(610) 478-6300 FAX: (610) 478-6316

c/o Berks County Planning Commission Berks County Services Center 633 Court Street, 14th Floor Reading, PA 19601-4309

To: Reading Area Transportation Study Technical Committee

From: Devon B. Hain, Transportation Planner II

Re: STC Public Survey Results

Date: July 6, 2023

In the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission's (STC's) effort to gain public input for the 2025 Twelve Year Program, they opened an eight-week public comment period in spring of 2023. This public outreach generated over 10,500 survey responses with 4,428 transportation issues to be identified statewide. Berks County received 109 survey responses with mapped transportation issues. We separated these results by responses focused on highways and bridges and to those focused on active transportation and public transportation. Examining the data from the 109 valid responses has provided us with the following information.

A majority of the highway comments showed public concern with congestion and safety along 422, 222, and Interstate 78. The West Shore Bypass (422) was identified as having issues at the Lancaster Avenue and I-176 interchanges, which will be addressed through TIP projects. The interchange area in Wyomissing Borough where 222, 422, and 12 come together received comments requesting line repainting, advance lane signage, interchange improvements, and speed enforcement, many of these issues will be addressed through various TIP projects. Route 222 received many comments concerning congestion in areas where there is only 1 lane in each direction. Multiple projects on the TIP focus on widening and expanding capacity on this roadway. Areas along I-78 were identified that needed pavement maintenance, congestion was also noted in construction areas. In addition to the comments focused on congestion and safety, there were multiple comments discussing the amount of trash along 422 and 78 requesting clean ups along these highways.

Highway and bridge comments of note that are not currently addressed in the TIP include issues with Pricetown Road's intersection with 662. The stretch of 662 between Pricetown Road and Main Street in Fleetwood had multiple maintenance comments. The 183 SB turn lane onto 222 NB was pointed out as being too short. The amount of traffic on 100 and resulting intersection issues were made. The impact of the Amazon facility in Upper Bern and its impact on Wolf Creek/Shartlesville Rd was noted. Additional comments can be found in the provided summary.

There were 20 active transportation comments this survey period. Places where conflict between vehicles and pedestrians were identified that could include signal timing, painted crosswalks, pedestrian signing, ADA ramps, sidewalks, and walking paths were identified. Comments were also made regarding the need for wider shoulders and bike lanes. Being able to realign the Schuylkill River Trail to get it entirely off road throughout Berks County was also mentioned.

Public Transportation comments consisted of 1 request for increased bus service to Deka and encourage workers to use this service through incentives. There were also 14 comments made requesting bus or passenger rail to areas within Berks County such as Kutztown, Womelsdorf, Sinking Spring, and Wyomissing. Areas outside of Berks County that access was requested to were Schuylkill County, Adamstown, Lancaster, Lebanon, Pottstown, Harrisburg, Philadelphia, and New York City.



#### 2025 12-Year Program Update: 2021 and 2023 Regional Survey Results Comparison

#### **READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY** (RATS)

State Transportation Commission

2021

June 2023









#### **About the Survey Participants**

2023 2021

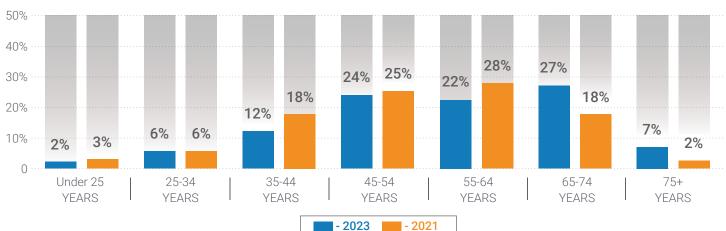
Male	52%
Female	44%
Third gender/Nonconforming	1%
I prefer to self-describe	0%
I prefer not to answer	3%

2023

Male	53%
Female	45%
Third gender/Nonconforming	0%
I prefer to self-describe	0%
I prefer not to answer	2%

Responses to demographic questions were optional.

