



**WE CAN WIN TRANSIT  
THAT MOVES US ALL!**



**WHETHER WE LIVE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES, SMALL TOWNS OR BIG CITIES, ALL PENNSYLVANIANS DESERVE SAFE, RELIABLE, DIGNIFIED ACCESS TO THE PLACES THEY NEED TO GO.**

**TRANSIT FOR ALL PA IS A COALITION OF TRANSIT RIDERS, TRANSIT WORKERS, AND COMMITTED ADVOCATES FROM ACROSS THE STATE.**

# CORE TEAM





# WHO WE ARE

- **Transit for all PA! is a statewide coalition of transit riders, transit workers, and transit-supportive organizations and businesses. Together, we are working to expand Pennsylvania's public transit systems to grow our economy and connect more Pennsylvanians to jobs, healthcare, and essential needs.**
- **Hundreds of riders and workers collectively built the Transit for All PA platform in 2021**
- **Since then, we have hosted petitions, led phone banks and town halls, papered every PA legislator, and rallied in Harrisburg, organizing nearly 10,000 riders, operators, and advocates**



**POLL QUESTIONS**

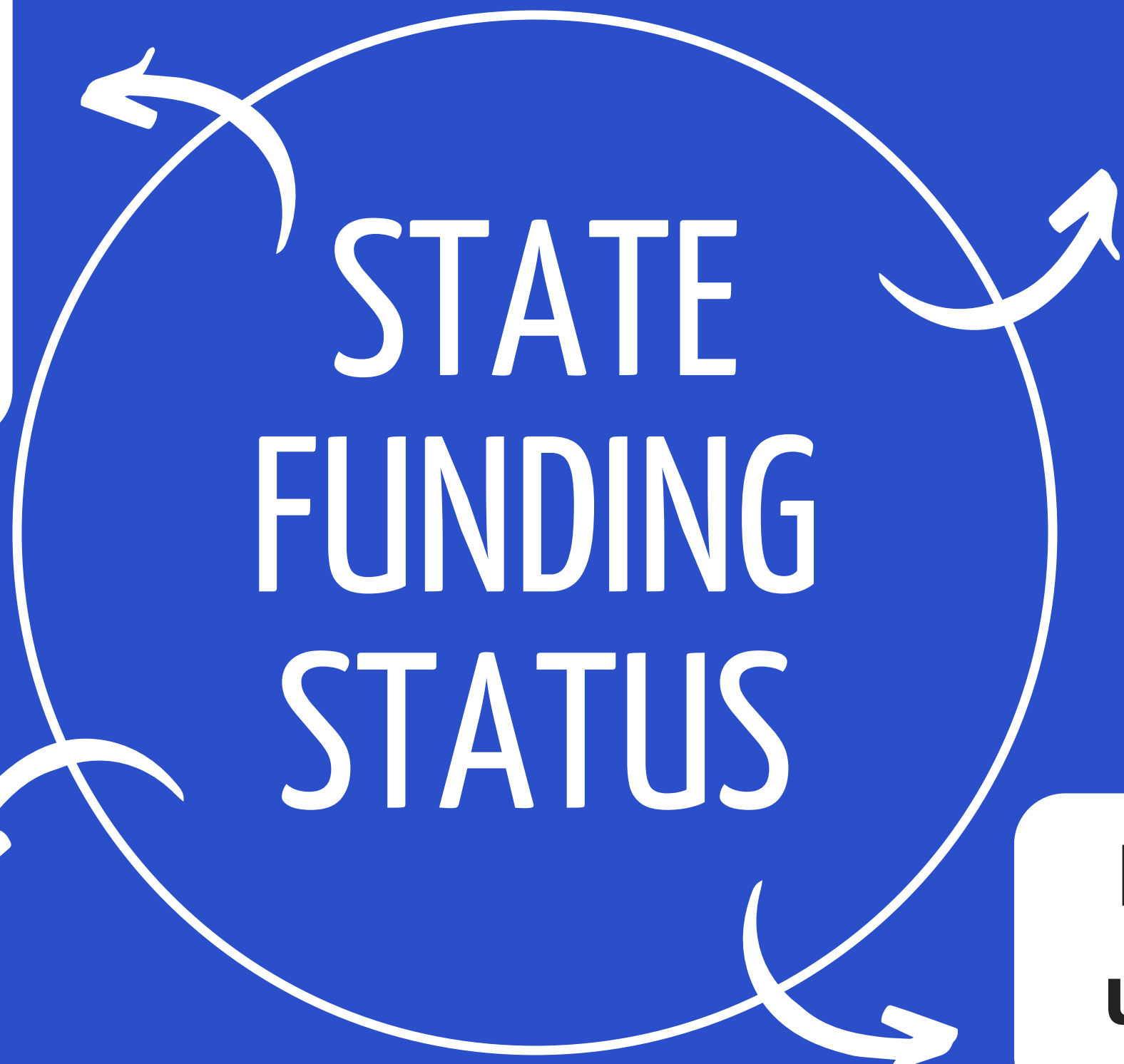


# WHAT HAPPENED + WHY NOW

- In 2024, nearly 8,000 people took action to push the PA legislature to provide long-term, sustainable funding for public transportation.
- Following the legislature's failure, 3,000 PA riders and workers demanded Gov Shapiro take action in under two weeks.
- In November, Governor Shapiro agreed to move federal highway dollars to fund SEPTA and postpone fare hikes and service cuts
- SEPTA's runway ends on June 30, when other agencies across the Commonwealth will also face service cuts and fare increases

