FACT SHEET

IN THE DRIVER’S SEAT: A NEW VISION FOR PENNSYLVANIA’S TRANSPORTATION FUTURE

The transportation sector is undergoing transformative change, and that’s good news for Pennsylvania. New vehicles powered by Pennsylvania-generated electricity are entering the market place, providing opportunities to bring more economic development, cleaner air, greater consumer choice, and lower energy costs to our communities. Advances in battery technology are driving more demand for electric buses and heavy trucks than ever before. Over 60 passenger electric vehicle (EV) models are available today and over 100 models, including trucks and SUVs, are expected by 2022.¹

In order to make these vehicles—and their benefits—an option for all Pennsylvanians, we need thoughtful planning and collaboration between state agencies, utilities, and industry participants. The proposed Pennsylvania Clean Transportation Infrastructure Act lays the foundation for these collaborative efforts, enjoys support from dozens of local and national businesses and organizations, and puts Pennsylvania in the driver’s seat toward a modern, clean, and equitable transportation future.

UNDER THIS LEGISLATION, PENNSYLVANIA WILL:

- Set a new goal for increasing state-wide EV growth;
- Assess EV charging infrastructure needs on a regional basis;
- Instruct electric utilities to develop plans for how Pennsylvania can meet these charging needs, and how utilities can help; and
- Develop recommendations on strategies to promote other alternative fuel technologies.

Let’s keep the Commonwealth on the leading edge of technology innovation and economic growth. It’s time to accelerate the transition to clean, reliable transportation that works for all Pennsylvanians.
WHY WE NEED THE PENNSYLVANIA CLEAN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE ACT

Clean, electric transportation creates jobs in Pennsylvania. The transition to EVs brings with it a growing array of new industries such as advanced batteries and storage technologies, EV componentry, and EV manufacturing and charging stations. The Act will grow clean transportation jobs in the Commonwealth and add to the 86,000+ clean energy jobs already in the state.¹

Electric vehicles are cheap to fuel and maintain.
EVs have few moving parts and cost half as much to fuel as gasoline vehicles do over their lives, and the Act will help grow this market. This means big savings for Pennsylvania drivers. A recent study found that in-state driver savings from accelerated EV adoption could reach a cumulative $23.1 billion by 2050.²

Electric vehicles are good for Pennsylvania’s health and environment.
20 counties across the state currently do not meet air quality standards for pollutants known to exacerbate health issues, particularly among children and seniors.³ EVs produce zero tailpipe emissions and protect Pennsylvanians’ health. Based on the state’s current mix of electricity generation resources, EVs charged in Pennsylvania emit 67 percent less greenhouse gases than gasoline-powered vehicles.⁴ And as Pennsylvania’s grid gets cleaner, so too will electric vehicles.

Pennsylvanians deserve better EV charging access.
EVs are coming, but drivers and fleet operators need a robust network of charging stations that the Act will enable. Ford has announced plans to release an electric F-150. General Motors, Nissan, Toyota, and other automakers are already offering EV models below the price of an average new car—and state and federal incentives help make them even more affordable.⁵ Electrifying heavy-duty buses and trucks will clean our air and provide access to electric mobility for Pennsylvanians that don’t drive personal vehicles. We need to grow Pennsylvania’s charging station networks to grow the EV market.

Careful state planning is needed to maximize economic benefits.
The state government can ensure that Pennsylvanians reap every possible benefit from clean transportation. After all, clean transportation issues are economic development issues. Under the Pennsylvania Clean Transportation Infrastructure Act, the Commonwealth will begin to strategically invest in EV charging infrastructure, ultimately driving market growth, saving drivers money, and boosting innovative businesses in the state. State agencies like the Public Utility Commission will ensure that dollars are efficiently spent to optimize utility customer benefits and ensure all Pennsylvanians can fully benefit from new, innovative technologies.

ENDNOTES
6 The average price of a new car is approximately $36,000. The Chevrolet Volt, Nissan LEAF, and Toyota Prius Plug-In, among others, are all below this upfront price point. Pennsylvania offers EV rebates through the Department of Environmental Protection’s AFIG program, available at: https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/GrantsLoansRebates/Alternative-Fuels-Incentive-Grant/pages/default.aspx.