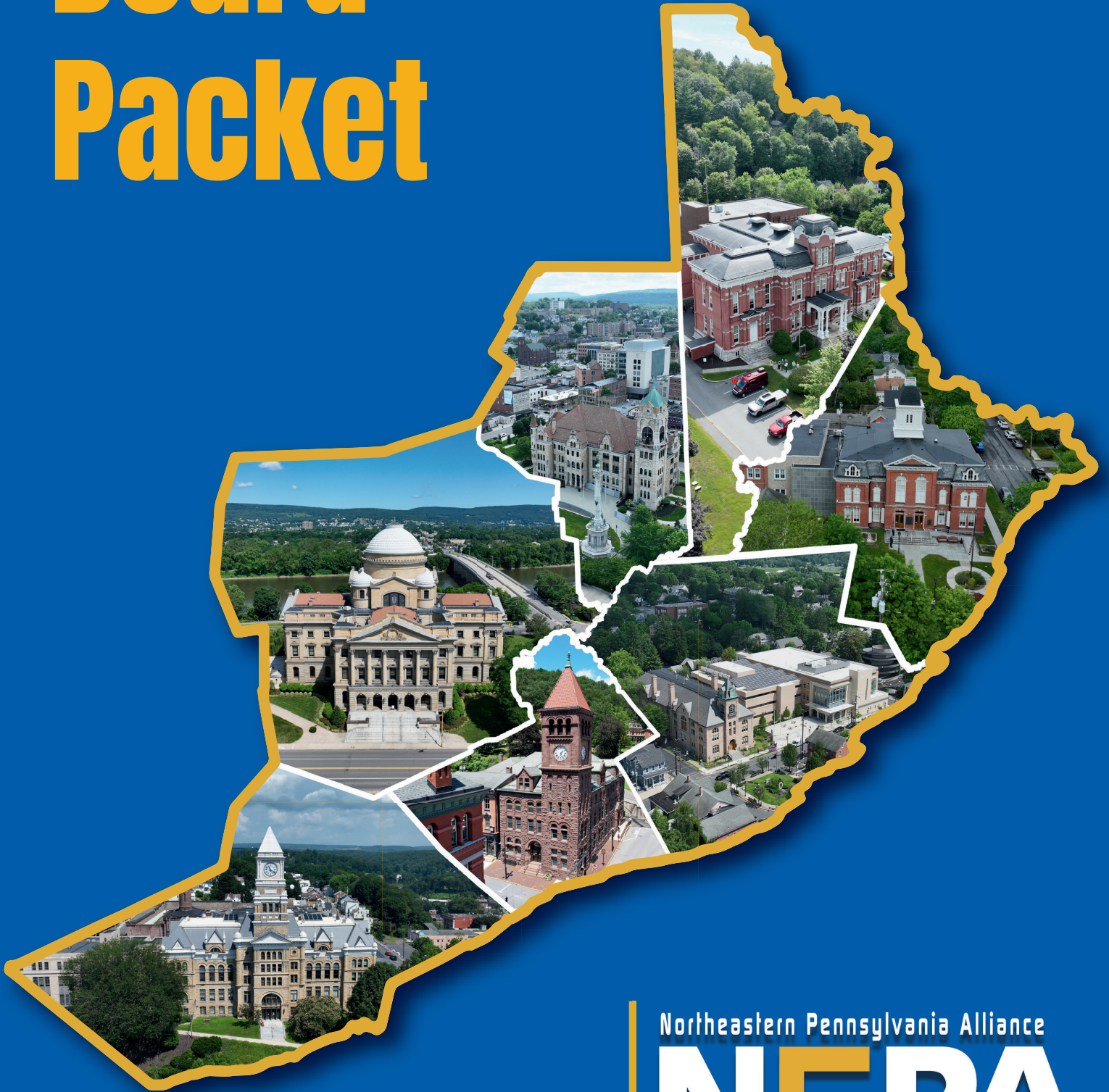


Board Packet



Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance

NEPA

May 6, 2026

NEPA's Board of Directors 2025-2026

CARBON COUNTY

Wayne Nothstein (County Commissioner)
(Executive Committee - 2nd Vice-Board Chairperson)
Harold Pudliner
Joseph Sebelin
Jared Soto
Garry Wentz

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LACKAWANNA COUNTY

Philip Condron
Tom Donohue
John McNulty
Kristen Magnotta
Dr. Katie Pittelli **(Executive Committee - Assistant Secretary)**
Vacant

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kadmagnotta@gmail.com
kpittelli@johnson.edu

LUZERNE COUNTY

Stephen Barrouk **(Executive Committee - Board Chairperson)**
Lindsay Griffin-Boylan
Joseph Lettiere
Mary Malone
Michelle Mikitish
Kerry Miscavage

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mmikitish@pittstonchamber.org
kmiscavage@timesleader.com

MONROE COUNTY

Christopher Barrett
Michelle Bisbing
John Christy (County Commissioner)
Mary Frances Postupack
(Executive Committee - 1st Vice-Board Chairperson)
Debra Raneri

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PIKE COUNTY

Cynthia DeFebo **(Executive Committee - Treasurer)**
J.D. Donson
Matthew Osterberg (County Commissioner)
Jennifer Passenti
Anna Van Acker

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SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