#### Age



#### **Top Transportation Modes**

#### **Highest Ranked Priorities**

2023

2021







2023







2021

















#### 2025 12-Year Program Update: Regional Transportation Survey Summary READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (RATS)



State Transportation Commission

#### A CLOSER LOOK AT YOUR REGION

The State Transportation Commission held a 60-day Public Comment Period for the 2025 12-Year Program (TYP) Update from March 1, through April 30, 2023. The public was invited to provide input through taking the Transportation Survey and participating in an Online Public Forum. The Online Public Forum, held on Wednesday, April 12, was broadcasted on a webinar platform with a call-in option, and on Facebook Live. The public could also request assistance to participate in the Survey or Public Forum by contacting PennDOT's Program Center by email or phone. All public feedback received was reviewed and compiled to convey current transportation priorities and trends statewide and regionally for the benefit of the Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organizations (MPOs and RPOs) across the commonwealth.

#### **Transportation Issues Identified**

Statewide, survey participants mapped about 4,250 transportation concerns, 109 of these are located within the **RATS region**.

During the mapping exercise, some survey participants discovered their concerns were already addressed by projects on the 2023 TYP. See the map and data below for more details.

> This portion of W Lessport Road is a marked section of the Schuylkill River Trail and there is no bike lane or sidewalks on this road.

> > **Local Survey** Participant

# 422 **Examples of a 2023 TYP Project**

#### **Number of Issues Identified**

The icons below correspond with the same color dots on the map.



**ROADWAY** 





BIKING/ WALKING



**TRANSIT** 



**FREIGHT** 



CONCERN(S) **ALREADY ADDRESSED** 

### that Addressed Public Concerns

SR 3023 STATE HILL ROAD - SR 222 SB TO NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILROAD

PA 12 WEST RESURFACE - 422 WB RAMPS TO SR 183

SR 183 (BERNVILLE ROAD) RESTORATION IMPROVEMENT



## 2025 12-Year Program Update: Regional Transportation Survey Summary READING AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY (RATS)

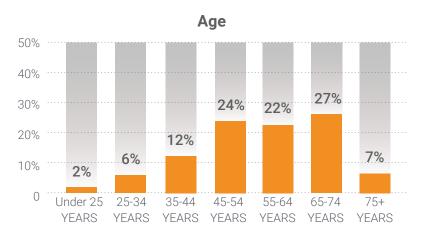


State Transportation Commission

#### **ABOUT THE SURVEY PARTICIPANTS IN YOUR REGION**

Over 10,000 individuals participated in the survey statewide, and **185** of the survey participants identified with the **RATS region** through feedback provided. Learn more about the participants from this region.

Male	89	52%
Female	76	44%
Third gender/Nonconforming	2	1%
I prefer to self-describe	0	0%
I prefer not to answer	5	3%



#### **Top Transportation Modes**



#### **Transportation Priorities Ranking**

- ROAD PAVEMENT
  Repairing, restoring, reconstructing, and maintaining
  Pennslyania's 120,000 miles of state and local roadways
  to impove your travel
- BRIDGES
  Repairing, replacing, and maintaining Pennsylvania's 31,000 state and local bridges
- TRAFFIC FLOW
  Using technology to improve traffic flow and construction of new roads and additional travel lanes to safely move people and goods more efficiently
- 4 INTERSTATE HIGHWAY
  Specific, prioritized investments in reconstructing
  Pennsylvania's 1,868 miles of interstate highway
- PASSENGER RAIL
  Intercity and commuter rail service across Pennsylvania
  with out-of-state connections

- 6 Accessible and connected routes to get you where you need to go safely
- FREIGHT

  Modern highways, railways, airports, and waterways to support the economy and ensure the efficient movement of goods and services
- 8 Safe bicycle routes and facilities throughout the commonwealth to get you where you need to go
- TRANSIT

  Accessible and timely public transportation that covers an extensive service area and crosses regions
- AVIATION

  Modern facilities, operations, and a wide range of commercial airline choices at airports



#### **STC Survey Highway and Bridge Results**

#### Alsace:

• 2 comments were concerned with congestion and safety on SR 12 (Pricetown Road) and its intersection with Elizabeth Ave. This intersection and the related congestion will be addressed through the implementation of Project 79467.

#### Amity:

- 1 comment showed urgency for the completion of rehabilitation/replacement of the bridge on Levengood Rd over Manatawny Creek.
- 3 comments addressed congestion and speeding along 422 through Amity and Exeter.
   Suggestions were made to turn this stretch of 422 into an expressway or bypass. 13 signalized intersections will be upgraded along 422 in Amity and Exeter Townships through Project 110075.