**As early as July 1,  
SEPTA faces a  
funding gap of  
\$213 million. PRT  
needs \$100 million  
more next year.**

**Service cuts in  
every community**



**Shapiro proposed a  
small \$\$ increase in  
his budget - the  
same as last year -  
but we need more**

**Fares increases  
up to \$3 per ride**



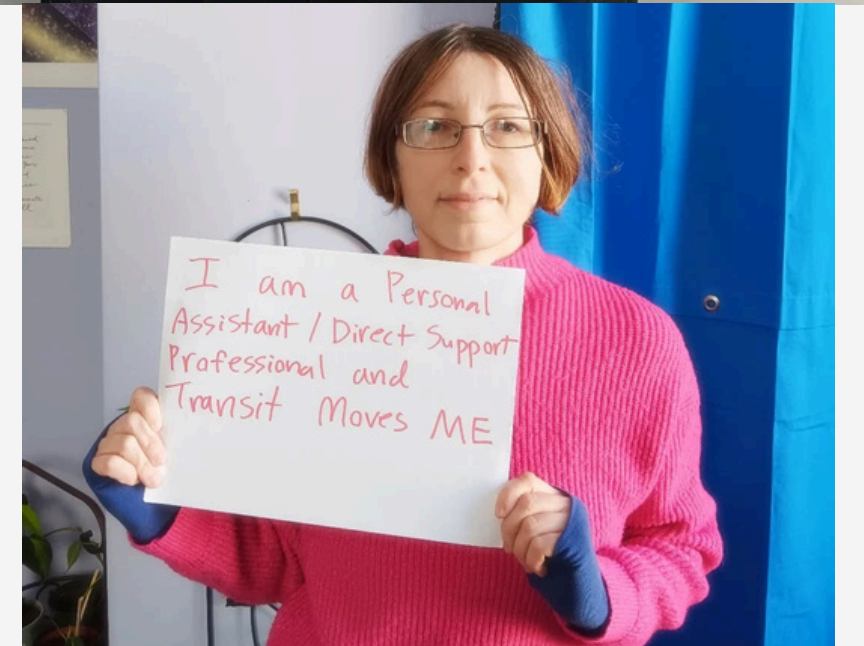
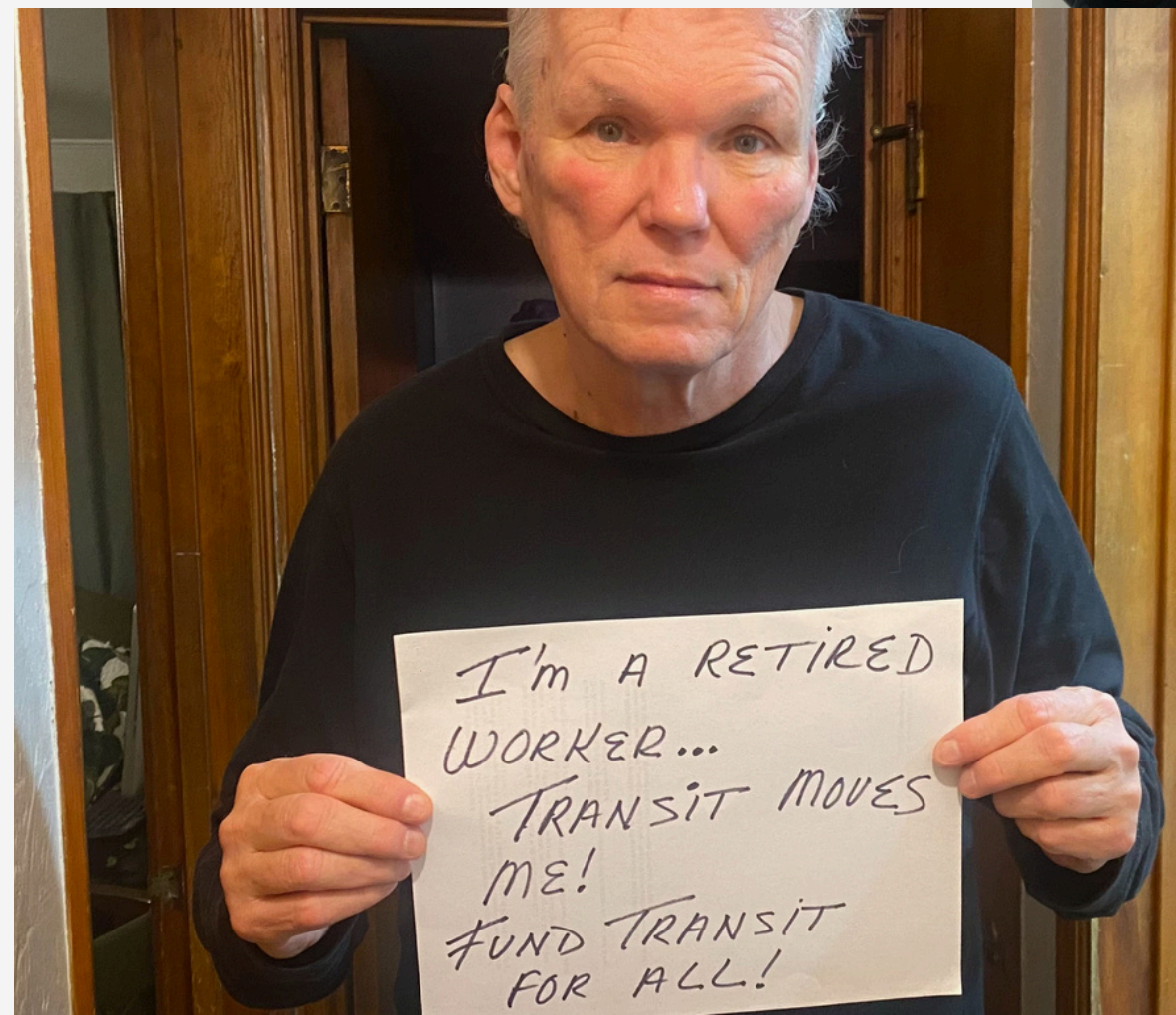
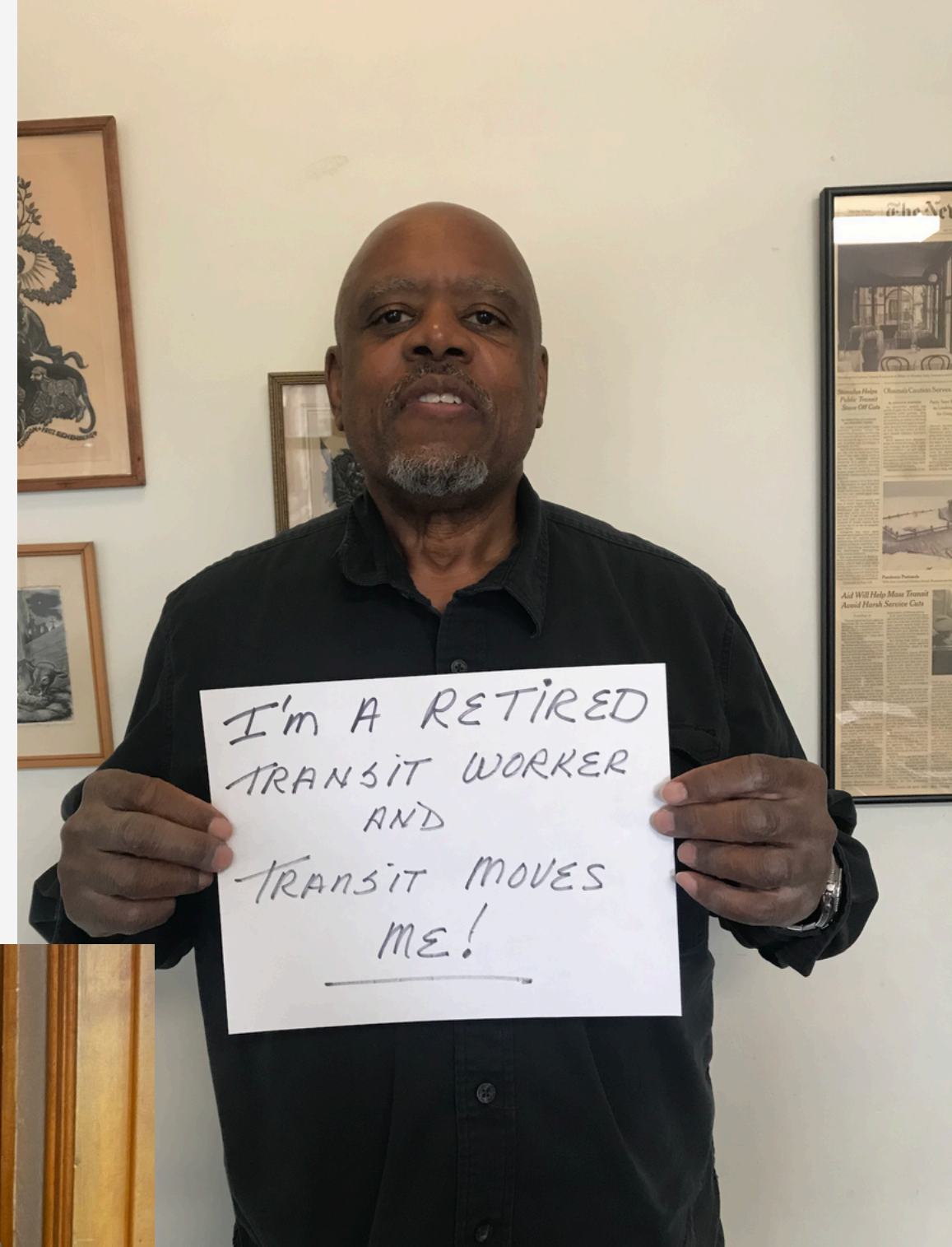
# TONIGHT'S GOALS