Robert Carl
Courtney Fasnacht
Micah Gursky **(Executive Committee - Assistant Treasurer)**
Bud Quandel
Michael Tobash

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WAYNE COUNTY

Jocelyn Cramer
(County Commissioner) **(Executive Committee - Secretary)**
James Hockenbury
Craig Rickard
Michael Rollison
Justin Taylor

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Vincent Galko
Larry Malski
Ben May
Alana Roberts
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EX-OFFICIO

Jeffrey Box
Megan Kennedy **(NCAC Board Chair)**
Kelly O'Brien **(PNE Board Chair)**
(John Augustine - Alternate)

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EMERITUS

David Donlin
Ernest Preate

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT
MAY 6, 2026



AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order** – *Steve Barrouk, Board Chairperson*
 - * Sound & Video check

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** - *Steve Barrouk, Board Chairperson*
 - * Introduction of new staff member Jordan Schultz

- III. **Roll Call** - *Donna Hritz, VP, Communications & Operations*

- IV. **Board Discussion & Action Items**
 - * March 6, 2026, Meeting Minutes - *Steve Barrouk, Board Chairperson* 1-4
 - * Approval of the Financial Report - *Wendi Holena, VP & CFO* 5-6
 - * Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Nominating Committee Recommendations for Board Membership - *Steve Barrouk, Jeffrey Box & Donna Hritz* 7-8

- V. **Affiliate/Committee/Division Reports** 9-21
 - Business Development Services - *Steve Ursich*
 - Community & Economic Development Services - *Kurt Bauman*
 - Communications & Membership - *Donna Hritz*
 - Transportation Services – *Kate McMahon*

- VI. **Presentation** – *Transportation Improvement Plan Update - Kate McMahon*

- VII. **President & CEO Report** - *Jeffrey Box, President & CEO*

- VIII. **Open Discussion** - *Steve Barrouk, Board Chairperson*



**Board of Directors Report
Minutes of
Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

OFFICERS

Steve Barrouk, Board Chairperson
Mary Frances Postupack, 1st Vice Board Chairperson
Commissioner Wayne Nothstein, 2nd Vice Board Chairperson
Cynthia DeFebo, Treasurer
Commissioner, Jocelyn Cramer, Secretary
Micah Gursky, Assistant Treasurer
Dr. Katie Pittelli, Assistant Secretary

CARBON

Harold Pudliner
Jared Soto

LACKAWANNA

Phil Condron

LUZERNE

Kerry Miscavage

MONROE

Debra Raneri

PIKE

J.D. Donson
Jennifer Passenti
Anna Van Acker

SCHUYLKILL

Michael Tobash

WAYNE

Craig Rickard

AT-LARGE

Jason Bays
Anthony Gabello
Vincent Galko
Ben May
Alana Roberts

EX-OFFICIO

Jeffrey Box

STAFF

Kurt Bauman
Wendi Holena
Donna Hritz
Kate McMahon
Bob Morgan
Miranda Slosky
Steve Ursich
Erica Yurkovic

**Board of Directors Report
Minutes of
Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

The NEPA Alliance held a Board of Directors Meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2026, in-person and via video meeting. Board Chairperson Steve Barrouk called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Board Chairperson Steve Barrouk asked the Board of Directors to join him in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for America’s military.

Donna Hritz conducted a roll call, acknowledging all participants attending the meeting in person and via video call.

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes - A motion was made by Harold Pudliner and seconded by Jared Soto to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on January 7, 2026. **Motion carried.**

Financial Report – Wendi reported that NEPA is 7 months (58%) through the fiscal year. She noted that on the Statement of Activities as of January 31, 2026, NEPA has total revenues of \$2.4 million and total expenses of \$2.4 million, which are slightly behind due to pass-through funding. She further reported that there is a small increase in net assets of \$1,323. Wendi further reported that NEPA has a healthy unrestricted cash balance of \$962,252 and net assets of \$1.9 million. She noted that the Historically Disadvantaged Business Assistance Micro Grant Program will bring additional funds to NEPA, totaling \$1 million, with NEPA receiving \$50,000 in administrative fees. Wendi further noted that the \$1.94 million Historically Disadvantaged Business Program for the Service Centers will generate \$200,000 in administrative fees for NEPA. She emphasized that both programs were unbudgeted.

A motion was made by Cynthia DeFebo and seconded by Commissioner Wayne Nothstein to accept the Financial Report as presented. **Motion carried.**

NEPA’s Vice Presidents Steve Ursich, Wendi, and Kurt introduced their new staff members: Bob Morgan, Miranda Slosky, and Erica Yurkovic.

Bob noted that he has worked with NEPA Alliance for several years in an external capacity and currently works within NEPA’s Government Procurement Program. He is excited to continue working with the team.

Miranda shared that she attended Penn State, where she earned her bachelor’s degree in accounting, and noted that she most recently worked at Valley Distributing.

Erica reported that she worked at the Tobyhanna Army Depot for eighteen years and also at the City of Scranton. She noted that she is excited to contribute to NEPA’s community and economic development initiatives.