#### Bern:

- 1 comment focused on the congestion of SR 183 between 222 and Upper Van Reed Rd. It was suggested that another NB and SB lane be added through this entire section rather than a narrowing from 2 lanes to 1 lane and then widening back to 2 lanes. Capacity will be added to 183 through Project 117721, which involves the widening of 183 to eliminate the narrow section between 222 and West Leesport Rd.
- 1 comment focused on the congestion of SR 183 SB at the turning arrow to get onto 222 NB. It was suggested that this lane be lengthened to allow more vehicles to stack in this turn lane without blocking the 183 SB lane of traffic.
- 1 comment addressed the need to repave 222 between 183 and the Spring Ridge exits.
- 1 comment noted that the speed limit on West Leesport Road is too high and the recommendation was made to lower the speed limit to 25MPH and increase police enforcement along this road to aid in the reduction of speeding vehicles.

#### Bethel:

- 1 comment pointed out the right lanes of I-78 in Bethel Township are in need of repair. The condition of these lanes will be improved through the resurfacing Project 85903, which is included in the current Interstate TIP.
- 1 comment mentioned the need for clean up along I-78 due to the abundance of trash and blown out tires.

#### **Brecknock:**

• 1 comment notes that there is excessive speeding along 222 through Spring and Brecknock Townships.

#### Colebrookdale:

- 1 comment questioned when the Funk Road bridge will be repaired. This bridge will be rehabilitated through Project 10751.
- 1 comment noted the congestion on 100 NB at the intersection with County Line Road, it is noted that this is at the southern border of Colebrookdale Township. The congestion occurring NB at this traffic light is within Montgomery County.

#### Cumru:

- 3 comments noted safety concerns when merging onto SR 422 from the I-176 Interchange due to the short length of acceleration lanes. The reconstruction of this interchange will be addressed by Projects 114439 and 72814, which are Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the West Shore (US 422) Reconstruction.
- 2 comments noted safety and maintenance concerns along 422 as they note the abundance of potholes. Maintenance issues will be addressed by Projects 114439 and 72814, which are Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the West Shore (US 422) Reconstruction. The abundance of trash along 422 was also noted.

#### Exeter:

- 3 comments addressed congestion and speeding along 422 through Amity and Exeter.
   Suggestions were made to turn this stretch of 422 into an expressway or bypass. 13 signalized intersections will be upgraded along 422 in Amity and Exeter Townships through Project 110075.
- 1 comment noted serious congestion issues at the end of 422 where it meets Perkiomen Ave. It was noted the congestion blocks the intersection at this ramp and the suggestion was made to extend the right turn lane on 422 onto W 47<sup>th</sup> St.
- 1 comment noted the excessive trash and potholes along the highway portion of 422.

#### Fleetwood:

- 1 comment discussed how the addition of the traffic light at the railroad tracks on 662/South Richmond Street has created a major issue on the side streets off 662 as many cars will use the side streets such as Locust, Poplar, Spruce, Cedar, and Pine to avoid this light. Many of these cars are speeding through these dense residential areas.
- 1 comment noted the poor condition of roadway over the railroad track on 662/South Richmond Street.
- 1 comment noted the confusing nature of the intersection of 662/South Richmond Street and West Locust Street. It was stated that numerous cars traveling NB on 662 have turned onto the railroad tracks instead of West Locust Street due to the proximity of the intersection to the railroad tracks. The addition of better signage, lighting, line painting, and barriers were mentioned as possible solutions to this issue.

#### Greenwich:

- 3 comments expressed concern relating to I-78. These comments focused on the length of time
  taken to complete construction, the disapproval for tolling the bridge near Lenhartsville, and the
  abundance of trash and blown out tires along this interstate. The reconstruction of the I-78
  bridge over 143 in Lenhartsville will not receive funds from tolling and is included under Project
  97274.
- 1 comment noted the increase of truck traffic along 737 between I-78 and 222 and the resulting need for shoulders as there are no shoulders along this route for a majority of the distance between I-78 and 222. This safety concern will be addressed through the application of a high surface friction treatment under Project 114407.

#### Hamburg:

• 1 comment mentioned the need for clean up along I-78 due to the abundance of trash and blown out tires.

#### Hereford:

3 comments were made concerning the intersection of 100 and Huffs Church Road. These
comments mentioned that it has become difficult to turn onto 100 from Huffs Church Road,
especially at peak travel times. It was noted that the number of accidents at this intersection
has increased and there is a need for safety measures at this intersection. The comments
suggested a traffic light at this intersection could assist in solving this issue.