- Because Governor Shapiro (and our agencies') proposal doesn't meet our needs, we need to think bigger
- In this meeting we will leave with a better understanding of the transit needs of different communities across PA after breakout groups
- We will build the collective funding and policy demands in PA to win the transit service that we all deserve



# MEET OUR MOVEMENT

- **Brian Pollitt - Transport Worker Union 234 President, Philadelphia**
- **James Hanna- Amalgamated Transit Worker Union, Pittsburgh member**
- **Dorine Knoblich - Rider from Erie**
- **Erik Love - Carlisle Transit Advocate**



**PA Act 44 in 2007  
establishes funding  
formula for  
transportation,  
including  
increasing transit  
operations funding**

**WHERE  
WE'VE  
BEEN**

**\*\*Both measures were  
supported by both  
Republicans and  
Democrats**

**PA Act 89 in 2013  
further increases  
funding, with 10-year  
expiration**



# MEETING THE MOMENT WITH ORGANIZING

- In 2010-2012, our organizing for stable, expanded transit funding wins us Act 89
- In 2020-21, our organizing to address the COVID transit emergency wins us hundreds of millions of dollars in COVID relief funding, keeping agencies from collapsing
- In 2023, we organized for the ability for local regions to raise tax money for transportation to access federal infrastructure bill \$\$
- In 2024, our organizing for increased funding for service won us a stopgap \$80 million for all transit agencies, and prevented SEPTA from hitting the funding cliff.



## **WE BELIEVE THAT TRANSIT SHOULD BE FUNDED:**

- 1. TO SERVE PENNSYLVANIA'S DIVERSE NEEDS.**
- 2. THROUGH PROGRESSIVE MECHANISMS**
- 3. WITH SUSTAINABLE, LONG-TERM FUNDING SOURCES.**
- 4. EQUITABLY WITH ROADS & BRIDGES**
- 5. WITH TRANSIT RIDERS AND TRANSIT WORKERS AT THE TABLE.**
- 6. WITHOUT INFLICTING HARM OR FUNDING REDUCTIONS TO OTHER ESSENTIAL STATE SERVICES AND PROGRAMS.**

**1HOOD POWER**

**ACCESS MOB**

**CENTER FOR COALFIELD JUSTICE**

**JUST HARVEST**

**LIBERTY RESOURCES**

**ONE PENNSYLVANIA**

**PA BUDGET AND POLICY CENTER**

**PA UNITED**

**PENNFUTURE**

**CARIE**

**SEIU HEALTHCARE PA**

**TEAMSTERS LOCAL 776**

**AFL-CIO PENNSYLVANIA**

**AMALGAMATED TRANSIT UNION PA JOINT CONFERENCE BOARD**

**CAT, LEHIGH VALLEY**

**STATE REP AUSTIN DAVIS, HD 35 (NOW SERVING  
PENNSYLVANIA'S LT. GOVERNOR)**

**STATE REP CHRIS RABB, HD 200**

**STATE REP ED GAINEY, HD 24 (NOW MAYOR OF CITY OF  
PITTSBURGH)**

**STATE REP ELIZABETH FIEDLER, HD184**

**STATE REP MALCOLM KENYATTA, HD 181**

**STATE REP MARY ISAACSON, HD 175**

**STATE SENATOR NIKIL SAVAL, SD 1**

**STATE SENATOR TIM KEARNEY, SD 26**

**STATE SENATOR LINDSEY WILLIAMS, SD 38**

**COALITION MEMBERS**



**WE ARE COMMITTED TO CENTERING THE TRANSIT FOR ALL PA PLATFORM, WHICH ESTABLISHES OUR SHARED GOALS AND THE TAXES WE WOULD SUPPORT TO MEET OUR NEEDS**

**NOW, WE ARE ADVANCING OUR DEMANDS BY CLEARLY IDENTIFYING THE STATE FUNDING NEEDED TO PROVIDE THE SERVICE WE WANT, AND WHAT TAX(ES) WOULD WIN US OUR GOAL.**



# OUR CURRENT MOMENT: HOW WE WIN IN 2025

- **December/January - 2000+ take action to tell Gov Shapiro to make transit the top priority in his budget address**
- **February - Budget watch party**
  - **80+ participants across PA**
  - **In-person gatherings in Philly and Pittsburgh**

HOME FEATURED

# Smaller transit agencies say more state funding is vital for them, too

by Ed Blazina February 4, 2024



A Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority bus. (Courtesy of Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority)

# THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL? IT ISN'T ENOUGH!

.2025  
in Paper

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TRANSPORTATION

## SEPTA has cut \$27 million to reduce a deficit and boost its case for new state transit money

Without aid, "there's simply no amount of cutting we can do to plug a \$213 million deficit."