Resolution 2026-3 Approving the loan of \$60,000 to the NEPA Alliance Economic Growth Fund - Steve Ursich thanked the Board for their flexibility and consideration regarding today’s resolution. He noted that it was brought to NEPA’s attention that it needed to show cash on its balance sheets. However, the cash had been loaned out. He explained that NEPA would move capital within the program and lend \$60,000 to the CDFI as temporary financing, with repayment expected within twelve months. He noted that this allows the CDFI to demonstrate to the U.S. Treasury its lending capability.

A motion was made by Anna Van Acker and seconded by Cynthia DeFebo to approve the loan of \$60,000 to NEPA’s Economic Growth Fund. **Motion carried.**

Board of Directors Report
Minutes of
Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Business Development Services – Steve Ursich expressed enthusiasm for the Historically Disadvantaged Business Assistance Micro Grant Program and the Historically Disadvantaged Business Program for the Service Centers. He stated that he will oversee both programs in partnership with the Northern Tier Regional Planning & Development Commission and the Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs). Steve Ursich also noted that Governor Shapiro views these initiatives as ongoing programs, with additional funding anticipated in the future. He noted that the CDFI application is scheduled for submission next week. Steve Ursich reported that the CDFI staff held two roundtables last month and received positive feedback. Ursich also stated that NEPA currently has 26 approved SBA 504 loans totaling \$26 million and is actively working through the backlog, which was primarily caused by the government shutdown in November and December. He expects to close approximately \$10 million in loans through May.

Community & Economic Development Services - Kurt reported that NEPA has submitted a new pre-application to the EDA on behalf of East Stroudsburg University (ESU). He noted that the ARC investment package is the largest submitted in several years, encompassing 24 projects, with five invited to submit full applications. Kurt stated that the ENGAGE program continues to meet regularly and noted that several RCAP applications were submitted in September. He reported that an RCAP workshop is scheduled for April at WVIA. Kurt also noted that he will be attending and presenting at the DDAA conference in Arlington next week. Finally, he reported that the ESU Economic Summit will be held on May 15 at Kalahari Resorts.

Communications & Membership - Donna reported that as of February 28th, NEPA had 139 members, generating total revenue of \$187,993. She also reported that the Communications & Membership Committee met last month regarding the upcoming Networking Reception. The Committee agreed upon the Mohegan Pennsylvania Casino in Luzerne County for the location. She reported that due to limited availability, the event will be held on Thursday, October 1st in the same format as previous years. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for May 21st. Donna reported that the nominating process is underway, and the deadline for county commissioners' recommendations/approvals is March 23rd. A Nominating Committee meeting will be scheduled for April. She noted that NEPA held a media event on February 26th at the Nyx in Clarks Summit and plans to schedule another media event sometime in March. She noted that NEPA's social media metrics are located on page 16 in the Board packet.

Transportation Services – Kate reported that the development of the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is underway. She noted that meetings in District 4 and District 5 were held with the county representatives in the fall, and most of the projects on the TIP are carryover projects with very few new projects added. Kate stated that the corridor study of Route 611 in Monroe County is ongoing. She noted that the data collection and a review of existing plans are complete, and seven intersections on Rt. 611 have been identified for analysis. Kate reported that the Active Transportation Plan was adopted by the Policy Board on June 17, 2025. The NEPA staff has developed an Active Transportation page on the NEPA website with federal, state, and local resources. The Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan was adopted by the NEPA MPO on June 17, 2025. She noted that the NEPA has retained Michael Baker/Rockland Planning to assist with plan implementation. Kate reported that the Transportation staff have been asked to participate in upcoming conferences.

Presentation – Steve Ursich presented a PowerPoint on the Historically Disadvantaged Business Assistance (HDBA) Program, highlighting the program's funding amount, core partners, service area, regional awards, and micro grants. A copy of the presentation is available upon request. Jeff noted that additional details regarding the initiative will be shared in the near future.



Board of Directors Report
Minutes of
Wednesday, March 4, 2026

President & CEO Report – Jeff reported that he recently underwent knee replacement surgery and will be recovering at home over the next several weeks. He expects to return in late April or early May and expressed his gratitude for everyone’s support and participation.

Open discussion - An open discussion followed among the Board regarding the upcoming Pike County Annual Job Fair, Penn’s Northeast’s Data Centers Seminar, and St. Patrick’s Day parades across the region.

There being no further business, Board Chairman Steve Barrouk adjourned the meeting at 1:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Donna Hritz
Vice President, Communications & Operations
March 11, 2026

Statement of Activities

March 31, 2026

	Prior YTD	Current YTD	Budget	Percentage of Budget
Revenues:				
Grants/Projects	\$ 3,042,113	\$ 2,667,557	\$ 4,245,086	63%
Membership Fees	182,509	184,107	245,476	75%
Rental Income	17,337	9,998	20,558	49%
RLF Admin. Fees	47,661	59,155	80,000	74%
Match from Other Sources	48,668	50,300	91,500	55%
Other Receipts	50,316	46,229	60,200	77%
Contributed Services	23,927	16,477	23,500	70%
Total Revenues	3,412,531	3,033,823	4,766,320	64%
Expenses:				
Personnel	1,742,076	1,668,427	2,221,748	75%
Benefits	661,782	698,344	977,569	71%
Contractual	455,086	263,814	844,494	31%
Professional Fees	33,550	22,696	26,000	87%
Travel and Per Diem	51,394	28,405	81,709	35%
Meetings and Seminars	98,841	68,660	114,657	60%
Postage	2,471	2,575	2,800	92%
Supplies	33,659	14,453	27,375	53%
Publications and Memberships	43,555	51,355	70,544	73%
Printing	3,812	3,902	4,900	80%
Advertising	3,999	5,922	23,000	26%
Occupancy	59,958	37,510	67,860	55%
Equipment Rental & Maintenance	4,558	6,289	7,600	83%
Depreciation	44,845	45,282	60,376	75%
Telephone/Internet	23,207	21,940	30,010	73%
Insurance	1,277	1,085	40,800	3%
Information Technology	41,961	31,982	82,010	39%
Interest	26,588	22,162	32,926	67%
Other Costs	16,774	21,584	23,490	92%
Contributed Services	23,927	16,227	23,500	69%
Total Expenses	3,373,320	3,032,614	4,763,368	64%
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 39,211	\$ 1,209	\$ 2,952	