#### Jefferson:

 1 comment discusses the increased traffic on Shartlesville/Wolf Creek Road due to the traffic generated by the Amazon facility. The increase of accidents and a resulting fatality were also mentioned showing need for safety improvements. A portion of Shartlesville Road is within Jefferson Township.

#### Leesport:

- 1 comment notes the excessive congestion on Wall Street leading up to the traffic light at its intersection with 61. It takes multiple lights to be able to go through and the stacking along Wall Street often results in the access to side streets, businesses, and residences being blocked.
- 1 comment mentions the corner of Wall Street with Lee/Center Streets as being dangerous due to it being too narrow and not having proper sight distance.
- 1 comment discusses how narrow the road is along Main Street, specifically between Leesport Ave and Reeser Street, resulting in difficulty for two vehicles to pass by each other.

#### Lenhartsville:

• 1 comment notes the insufficient turning radius at the intersection of Old 22/Penn St and 143/Willow St, resulting in difficulty for large trucks to safely make right turns.

#### Longswamp:

• 1 comment expresses the need for repaving the roads within Mountain Village Mobile Home Park. It was stated that the roads get patched and crack sealed, however without repaving, the potholes return just to be patched over again.

#### **Lower Heidelberg:**

• 1 comment notes that repairs are needed to the drainpipe related paving near the intersection of Rebers Bridge Road and Wagner Road.

#### Maidencreek:

- 2 comments address the safety issues of roundabouts in Maidencreek Township and resulting in truck turn overs and the uncertainty of where vehicles within the circle are headed due to need for more signage, the lanes being too narrow, and the roundabouts being too small. Concern due to the abundance of rerouted traffic due to accidents occurring from these roundabouts was also mentioned.
- 1 comment addresses the need to make 222 a four-lane highway bypassing the townships from the Lehigh County line to the west to meet up with the existing 4 lane highway near the border of Maidencreek and Ontelaunee Townships. Although turning 222 into a 4-lane bypass is not a programmed project, 222 congestion will be addressed by multiple projects in the current TIP. Project 92414 has been implemented from the 2021-2024 TIP, which included the improvements at the intersection of 222 and 73, two new roundabouts on 222 at Tamarack/Genesis Drive and Schaeffer Road, as well as widening 222 to four lanes to the west and east of 73. Project 61972 will widen 222 to four lanes from Schaeffer Road in Maidencreek Township to the Kutztown Bypass, this project also includes the construction of two new roundabouts at Pleasant Hill and Richmond Roads. Project 97234 includes the preliminary engineering phase for widening 222 to two lanes in both directions for 3.81 miles between the 222/Kutztown Bypass north to the Berks/Lehigh County Line. Project 90569 consists of intersection improvements and the construction of a roundabout at Long Lane Rd in Maxatawny.

#### Marion:

• 1 comment shows concern for the poor condition of Sheridan Road adjacent to Mill Creek, which is a tributary to Tulpehocken Creek. This is along Sheridan Road between the southern county border and William Penn Blvd. This same comment showed similar concern for Sheridan Road adjacent to Tulpehocken Creek north of Main Street/William Penn Blvd.

#### Maxatawny:

• 3 comments addresses safety concerns and congestion along 222. Frequent accidents, congestion especially around the intersection with Long Lane Road, and the need for more lanes and limited access were all noted. The congestion on 222 will be addressed by multiple projects around this area in the current TIP. Project 90569 which consists of intersection improvements and the construction of a roundabout at Long Lane Road to improve safety and reduce

- congestion. Project 97234 includes the preliminary engineering phase for widening 222 to two lanes in both directions for 3.81 miles between the 222/Kutztown Bypass north to the Berks/Lehigh County Line, which will also address congestion concerns along 222.
- 1 comment noted the increase of truck traffic along 737 between I-78 and 222 and the resulting need for shoulders as there are no shoulders along this route for a majority of the distance between I-78 and 222. This safety concern will be addressed through the application of a high surface friction treatment under Project 114407.

#### Muhlenberg:

- 1 comment notes the poor drainage under the roadway near the Frush Valley Road and Hilltop Road intersection. This section of road needs maintenance often and the addition of proper drainage was mentioned as a possible solution to this issue.
- 1 comment draws attention to the short length of the on ramps from North 5<sup>th</sup> Street Highway onto 12. Due to their inadequate length, the commenter notes this as a safety issue.

