GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO

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Governor Shapiro and PennDOT Secretary Carroll Celebrate Inaugural Journey of the Second Daily *Pennsylvanian* Train Between Pittsburgh and New York City

The roundtrip Amtrak Pennsylvanian service between New York City and Pittsburgh via Harrisburg will now run twice every day, giving more Pennsylvanians access to modern, safe, reliable passenger rail.

Significant Commonwealth and federal investments are making passenger rail service expansions like this possible throughout Pennsylvania.

Riders can purchase tickets for the Pennsylvanian on Amtrak's website and mobile app.


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Pittsburgh, PA – Today, **Governor Josh Shapiro** and **Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Secretary Mike Carroll** visited Union Station in Pittsburgh to celebrate the inaugural journey of the second, daily *Pennsylvanian* train. This additional roundtrip service follows the Governor's August announcement and close collaboration between the Shapiro Administration, Amtrak, Norfolk Southern, and the Federal Railroad Administration.

The *Pennsylvanian* is a key passenger rail route connecting residents of the Commonwealth from east to west, and — in conjunction with the Floridian — with Cleveland, Chicago, and beyond. With its second train, the *Pennsylvanian* is doubling service on the 444-mile route between Pittsburgh and New York via Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and stops in between.

"My Administration has made meaningful investments to improve rail infrastructure and expand train service across Pennsylvania, and those investments are making a real difference in the lives of Pennsylvanians, creating opportunity and connecting communities from Pittsburgh to Johnstown and Harrisburg to Philadelphia," said **Governor Shapiro**. "We worked closely with local officials across Western Pennsylvania and leaders from Amtrak and the federal government to build new train stations, improve our infrastructure, and ultimately secure this second daily train. Railroads have shaped our history and now, Pennsylvanians have more options to travel across our Commonwealth and visitors have new opportunities to experience their Great American Getaway."

The Shapiro Administration has **invested more than $80 million** into various projects between Harrisburg and Pittsburgh, with construction already underway or completed, to support the *Pennsylvanian's* expansion.

"Under Governor Shapiro's leadership, PennDOT is aggressively putting additional federal and state transportation investments to work for Pennsylvanians, whether it's fixing our roads and bridges or restoring and improving passenger rail service," said **PennDOT Secretary Carroll**. "Thanks to strong partnerships with Amtrak, Norfolk Southern, and communities across the state, this long-awaited expansion of service on the *Pennsylvanian* is now a reality."

In 2023, to support increasing the passenger rail frequency on the rail line, the Shapiro Administration received $143 million in federal passenger rail funding to help complete necessary infrastructure and safety improvements. Continuing this support, PennDOT will allocate **$318.7 million** in state and federal funding towards the service's expansion.

"The launch of the Second Pennsylvanian — served by Amtrak, connecting Pittsburgh to New York City via Harrisburg and Philadelphia — is a testament to the collective efforts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Amtrak, Norfolk Southern Railway, and others who have championed and advocated for it," said **Administrator David Fink, Federal Railroad Administration**. "The expansion of the daily round-trip passenger service is certainly a milestone worth celebrating. It's emblematic of the types of

projects we are investing in through our highly popular discretionary grant programs… and this is just the beginning."

This service expansion will give more Pennsylvanians access to modern, safe, reliable passenger rail service that gets them where they need to go – connecting Pennsylvania communities and bringing jobs, economic development, and infrastructure investment along with it.

Last fiscal year, 7.3 million total passengers boarded or disembarked an Amtrak train across 13 permanent Amtrak routes that serve Pennsylvania and 24 stops located throughout the Commonwealth.

"Doubling Pennsylvanian service fundamentally expands the way people connect to communities, jobs, education, and opportunities across the Commonwealth and beyond." said **Amtrak Interim President Byl Herrmann**. "This is exactly the kind of growth we want to deliver for our customers and the communities we serve."

"Today marks an exciting new chapter for passenger rail in Pennsylvania," said **Amtrak Board Member and Chair of the System Growth Committee Robert Gleason**. "This milestone reflects years of partnership and investment by Amtrak, PennDOT, and our partners to build a stronger future for passenger rail across the Commonwealth."

"This was a best-in-class collaboration to make this come to life," said **Mike McClellan, Chief Strategy Officer, Norfolk Southern**. "And it was a commitment not only to the success of the second *Pennsylvanian*, but also to ensure that Pennsylvania's incredible freight rail network was strengthened as well, for the benefit of thousands of businesses in the Commonwealth."
The *Pennsylvanian* travels Norfolk Southern's Pittsburgh Line, which is part of the Premier Corridor — a main artery for double-stack intermodal traffic moving between Chicago and metropolitan New York. The Line is one of the busiest and fastest links on Norfolk Southern's network, connecting with major terminals in Toledo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and the Lehigh Valley.

"We are excited to celebrate this new, second daily train that goes from Pittsburgh to New York City," said **Pittsburgh Mayor Corey O'Connor.** "This is an important investment in expanding transportation options that connect our communities and create opportunities for travel, business and accessing jobs. The new service will allow Pittsburghers to get out and experience new places across Pennsylvania, and we invite people from across the commonwealth to come explore all that Pittsburgh has to offer."

"Reliable transportation connects people to opportunity, and this expanded rail service is a long sought after investment in Southwestern Pennsylvania's future. By strengthening our connection to Harrisburg and communities across the Commonwealth, we're making it easier for people to travel, do business, and access new opportunities," said **Allegheny County Executive Sara Innamorato**. "This is what's possible when we work together across all levels of government to deliver for our residents."

“Reliable, frequent infrastructure is foundational to attracting business investment and top talent to the Pittsburgh region,” said **Stefani Pashman, CEO, Pittsburgh Regional Alliance**. “Expanding the Pennsylvanian to twice-daily service unlocks new opportunities for commerce, corporate travel, and tourism—creating a seamless economic corridor from Southwestern Pennsylvania to Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and New York City.”

“Western Pennsylvanians for Passenger Rail (WPPR) is delighted about the start of the Second Pennsylvanian and looks forward to the positive effect it will create for western Pennsylvanian travelers and communities,” said **Mark Spada, President, Western Pennsylvanians for Passenger Rail**.

Pennsylvania has 65 operating railroads – the most of any state in the country – and ranks third in total track mileage with more than 5,500 miles. In 2022, the 2025 Pennsylvania State Rail Plan reported 169 million tons of freight moved over the state's rail transportation system.

“I am excited to be celebrating the expansion of the Pennsylvanian train today alongside many of the leaders who made this happen. A second round trip between New York and Pittsburgh means more opportunities for business, tourism, visiting loved ones, and exploring the natural beauty of our great Commonwealth, all without needing to turn on a car,” said **Senate Democratic Leader Jay Costa**. “I am grateful for Governor Shapiro’s commitment to expanding passenger rail and look forward to continued investments in mass transit as we go forward.”

“We successfully delivered a second daily roundtrip on the Pennsylvanian thanks to the collaboration and cooperation of our federal, state and local partners,” said **Senator Judy Ward, Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee**.

“A second daily Pennsylvanian route offers more riders a convenient and leisurely commute,” said **Representative Ed Neilson, Chair of the Transportation Committee**. “The extra capacity and additional schedule will encourage more people to commute by train, lessening traffic congestion." Representative Ed Neilson, Chair of House Transportation committee

Tickets for the second daily Pennsylvanian are available on Amtrak’s website and mobile app. Riders can enjoy coach and business-class seating, onboard WiFi, and café service featuring Pennsylvania-inspired menu items.

More information on the Shapiro Administration’s work to improve intercity passenger rail in Pennsylvania is available on PennDOT's website.

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