

PennDOT Announces Nearly \$4 Million Investment for 18 Airports

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PennDOT Secretary Allen D. Biehler, P.E., today said 18 airports will be able to make safety improvements and upgrade facilities with the help of a \$3.9 million investment by the commonwealth.

"Our thriving aviation industry employs thousands of Pennsylvanians," Biehler said. "This funding will help these airports become better places for customers and employees."

Funding for the grants comes from revenue from the state's jet fuel tax and is administered by PennDOT's Bureau of Aviation. The funds leverage more than \$1.6 million in local matching funds.

The investment is separate from the \$5 million Governor Edward G. Rendell recently announced for the Transportation Assistance Program, which is funded through state capital bond dollars in the general fund. That program was expanded to \$10 million

Pennsylvania currently has 133 public-use airports and heliports and 14 airports have scheduled commercial service.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Below is a list of airports that are receiving grants, the amount of funding it will receive, and a brief description of the projects.

Allegheny County

-- Allegheny County Airport will receive \$157,500 to complete the rehabilitation of its main public entrance and exit roads, and \$60,000 to continue the rehabilitation of the historic public terminal building.

Armstrong County

-- McVile Airport will receive \$142,500 to remove overhead electrical utility poles, which will improve safety.

Bucks County

-- Pennridge Airport will receive \$709,500 to upgrade its electrical system, lighting and navigational equipment and improve reliability.

Butler County

-- Butler Farm Show Airport will receive \$56,250 to acquire snow removal equipment.

Clinton County

-- William T. Piper Airport will receive \$75,000 to buy an aircraft fueling vehicle.

Cumberland County

-- Carlisle Airport will receive \$138,750 to relocate utility poles and lines, and \$453,750 to widen its runway, both projects will enhance the safety of the airport.

Delaware County

-- The Philadelphia Seaplane Base will receive \$226,875 to make improvements to the access ramp for aircraft.

Jefferson County

-- Dubois Regional Airport will receive \$75,000 to implement a secondary containment system for its aircraft fueling vehicle.

-- The Punxsutawney Airport Authority will receive \$75,000 to rehabilitate its aircraft fueling facility.

Juniata County

-- Mifflintown Airport will receive \$22,500 to develop an overall plan for the facility and to conduct a survey to support improved access of landing aircraft to the runway.

Lawrence County

-- New Castle Airport will receive \$112,500 to demolish a dilapidated structure and open an area for future airport development.

Lebanon County

-- Reigle Airport will receive \$37,500 to perform preventative pavement maintenance.

Mercer County

-- Greenville Municipal Airport will receive \$18,750 to upgrade its fueling facility.

Northampton County

-- Braden Airpark will receive \$912,500 to begin constructing its new fueling facility.

Somerset County

-- Somerset County Airport will receive \$350,000 to replace outdated aircraft storage t-hangars, which are a revenue source for the airport.

York County

-- Baublitz Airport will receive \$90,000 to purchase land that will enhance the safety of the airport.

-- York Airport will receive \$93,750 to remove obstructions to improve landing access.

Washington County

-- Finleyville Airpark will receive \$37,500 to acquire land to clear the approaches to the runway, and \$13,500 to patch, crack fill, seal coat and re-mark the runway.

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