#### Oley:

 1 comment notes safety issues at the intersection of Oley Turnpike Road and 662/Memorial Highway. This comment will be addressed through Project 105963. This project involves the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of 662/Memorial Highway and Oley Turnpike Road.

#### Penn:

 1 comment discusses the increased traffic on Shartlesville/Wolf Creek Road due to the traffic generated by the Amazon facility. The increase of accidents and a resulting fatality were also mentioned showing need for safety improvements. A portion of Shartlesville Road is within Penn Township.

#### Reading:

- 2 comments concentrate on safety concerns at the 422 interchange with Lancaster Avenue. These concerns are safety and congestion driven. Comments focus on the safety and congestion caused by exit and entrance ramps being at the left lane. These issues will be addressed by Projects 114439 and 72814, which are Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the West Shore (US 422) Reconstruction. These projects will include the Lancaster Avenue interchange reconstruction and realignment.
- 3 comments focus on congestion and safety issues along 12 from 422 to the River Road exit.
   Suggestions were made to widen the road, add traffic control, and reduce the speed limit.
   These comments will be addressed through Project 89215. This project involves highway resurfacing, driveway curb closures, guide rail and single face barrier upgrades, glare screen installation, pavement restriping to provide lengthened acceleration lanes and tree removal/trimming.
- 2 comments note the safety issues and needed maintenance of 422. The high volume of traffic, short on ramps, and dodging of potholes add to the safety issues. Maintenance issues will be

addressed by Projects 114439 and 72814, which are Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the West Shore (US 422) Reconstruction. The need for trash cleanup along this roadway was also mentioned.

#### **Richmond:**

- 1 comment addresses safety issues of the roundabout in Richmond Township. The uncertainty of where vehicles within the circle are headed due to need for more signage, the lanes being too narrow, and the roundabouts being too small were all concerns of note.
- 1 comment notes safety concerns for vehicles turning onto Fleetwood Lyons Road from Dryville Road as there is heavy traffic and a hill to the right cutting down on visibility, especially when drivers are going above the speed limit.
- 1 comment addresses the need to make 222 a four-lane highway bypassing the townships from the Lehigh County line to the west to meet up with the existing 4 lane highway near the border of Maidencreek and Ontelaunee Townships. Although turning 222 into a 4-lane bypass is not a programmed project, 222 congestion will be addressed by multiple projects in the current TIP. Project 92414 has been implemented from the 2021-2024 TIP, which included the improvements at the intersection of 222 and 73, two new roundabouts on 222 at Tamarack/Genesis Drive and Schaeffer Road, as well as widening 222 to four lanes to the west and east of 73. Project 61972 will widen 222 to four lanes from Schaeffer Road in Maidencreek Township to the Kutztown Bypass, this project also includes the construction of two new roundabouts at Pleasant Hill and Richmond Roads. Project 97234 includes the preliminary engineering phase for widening 222 to two lanes in both directions for 3.81 miles between the 222/Kutztown Bypass north to the Berks/Lehigh County Line. Project 90569 consists of intersection improvements and the construction of a roundabout at Long Lane Rd in Maxatawny.

#### **Ruscombmanor:**

- 1 comment of concern in this township is the safety and congestion of the intersection of 12/Pricetown Rd and 662/Memorial Hwy. Due to high traffic volumes and an abundance of left turns, especially north from 12 onto 662, the suggestion was made to add left turn lanes.
- 1 comment addresses a safety issue at the intersection of 662 and Poplar Road. Multiple
  accidents have occurred around this intersection due to snow, ice, rain slicked roads, and
  speeding. Visibility at this intersection is also a concern when turning onto 662 due to the
  presence of an embankment.
- 1 comment expresses concern of 662 between Poplar Road and Houck Road (southern end). It
  is mentioned that the outside few feet of the travel lanes seem to be sinking in the section
  where the roadway is elevated.
- 1 comment mentions the intersection of 662 and Houck Rd (southern end) has a drainage culvert. However, the shoulder and grass are higher than the road, causing water to accumulate and pond on the surface of the roadway. They suggest that lowering the height of the shoulder and surrounding ground would allow the water to flow into this culvert.