Net Assets	
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,954,485
Increase (Decrease)	1,209
Current Balance	<u>\$ 1,955,694</u>

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2026

Assets	Prior Year	Current Year	Liabilities	Prior Year	Current Year
Unrestricted Cash Invested	\$ 1,378,532	\$ 1,175,588	Accounts Payable	117,154	89,325
Restricted Funds Invested	78,658	81,124	Deferred Project Funds	78,658	81,124
Membership Fees Receivable	26,675	18,975	Employee Benefits Payable	231,056	217,546
Advances/Deposits/Prepays	49,160	68,143	Payroll Withholdings	5,144	9,221
Accounts Receivable-Projects	983,346	1,070,985	Deferred Membership Fees	201,094	150,856
Loan Receivable - EGF	0	60,000	Capital Lease Payable	473,208	444,376
Depreciable Assets (Net)	535,304	473,327			
			Total Liabilities	1,106,314	992,448
			Net Assets *	1,945,361	1,955,694
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,051,675</u>	<u>\$ 2,948,142</u>	Total Liabilities & Net Assets	<u>\$ 3,051,675</u>	<u>\$ 2,948,142</u>

*Net Assets represents NEPA's equity. It is the surplus of Total Assets less Total Liabilities. Net Assets is not equivalent to cash.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT
June 24, 2026

NEPA Alliance Nominating Committee
Recommendations for Membership on the
Board of Directors for 2026-2027

The following recommendations have been received from the respective counties and/or recommended by the Nominating Committee for **reappointment** to the Board of Directors for a 2-year term beginning July 1, 2026.

Carbon County

Harold J Pudliner, Borough Manager, Weatherly Borough (Retired)
Jared Soto, Executive Director, Carbon County Economic Development Corporation

Lackawanna County

Philip Condron, CEO, Condron Sweda Advertising
Kristin Magnotta, Senior Manager of Government Affairs, Comcast
Jack McNulty, Mediator, Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry (Retired)

Luzerne County

Joseph Lettiere, President, CAN DO, Inc.
Michelle Mikitish, Executive Vice President, Gr Pittston Chamber of Commerce

Monroe County

Chris Barrett, President/CEO, Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau
Debra Raneri, Executive Director/Work Force Development, Northampton Community College

Pike County

Jennifer Passenti, Lake Region Center Director, Lackawanna College
Anna Van Acker, Assistant VP & Commercial Loan Officer, Wayne Bank

Schuylkill County

Robert Carl, President & CEO, Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce
Courtney Fasnacht, Director of Workforce Development, MAEA

Wayne County

Craig Rickard, Director, Wayne County Planning Commission
Justin Taylor, Executive Director, WEDCO

The following recommendations have been received from the counties and/or recommended by the Nominating Committee for **new appointments** in their respective counties for a 2-year term beginning July 1, 2026.

The following have been recommended by the Nominating Committee to the Board Chairperson for action to **reappoint** them to **At Large Board Seats**.

Jason Bays, VP & General Manager, Camelback Resorts
Chris Doherty, Quandel Enterprises Inc.
Anthony Gabello, President & CEO, PS Bank
Vince Galcko, Senior Vice President, Mercury Public Affairs

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT June 24, 2026

Larry Malski, President, PA NE Regional Railroad Authority
Ben May, President, Pocono Raceway
Alana Roberts, Manager, External Affairs, Pennsylvania American Water Company

The following have been recommended by the Nominating Committee to the Board Chairperson for action to **appointment** to **At Large Board Seat**.

Mike Narcavage, NE Regional Affairs Director, PPL Electric Utilities

The following have been recommended by the Nominating Committee to be **reappointed** to **Ex-Officio Seats**.

Jeffrey Box, NEPA Alliance
Tommy Grimes, Penn's Northeast (John Augustine alt.)
Megan Kennedy (NCAC Board Chair)

The following have been recommended by the Nominating Committee to be reappointed to **Emeritus Seats**.

Dave Donlin
Ernie Preate

The following have been recommended by the Nominating Committee to serve as Officers for the coming year beginning July 1, 2026.

Mary Frances Postupack, Board Chairperson
Commissioner Wayne Nothstein, 1st Vice Board Chairperson
Cynthia DeFebo, 2nd Vice Board Chairperson
Commissioner Jocelyn Cramer, Treasurer
Micah Gursky, Secretary
Katie Pittelli, Assistant Treasurer
Michelle Mikitish, Assistant Secretary
Steve Barrouk, Past Board Chairperson

The NEPA Board Chair will call for a motion to approve the Nominating Committee recommendations as listed above.