COMMUNITY NEWS

## Pittsburgh Regional Transit pushes for \$117 million increase in state subsidy

by Ed Blazina  
January 31, 2025

REGIONAL LIVE CAMERAS: Bethlehem: Hotel Bethlehem | Main Street Reading: Penn Street Easton: Downtown Poconos: Jim Thorpe | Stroudsburg

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PREV

## BARTA looks to recover from 'major deficit,' as Shapiro calls for more public transit funds

Cierra Genelle Feb 5, 2025 0

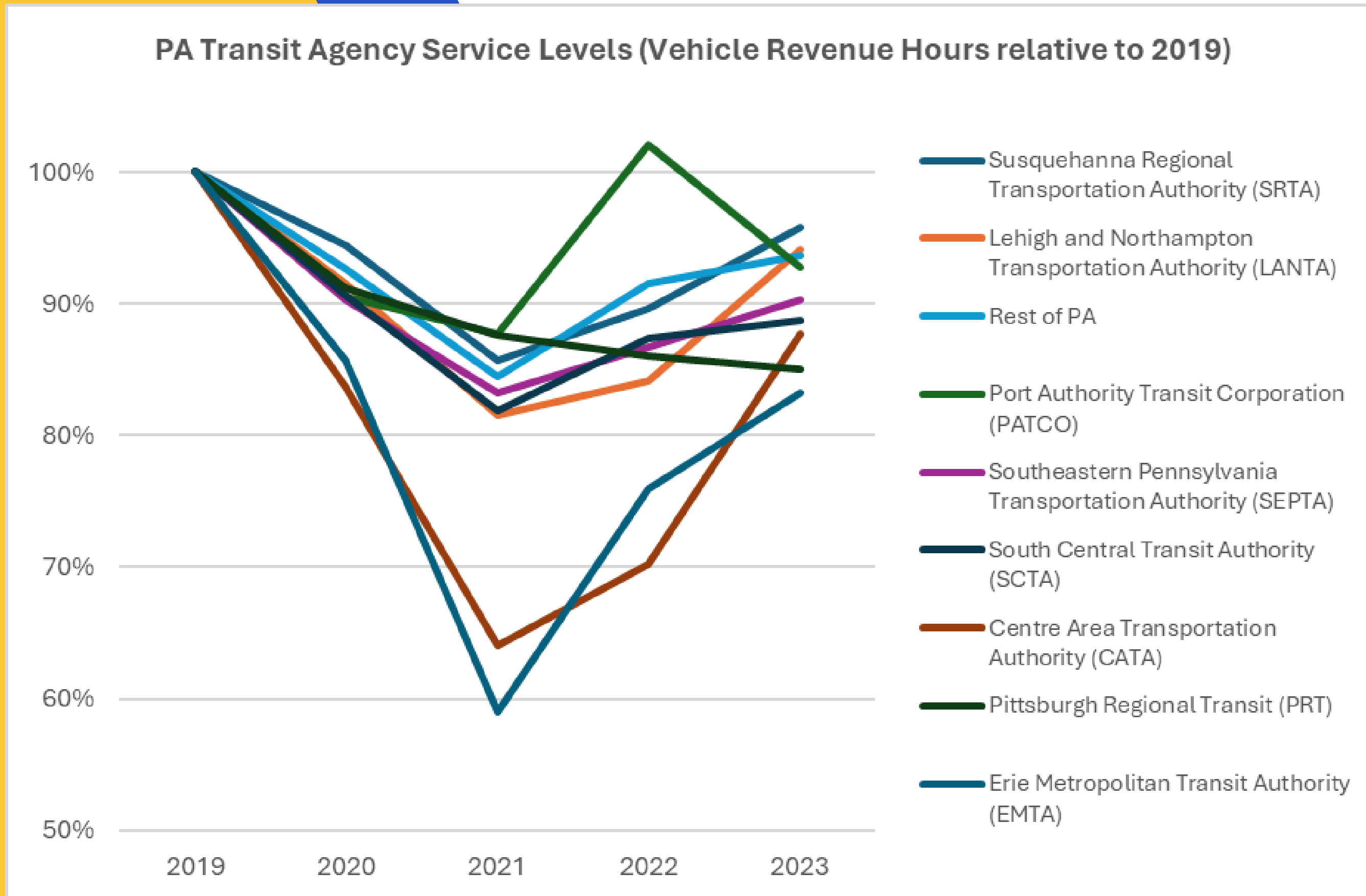




## FOUR PLANKS: SERVICE RESTORATION

- **Restoration to 2019 service + 10% for rural and small city agencies**
  - Nearly all agencies have cut service since COVID
  - For small agencies, even that baseline doesn't support riders - and legislators are noticing.