#### **South Heidelberg:**

• 1 comment addresses safety concerns along Krick Road at the railroad tracks. There is heavy propane and oil tanker traffic from the nearby terminal on this road. The commenter proposes that a new bridge over this double track, mainline, high speed railroad crossing would enhance safety and stimulate economic development in the adjoining industrial park and corridor.

#### Spring:

- 2 comments address the congestion and safety on State Hill Road from Penn Ave north to Van Reed Rd. The suggestion was made to add a traffic circle/roundabout at the intersection of State Hill Rd and Penn Ave to alleviate traffic congestion at the southern end of this stretch of State Hill Rd. Project 105954 addresses corridor safety improvements that will consider widening, access management, roundabout(s), and traffic signal updates/coordination. Project 117603 involves improvements to State Hill Road intersections with SR 222 ramps. Project 117620 addresses the conversion of the State Hill Rd intersection with Penn Avenue into a roundabout.
- 1 comment notes that there is excessive speeding along 222 through Spring and Brecknock Townships.

#### Tilden:

- 1 comment mentions the need for clean up along I-78 due to the abundance of trash and blown out tires.
- 2 comments note safety and congestion issues along I-78 throughout Tilden Township. There is excessive speeding without enough enforcement. It was also noted in the comments that the widening of I-78 will not be enough to handle the amount of traffic.

#### **Upper Bern:**

- 1 comment mentions the need for clean up along I-78 due to the abundance of trash and blown out tires.
- 1 comment discusses the increased traffic on Shartlesville/Wolf Creek Road due to the traffic generated by the Amazon facility. The increase of accidents and a resulting fatality were also mentioned showing need for safety improvements. A majority of Wolf Creek Road is within Upper Bern Township.
- 1 comment suggests intersection improvements are needed where Wolf Creek Rd meets Old 22. The comment addresses the amount of traffic, width of the intersection, and visibility.

#### **Upper Tulpehocken:**

- 1 comment mentions the need for clean up along I-78 due to the abundance of trash and blown out tires.
- 1 comment discusses the increased traffic on Shartlesville/Wolf Creek Road due to the traffic generated by the Amazon facility. The increase of accidents and a resulting fatality were also mentioned showing need for safety improvements. A portion of Shartlesville/Wolf Creek Road is within Upper Tulpehocken Township.

#### Washington:

 2 comments discuss the high volume of traffic along 100 through Washington Township and suggest turning 100 into an expressway as it is the best route between Pottstown and Allentown.

#### Wernersville:

 1 comment identifies congestion issues at the intersections along 422/Penn Ave. It was suggested that syncing the traffic lights along Penn Avenue would clear up some of this congestion.

#### West Reading:

• 2 comments note the safety issues and needed maintenance of 422. The high volume of traffic, short on ramps, and dodging of potholes add to the safety issues. Maintenance issues will be addressed by Projects 114439 and 72814, which are Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the West Shore (US 422) Reconstruction. The need for trash cleanup along this roadway was also mentioned.

#### Windsor:

• 1 comment mentioned the need for clean up along I-78 due to the abundance of trash and blown out tires.

#### Womelsdorf:

- 1 comment identifies congestion issues on East High Street when merging onto Conrad Weiser Parkway/422.
- 1 comment addresses the need for a wider intersection at 419/West High St and North 3<sup>rd</sup> St. The comment notes that tractor trailers and other large trucks have difficulty making the turn from West High St onto North 3<sup>rd</sup> St. This results in vehicles mounting the sidewalk at the corner of this intersection, nearly hitting the house at this location.
- 1 comment mentions the water runoff on the south side of West High St between 2<sup>nd</sup> St and Water St during rainfalls. The comment notes that during rainfall the runoff in this location rises to the level of the curb and averages 6 feet in width. Storm drains, redesign of road pitch, and curb relief were mentioned as possible solutions to this issue.

#### Wyomissing:

- 2 comments were made about the congestion and safety issues in the area of the ramp to continue on 222 SB and the ramp to stay on 422 WB prior to the Papermill Rd exit. This issue will be addressed through the addition of an auxiliary lane along 222 SB between the 222/422 Interchange and the Papermill Rd exit as a part of project 110008.
- 4 comments were made about safety, congestion, and confusion in the area where 12, 222, and 422 converge. Suggestions include line repainting, adding lanes, reconfiguration, and advance signage. Some of these issues will be addressed through Project 110007. This project involves concrete patching and ultra-thin overlay of 222. Project 114108 will also address this issue