Board of Directors Report May 6, 2026



Dear Board Members,

As most of you are aware, I have been off on medical leave since February. I had a total knee replacement, and I am now continuing physical therapy until mid-May when I return to the office full-time.

The Senior Management Team has been keeping everything moving along at NEPA. I check in with them routinely, and I'm starting to drop in at the office to make sure all is running smoothly. All of our programming is meeting or exceeding the goals set by our funders.

The CDFI application has been submitted to the U.S. Department of Treasury. The application process took much longer than anticipated when we started. The good news is that the application has been submitted and will hopefully be up and running by the end of the calendar year.

We will soon start the budget preparation for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027. As I say every year, the process is filled with uncertainty because of the Federal and State governments' failure to adopt budgets in a timely manner. With that said, we will estimate revenues and expenditures as best as possible.

Staffing issues continue to affect operations at NEPA. Wendi's accounting staff has seen the most turnover in the last several months. We have experienced one retirement and two departures affecting the continuity within the division. We have two new members on board with a lot to learn, given the complicated nature of NEPA accounting.

We are also restructuring the business finance division due to turnover and growing pains. We are hiring a loan closing specialist to help current finance managers close loans faster, and also so they can focus on finding new deals. We also have a vacancy for a finance/loan specialist.

We continue to excel at all of our programming. Please contact me if there are any questions.

I truly appreciate your support and understanding while I'm recovering from surgery.

Respectfully,

Jeff

Board of Directors Report
May 5, 2026

International Business Development Program

This fiscal year, the International Business Development program has assisted 47 companies, processing 143 international projects through Pennsylvania’s Global Export Network. Staff also submitted 14 Global Access Program (GAP) grant applications. The GAP grant, administered by BusinessPA International, under a State Trade Expansion Program (STEP) award from the U.S. Small Business Administration, supports export promotion efforts. Additional assistance included technical support, export counseling, and participation in export education activities.

<u>BusinessPA International - Regional Export Network Goals</u>		
Performance Measurement	Goal	YTD Totals
Active Clients	56	47
Export Actions	117	122
Exporting Companies	14	0
Export Sales	\$25,121,441	\$0
Projects	112	143
ATR Attributed Sales	\$10,299,790.81	\$0
New Clients	8	4
Total (weighted and capped measure) <i>Calculated 4/1/26</i>		65.36%

APEX Accelerator

Counseling Activity (2/20/2026 – 4/22/2026)
New Active Clients for the Period: 12
Active Clients for the Period: 55
Initial Introductory Counseling Sessions for the Period: 12
Follow-up Counseling Sessions for the Period: 156
Events: 4

The APEX Accelerator worked with new client registrations in the PA Supplier Portal to do business with the Commonwealth and System for Award Management to be able to sell to the Federal Government. Follow-up sessions support client registration updates, and new/renewal certification applications such as but not limited to: HUBZone, 8(a), SDVOSB/VOSB, and WOSB. Support is also provided in areas not limited to solicitation reviews, bid matching, and marketing.

**Board of Directors Report
 May 5, 2026**

Contract Awards Activity (2/20/2026 – 4/22/2026)			
Award Type	Number of Awards	Number of Clients	Total Value
Federal Prime	110	21	\$13,040,794.12
State/Local Prime	0	0	\$0
Federal/State Subcontracts	15	2	\$674,727.00

During this period, Active APEX Accelerator clients received contract awards primarily from Federal Agencies acting as a prime contractor. Contract award reporting follows Department of Defense Office of Small Business Program terms. The APEX Accelerator worked with clients during this period on three types of SBA certifications for their business.

Set Aside Award Activity (2/20/2026 – 4/22/2026)		
Certification Type	Awards	Total Value
SD/VOSB	0	\$ 0.00
WOSB	24	\$ 189,518.50
HUBZone	2	\$ 19,769.10

Business Finance Center

The Business Finance Center has been able to close 3 loans totaling \$790,000. Through these loan closings, the small businesses are expected to create 7 jobs and retain 11 jobs in the next 3 years. Loans closed since that last meeting include the following business sectors:

- Plastic Manufacturing
- Full-Service Restaurants
- Professional Studios

NEPA Alliance BFC continues to work through the backlog of applications in the SBA programs due to the government shutdown. There is also a backlog of loans to be closed for these programs. As interest rates begin to decrease, volume of loan requests have increased across all NEPA Alliance programs.

