economic impact
- We are the designated REN for Southwestern Pennsylvania and is managed by Rena Liu-Belshe and Jackie Pacheco
- Our Export program is funded by PREP & REN Dollars

## Event provided opportunity for PA companies to meet on-on-one with PA Authorized Trade Representatives in the areas of:

- Business Intelligence
- Agent and Distributor candidates
- Industry & Government contacts
- On-the-ground Assistance abroad
- And much more!



# #BTW2PA

Trade representatives from the following countries were in attendance:

- Australia (New Zealand)
- Canada
- China
- Czech Republic (Central & Eastern Europe)
- Germany (Italy, Switzerland, Austria)
- India
- Israel (Middle East region)
- Mexico
- Netherlands (Belgium)
- Singapore (Southeast Asia)
- South Korea
- Taiwan
- United Kingdom (Ireland, Scandinavia)



# Brief/Video (Commissioner Video Series)

**Caitlin O'Connor, Director of Public Relations &  
Communication Initiatives**

**Agenda Item: 9**



# Commissioner Video Series



# “Community Chronicles”

**Rich Fitzgerald, Executive Director**

**Agenda Item: 10**



# Stonecrest Business Park

- This 213-acre site of the former Stonecrest Golf Course will be the first privately developed park built in Lawrence County in more than 40 years.
- Will house light manufacturing businesses, warehouse space and pad-ready sites with public utilities.
- 10 miles from Ellwood City, less than five miles away from interchanges with the PA Turnpike and Rt. 376.
- The project is expected to create approximately 1.5 million square feet of space and generate 750 to 1,000 new jobs.



# Tri-County Entrepreneurial Makerspace Project

- \$1.5 million of BBB Regional Challenge Grant (funded through ARM under the PA New Economy Collaborative)
- Includes IUP, an IUP-led STEAMSHOP robotics and electronics satellite site in Armstrong Co. and Made in Johnstown in Cambria Co.
- IUP's STEAMSHOP (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) makerspace engages with diverse populations, improves digital literacy, prototyping, digital fabrication, robotics, AI and other fields.



**STEAMSHOP MAKERSPACE RESOURCES & EQUIPMENT**  
ACCELERATING INNOVATION

**IUP**

**2 CNC Milling Machines**

Our 3-axis and 5 axis CNC milling machines enable makers & entrepreneurs to fabricate parts from aluminum, wood and more. Our 5-axis CNC machine can create unique, precision parts used in industries, such as manufacturing, medical, and energy.

**Universal 10e Collaborative Robot**

Collaborative robots (cobots) provide the benefits and efficiency of automation while safely working alongside people – without the risk of repetitive motion injury. With 6 joints and wide flexibility across applications, cobots communicate with other machines while moving like a human arm. Our cobot can hold and move objects or operate tools like sanders and drills.

**3 Large Format Laser Cutters**

One 80 watt and two 130 watt state of the art large-scale laser cutters enable makers to cut and engrave wood, plastic, and other materials with high speed and high precision.

**Fleet of 3D Printers, 3D Scanner, and Vinyl Cutter**

Makers have access to a fleet of 3D printers – including a high-resolution liquid resin FormLabs printer, a state-of-the-art 3D scanner, and equipment like vinyl cutters to facilitate rapid prototyping for innovative designs.

**ShopBot CNC Router**

With the versatility of the ShopBot CNC router, makers create shapes and patterns in materials including wood, plastic, foam, aluminum, and more.

With a wealth of tools, innovators, makers, and entrepreneurs can design, build, and create.

IUP's STEAMSHOP (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) makerspace is a university-wide collaboration, with the goal of engaging diverse populations, improving digital literacy, and creating an integrated training and research program in design thinking, prototyping, digital fabrication, robotics, and artificial intelligence to capitalize on IUP's current strengths and develop key partnerships across campus and the region.



# Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Connellsville

- Armstrong Cable's customer service office will service portions of Fayette, Westmoreland, Washington, and Somerset Counties.
- Commissioners Vicites (Vice-Chair, SPC), Dunn, and Lohr
- Lt. Gov. Austin Davis, State Rep. Bud Cook, Brand Carson, Executive Director of Broadband Development Authority, and Kyle Kopko, Executive Director of the Center for Rural PA
- The company is focused on broadband expansion in rural communities



# Butler Happenings

- Attended Butler County's State of the County where Commissioners Osche, Boozel, and Geyer helped lead the discussion, along with Mark Gordon, Economic Development Director.
- Also attended Congressman Kelly's town hall. It focused on the potential 1,300 jobs at Cleveland-Cliff's Butler Works plant that are in jeopardy because of a proposed U.S. Energy Department rule.
- It was a standing-room only town hall in conjunction with officials from Cleveland-Cliffs Butler Works and United Auto Workers Local 3303.
- Gov. Shapiro has also met with workers when he visited the facility recently and is also working to solve this issue.



Gov. Mike Kelly joins UAW union leaders Monday in discussing a proposed ban on energy jobs that he said threatened more than 1,000 manufacturing jobs in Butler. Officials have been negotiating changes to the rule that would protect those jobs, but Mr. Kelly said he's never good.

Gov. Shapiro meets with Butler County Community College students in the morning to demonstrate their opposition to a proposed department of energy job that could threaten more than 1,300 jobs at the Butler Works steel plant operated by Cleveland-Cliffs. (Photo by Southwestern Pennsylvania Corporation)

# Armstrong Trails

- Our team took part in Armstrong Trails' celebration event on April 1 (Armstrong Trails is led by Chris Zeigler) and secured media coverage for the group
- DCNR Secretary Cindy Dunn and Deputy PennDOT Secretary Larry Shifflet were there
- Opening of 10 miles of additional trail and newly decked/railed Kiski Bridge
- Armstrong Trails is a 52.5 mile rail-to-trails in Armstrong, Westmoreland, and Clarion Counties (protects and converts railroad corridors)



# Leadership Pittsburgh, Butler, and Washington

- Our leadership team presented at Leadership Pittsburgh, Leadership Butler, and Leadership Washington's joint event
- Approx. 125 attendees
- It was an opportunity to connect with a diverse group of individuals from various employment sectors and educate them on what our organization does
- Took place at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum in Washington County



# Message: Harrisburg Visit

Rich Fitzgerald, Executive Director

Agenda Item: 11



# Harrisburg Visit

- On Monday, May 6, the Allegheny Conference will host its annual reception in the Keystone Building, Atrium (5-7 p.m.)
- On Tuesday, May 7 (8 a.m.) we are hosting a breakfast in the Irvis Building for the state representatives and senators that represent the 10 county region.
- Please see DJ or Caitlin if you plan to attend.
- **Need your 2-3 “priorities/issues” by Friday, April 26 (bullet points appreciated)**



**Next Meeting Date: June 24, 2024**

**Agenda Item: 12**



# Adjourn

Agenda Item: 13