- through the creation of a northbound auxiliary lane from the entrance ramp of the State Hill Road interchange to the SR 422 eastbound exit ramp.
- 2 comments address the congestion and safety on State Hill Road from Penn Ave north to Van Reed Rd. The suggestion was made to add a traffic circle/roundabout at the intersection of State Hill Rd and Penn Ave to alleviate traffic congestion at the southern end of this stretch of State Hill Rd. Project 105954 addresses corridor safety improvements that will consider widening, access management, roundabout(s), and traffic signal updates/coordination. Project 117603 involves improvements to State Hill Road intersections with SR 222 ramps. Project 117620 addresses the conversion of the State Hill Rd intersection with Penn Avenue into a roundabout.
- 1 comment identifies the need for an interchange from 222 SB onto 12 EB as well as an interchange for an interchange from 12 WB onto 222 NB.



#### **STC Survey Active Transportation and Public Transportation Results**

#### **Active Transportation Comments:**

#### Berks Countywide:

 1 comment suggests that there is a need to get the Schuylkill River Trail off road throughout all of Berks County.

#### Bern:

- 2 comments express the need for the Schuylkill River Trail to be offroad throughout Bern Township.
- 2 comments request active transportation improvements along West Leesport Rd to allow residents to safely access area business.

#### • Exeter:

 1 comment expresses the need for active transportation improvements along East Neversink Rd between 422 and Perkiomen Ave as this area is frequented by active transportation users.

#### Fleetwood:

 2 comments focus on the need for pedestrian improvements such as crosswalks and signage across Main Street. Areas in particular include the Fleetwood Park as well as Walnut, Laurel, Buttonwood, and Willow Streets.

#### • Fleetwood and Richmond:

 2 comments express the need for active transportation improvements along West Main Street and Park Road from the borough to Lenhart Rd to allow safer passage for Fleetwood residents to access areas such as Boyer's Food Market and the Post Office.

#### Leesport:

- o 1 comment notes that there should be a bike lane along Wall Street. Specifically, the intersection of Wall St and Lee/Center St as this is a dangerous, narrow corner.
- 1 comment states that Wall Street is too narrow between Leesport Ave and Reeser St. It
  is noted that it is difficult for two vehicles to pass each other. Street widening and
  active transportation infrastructure including a bike lane were requested in this location.

#### Lenhartsville:

 1 comment notes that a painted pedestrian crossing be located at the intersection of Old 22/Penn St and 143/Willow St.

#### Ontelaunee:

- 1 comment expresses the need for active transportation improvements between
   Leesport through Ontelaunee to Muhlenberg Township. Suggestions include bike lanes,
   ADA ramps, sidewalks, and a shared multiuse path.
- 2 comments focus on the need for active transportation improvements along 73/Lake
   Shore Drive. The comment notes that the road and shoulder are too narrow to ride a bike or walk along 73/West Shore Drive.

#### Spring:

 1 comment notes that active transportation infrastructure needs to be added along 724 around the bridge over 222 to allow residents to access businesses safely without traveling in a car.

#### • Union:

1 comment indicates that there needs to be a better crossing for the Schuylkill River Trail across 724 near Main St. Based on the location indicated, this refers to the Monocacy Crossing, which is an overhead bridge that was completed in September of 2021 with funds from DCNR, DVRPC, and a donation from Peggy Whittaker.

#### West Reading:

- 1 comment identifies safety issues at the access points of Delaney Circle in West Reading. Suggested improvements include speed and stop sign enforcement, better signage, and newly painted crosswalks.
- 1 comment suggests that drivers do not yield to pedestrians at the intersection of Penn Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Better enforcement or a longer pedestrian light prior to the left-hand turn light were suggestions to address this issue.

#### **Public Transportation Comments:**

#### • Berks Countywide:

- o 14 comments were made regarding transit service from Reading with access to areas such as Kutztown and Allentown to the east; Schuylkill County to the north; Wyomissing, Sinking Spring, Adamstown, Lancaster, Womelsdorf, and Lebanon to the west; and Pottstown to the south. Furthermore, some of these comments express the need for commuter passenger service to areas even further away such as New York City, Philadelphia, and Harrisburg.
- 1 comment focuses on the need to increase bus service to Deka and use of existing
  public transportation through incentives to employees. The comment states that this
  could help reduce congestion, accidents, and speeding on the surrounding roadways
  and major routes into this area.