Board of Directors Report
May 5, 2026

SBA 504		
	Number	Balance
Approved Loans	25	\$ 29,969,000.00
Closed Since Last Meeting	2	\$ 639,000.00
Outstanding Loans	90	\$ 61,945,360.22
Total	117	\$ 92,553,360.22
SBA Community Advantage		
	Number	Balance
Approved Loans	1	\$ 65,000.00
Closed Since Last Meeting	0	\$ 0.00
Outstanding Loans	53	\$ 7,404,717.84
Total	54	\$ 7,469,717.84
PIDA		
	Number	Balance
Approved Loans	3	\$ 2,555,186.00
Closed Since Last Meeting	0	\$ 0.00
Outstanding Loans	19	\$ 7,751,345.37
Total	22	\$ 10,306,531.37
Internal Funds		
	Number	Balance
Approved Loans	3	\$ 250,000.00
Closed Since Last Meeting	1	\$ 151,000.00
Outstanding Loans	179	\$ 9,920,282.00
Total	183	\$ 10,321,282.00
NEPA BFC Active Portfolio	335	\$ 87,172,705.00

Nineteen (19) out of twenty-four (24) LDD Customer Satisfaction Survey forms completed by NEPA clients who received assistance through NEPA’s Business Financing, APEX Accelerator and International Business Programs for assistance were received for the 3rd quarter of 2025-2026 which represented a 79% response rate. Nineteen (19) clients indicated they were very satisfied/satisfied with the assistance they received through NEPA. **This gives an overall satisfaction rate of 100% from surveys received for the 3rd quarter of 2025-2026.**

The following represents the number of responses from clients who indicated they were very satisfied/satisfied with the specific assistance they received:

	*Timeliness of Assistance	*Quality of Assistance	*Value of Assistance
Loans	5	5	5
APEX Accelerator	12	12	12
International	8	8	8

Board of Directors Report

May 5, 2026



NEPA Economic Growth Fund

- 1) Application: Submitted to United States Treasury for review
 - a. Submitted full application on April 8, 2026
 - b. Expect approximately 90 – 180-day review period
- 2) NEPA Economic Growth Fund Board
 - a. Finance Committee
 - b. Loan Committee
 - c. Capitalization Committee – comprised of full board
- 3) Capitalization Plan
- 4) Hosting Affordable Housing Sessions
 - a. Learn Regional Needs
 - b. Engage Developers and Practitioners

**Board of Directors Report
 May 6, 2026**

Community and Economic Development Services Division

COMMUNITY FINANCE & FUNDING

EDA

Economic Development District (EDD) for the Economic Development Administration (EDA), NEPA provides technical assistance to those organizations seeking EDA grant assistance.

Organization	Project	CO	EDA Grant Amount	Funding Leveraged	Status
SEDA-COG & NEPA	Data dashboard – CEDS Improvement project	RE	\$480,000	\$100,000	Awarded October 2023; Project will be completed by June 2026
Greater Scranton CofC	Scott Twp Industrial Park	LA	TBD	TBD	Considering application

Appalachian Regional Commission

As the designated Local Development District (LDD) for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED), NEPA provides technical assistance to organizations seeking ARC grant assistance.

25-26 ARC Investment Package:

Organization	Project	CO	ARC	ARC Request Amount	Funding Leveraged	Status
Allied Services	Certified Nurse Aide Training Program	LA	AD	\$716,830	\$1,025,458	Full App in progress
CYC of Wyoming Valley	CYC Child Care Expansion Project	LU	AD	\$151,000	\$151,000	DCED Review
Junior Achievement of NEPA	Inspire to Hire	LU	AD	\$250,000	\$250,000	DCED Review
Johnson College	Workforce Training for a Future in Robotics	LA	AD	\$123,500	\$123,500	DCED Review
Kline Banks McAdoo Sewer Authority	KBM Authority Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan	LU/CA	AD	\$100,000	\$100,000	DCED Review
Lackawanna County	Lackawanna County Comprehensive Economic Development Assessment and Long-Term Strategy	LA	AD	\$100,000	\$100,000	DCED Review
Luzerne County Community College	LCCC Technology Enhancement Plan	LU	AD	\$235,000	\$235,000	DCED Review
Misericordia University	Alleviating Critical Shortages in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Providers	LU	AD	\$125,000	\$125,000	DCED Review
Misericordia University	Certification Training Initiative Advances Innovation & Technology Infrastructure Security	LU	AD	\$125,000	\$125,000	DCED Review
NEPA	CDFI	RE	AD	\$235,000	\$300,000	Full

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Organization	Project	CO	ARC	ARC Request Amount	Funding Leveraged	Status
						App in progress
NEPA	PREP	RE	AD	\$461,425	\$461,425	DCED Review
Pocono Family YMCA	Pocono Family YMCA Childcare Staffing and Capacity Expansion	MO	AD	\$391,875	\$391,875	DCED Review
Pocono Services for Families and Children, Inc.	Expansion of Early Learning and Ready Workers	MO	AD	\$200,000	\$200,000	DCED Review
SLIBCO	Carbondale Technology Transfer Center Merger	LA	AD	\$175,000	\$175,000	DCED Review
Wilkes University Cohen Center	Cohen Center for Entrepreneurship and Connected Devices Prototype Lab	LU	AD	\$460,000	\$460,000	DCED Review
The Wright Center	North Scranton Practice-Revitalizing, Enhancing, and Advancing Community Health	LA	AD	\$500,000	\$500,000	Full App in Progress
WVIA	WVIA Careers that Work/NEPA@Work Web Based Project	LU/RE	AD	\$146,424	\$146,424	DCED Review
Wyoming Valley Chamber	TechCelerator @ Luzerne County	LU	AD	\$236,000	\$236,000	DCED Review
Greater Wyoming Valley YMCA	Pittston YMCA Early Education Expansion	LU	AD	\$278,000	\$278,000	DCED Review
City of Carbondale	Enterprise Dr. Improvement Project	LA	LAR	\$1,219,629	\$25,000	Full App under DCED Review
Hazleton Area School District	New Access Road for Hazleton Area School District (HASD)	LU	LAR	\$1,723,372	\$2,565,757	DCED Review
Borough of Nesquehoning	Nesquehoning Borough Business Park – Industrial Road (extends between Stock Street (SR 0054) to Park Avenue) – Phase 2	CA	LAR	\$1,021,800	\$102,180	Full App in progress
Totals:					\$8,076,619	