  - Ex: Carlisle outside Harrisburg lacks intracity service; Bellefonte outside State College's sole fixed-route is in danger of being permanently cut; Erie and Harrisburg themselves lack Sunday service entirely

# SERVICE ACROSS PA SINCE COVID





## FOUR PLANKS:

### LOCAL CONTROL + SMART SPENDING

- **Local enabling legislation**
  - Allowing local communities to raise money for transportation projects
- **Local control for transit fare enforcement**
  - Currently, this is decided at the state level - allow local governments to make their own decisions
- **Project Prioritization framework for PennDOT**
  - Avoid boondoggles like KOP Rail and I-95 expansion
  -

\$800,000,000

\$600,000,000

\$400,000,000

\$200,000,000

\$0

\$537,120,058

\$384,099,000

\$292,000,000

\$210,181,000

\$780,000,000

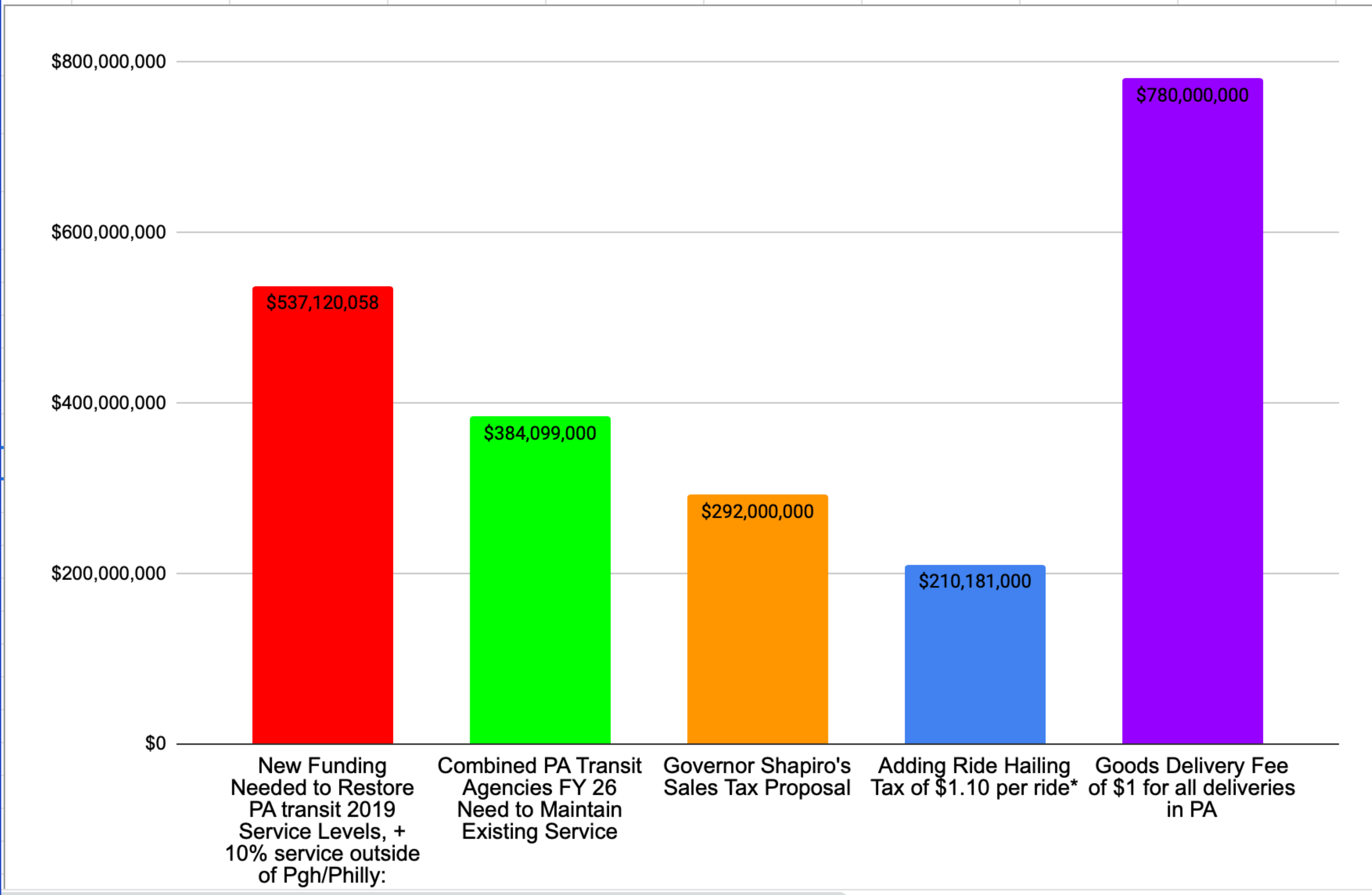
New Funding Needed to Restore PA transit 2019 Service Levels, + 10% service outside of Pgh/Philly:

Combined PA Transit Agencies FY 26 Need to Maintain Existing Service

Governor Shapiro's Sales Tax Proposal

Adding Ride Hailing Tax of \$1.10 per ride\*

Goods Delivery Fee of \$1 for all deliveries in PA



# THE FIGHT AHEAD

- **We know opposition already exists to the Governor's unambitious number, and our agencies themselves aren't aspiring to service restoration nor expansion**
- **That's why it's up to us!**
  - No one else is making this demand, so we must organize to move the frame of conversation to what riders and operators need





## RESPONDING TO LOCAL DEMAND

- Rep McNeill in the Lehigh Valley has proposed a study for a new grant program for midsize and growing regions for transit expansion
- At PennDOT's budget hearings, Rep Mako and Rep Nelson explicitly asked about distribution of the Public Transportation Trust Fund
  - We agree that small, and growing mid-size communities need an extra boost in their support of mobility for elders, people with disabilities, and workforce needs



**QUESTIONS FROM THE CHAT**



## TAKE ACTION: RESEARCH & COMMUNICATIONS

- **Pittsburghers for Public Transit-led Research & Comms committees**
  - This group will synthesize and design our platform for presentation at our next meeting
- **Communications Committee - first Tuesdays at 6pm**
- **Research Committee - Fridays at 3pm**
- **All links in chat + in your E-mail inbox!**





## TAKE ACTION: SMALL COMMUNITIES

- Transit isn't just urban - let's organize as riders, operators, and advocates in the **\*other\* 61 counties**
  - Meet your fellow organizers from outside Philadelphia and Pittsburgh
  - Build a map of your shared power, and where we need to be to make our case
- **Tuesday, March 18, 5:30-7pm**
- **All links in chat + in your E-mail inbox!**



## TAKE ACTION: BUILD OUR CAMPAIGN PLAN

- **Join us again to ratify our new Platform for Visionary Service + build a campaign plan to win by June 30**
  - Develop resources, learn our shared networks, and map our calendar
- **Wednesday, April 2, 5:30-7pm**
- **All links in chat + in your E-mail inbox!**