ENGAGE

On behalf of the Northeast Pennsylvania Partnerships for Regional Economic Performance (PREP) partners, NEPA annually applies for the Engage! initiative. Engage! is a Pennsylvania statewide business retention and expansion (BRE) program designed to interact with targeted companies regularly and proactively. The overall goal of Engage! is to retain existing businesses and to help them grow and expand by building solid relationships with business owners or key decision makers and economic development partners. With the passage of a state budget in November, NEPA was invited to apply for \$195,000 for the 2025-2026 Engage! program year. In total, over 195 businesses across the region will be interviewed as part of the Engage! program during this program year, with 25 of those business visits being led by NEPA. Additionally, four business focus groups are scheduled to be held.

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StartUp NEPA

NEPA has raised \$750,000 in support of our Angel Fund initiative. The official launch meeting was held in January 2022, and member meetings have been held monthly. To date, over 35 businesses have made pitches, and 8 investment commitments in 6 businesses have been made. NEPA staff continue to recruit new investors and vet potential pitches from businesses and entrepreneurs.

Business	Industry/Sector	Investment Amount	Location
Conservation Labs	Utility/Tech	\$50,000	Pittsburgh, PA
Buoy	Health	\$50,000 (1 st Round)	San Diego, CA
LifeAire	Indoor Air Quality	\$185,000	Allentown, PA
Gilson Snow Boards	Recreation	\$50,000	Selinsgrove, PA
UpContent	Tech	\$50,000	Pittsburgh, PA
Voxel Innovations	Electrochemical Manufacturing	\$80,000 (2 Rounds)	Raleigh, NC
Buoy	Health	\$50,000 (2 nd Round)	San Diego, CA

Community Financing Services: NEPA provides consulting and fiscal sponsorship services. A list of grants we have written is listed within the table below.

Client	Co	Grant Program	Amount Requested
Rising Light Ridge - Sewer Plant	LU	PA RACP	\$5,000,000
Diocese of Scranton (Holy Cross HS) – Facility Upgrades	LA	PA RACP	\$3,000,000
Diocese of Scranton (WB CYC) – Facility Upgrades	LU	PA RACP	\$1,563,555
Nativity Miguel School – Facility Upgrades	LA	PA RACP	\$3,140,167
Allied Health Services – Elevator Upgrades	LA	PA RACP	\$1,875,000
Integrative Counseling Services - Elevator Upgrades	LA	LSA (Monroe)	\$98,222
Leisure Lake – Sewer Infrastructure	MO	LSA (Monroe)	\$391,842
Keystone Human Services - Disability Accessible Vans	RE	LSA (Statewide)	\$221,664
Luzerne County Historical Society - Facility Renovation	MO	LSA (Statewide)	\$986,529

As an economic development organization, NEPA Alliance can serve as an applicant for the Statewide LSA program. This year, NEPA will serve as the applicant for two applications. One project was submitted on behalf of Keystone Human Services to purchase vehicles to transport disabled individuals, while the other was submitted on behalf of the Luzerne County Historical Society for renovations to their facility.

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA NONPROFIT & COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE CENTER

NCAC Membership: NCAC currently has 86 active members.

NCAC Technical Support Highlights:

- Wallenpaupack School District – CTC Capital Campaign
- Hazleton Area Recreation Center/DeAngelo Foundation
- The Cooperage – Capital Project

Nonprofit Accelerator: NCAC participated as trainer in The Luzerne Foundation Nonprofit Accelerator program and we hosted 6 nonprofits at our facility on 4-8 for a 6 trading on grant seeking, The

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Foundation Director, Seals of Transparency and nonprofit challenges.

Strategic Planning Services: NCAC partnered with Alan Dakey in early 2024 to provide in-kind Strategic Planning services to NECAC clients in need. Most recently, Alan completed a strategic plan with the Lackawanna Blind Association, and he is currently engaged with Monroe County Meals on Wheels. NCAC is proud to support the coordination and evaluation of these much-needed services. Mary Ann Iezzi, Executive Director of the Blind Association shared in her evaluation, *“The pro-bono services were invaluable...thanks to this support, we were able to focus on setting goals, identify priorities, and make sure we’re on track to long ter sustainability in order to better serve our community.”*

Expanded Workshop Calendar: In response to local demand and feedback from our clients and partners, NCAC has increased community workshop offerings for 2026. The following engagements are scheduled, with additional offerings in the works:

- 4/16: Perfecting Your Pitch (LU) – 15 Attendees
- 4/8: Hosting The Luzerne Foundation Nonprofit Accelerator Cohort 2 for an extended session on Grant Seeking & Prospecting – 14 Attendees
- 4/23: Introduction to PA RACP Funding (LU) – 15 Attendees

TOBYHANNA DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP / TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT

NEPA manages the Tobyhanna Defense Technology Partnership (TDTP), which was organized in 1992 to provide regional community support for the preservation and protection of Tobyhanna Army Depot from the base closure process known as Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). NEPA received several grants from the Pennsylvania Military Community Enhancement Commission to support the Depot. The funding will be used for various initiatives including legislative outreach, economic impact studies, membership campaign, ambassadors program. To date, the TDTP membership campaign has received a commitment of over \$180,000 in pledges by various community partners in support of this project.

Commanders Summit/Governors Reception: Kurt Bauman & Pat Esposito will represent NEPA and TDTP at the 4-27 Commanders Summit in Harrisburg. The program will be followed by a reception at the Governor’s residence. The purpose of the summit is to high PA’s military installation and seek opportunities to sustain and grow their missions.

Tobyhanna Army Depot Ambassadors Program: NEPA has received funding from the Pennsylvania Military Community Enhancement Commission to create an ambassador program for the Depot. The ambassadors will be former Depot employees or other individuals with a connection to Tobyhanna Army Depot. The ambassadors will attend events to raise community awareness (such as rotary club meetings, chamber mixers, etc.) and to educate on career opportunities (job fairs, career days, etc.) for Tobyhanna Army Depot. This program is being developed with input from the TDTP Management Group and the Tobyhanna Army Depot Public Affairs Office.

RESEARCH & INFORMATION CENTER

Statewide CEDS Data Dashboard: NEPA has partnered with our sister agency, SEDA-COG, to develop an online CEDS Data Dashboard. This dashboard will be interactive and provide live data from various sources. This project is being funded through a grant from EDA. Initially, the scope of the project was to only create data dashboards for NEPA and SEDA-COG, however, the scope has expanded and it will now be a statewide tool. NEPA Alliance and SEDA-COG have selected T&M Associates to create our online

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dashboard. T&M was selected through an open and competitive RFP process. NEPA Alliance and SEDA-COG have met with T&M bi-weekly and developed a demo site.

2026 Pocono Economic Outlook Summit: NEPA Alliance gathered the data that will be used in the Pocono Economic Scorecard. NEPA is also heavily involved in the planning process for the event. The 2026 Economic Outlook Summit will be held at Kalahari on Friday, May 15.

Economic Impact Modeling Services: NEPA provides economic impact modeling services, using IMPLAN software. Upcoming projects include the FY2024 Analysis of Tobyhanna Army Depot, Hazelnut data center project, For Pete's Sake Cancer Respite Center and a university wide economic impact analysis for East Stroudsburg University.

NEPA Board Meeting

5/6/2026

Social Media Report Card

Last 30 Days | As of April 28, 2026



FACEBOOK

1,952 Followers (+12)
9,651 Views
111 Interactions



INSTAGRAM

1,922 Followers (+10)
189 Reach
16 Interactions



LINKEDIN

2,468 Followers (+27)
4,351 Impressions
6.3% Engagement



X

1,882 Followers (-3)
263 Impressions
6 Engagements



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Transportation Planning Services Division

2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Development of the 2027-2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is wrapping up. NEPA staff have been developing the TIP documentation and mapping. The draft TIP Package will be sent separately ahead of the April 19th MPO Meeting and will be reviewed by staff during the meeting. The schedule for TIP adoption is below.

April 21- Draft TIP package reviewed by NEPA MPO Technical Committee

May 11- TIP Public Comment Period Opens

May 19- TIP Public Meeting (in coordination with NEPA MPO meeting)

June 11- TIP Public Comment Period Closes

June 16- TIP Adoption by NEPA MPO Committees at Joint MPO Meeting

The draft TIP package will be available on the NEPA website (<https://www.nepa-alliance.org/tip/>) beginning on May 11th. Paper copies will be available at 7 locations around the region. The TIP Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19th at 9:30am. It will be held in person at locations in each MPO county (see below).

Monroe County Planning Commission, 701 Main Street, Suite 405, Stroudsburg, PA
Lehighon Borough Building, 1 Constitution Ave., Lehighon, PA
Pike County Training Center, 135 Pike County Blvd, Lords Valley, PA
Schuylkill Economic Development Corporation, Union Station, 1 Progress Circle, Pottsville, PA

The public meeting will also be held virtually. It will include a presentation and an opportunity for comments or questions about the TIP. The NEPA MPO Technical Committee meeting will be held following the conclusion of the public meeting. The 2027 TIP will be considered for adoption at the June 16th Joint Technical Committee and Policy Board meeting.

Long Range Transportation Plan Update

The update of the next LRTP is due by January 2028. The Planning Finding Letter from the 2025 TIP recommended that MPOs and RPOs begin the LRTP update process well in advance of the deadline. Our current consultant agreement with Michael Baker International expires in January 2027, before the LRTP development will be complete. At the December meeting, Michael Baker International was approved for another three-year open end consultant agreement. Staff is currently working with Michael Baker International on a new contract which is expected to commence on July 1st. Staff also held a scoping meeting with MBI to develop the scope of services for the Long-Range Transportation Plan on April 1st. A draft of the LRTP Scope of Services will be reviewed by the Technical Committee at the May MPO meeting and will be considered for approval at the June MPO meeting.

PA 611 Corridor Study

The PA 611 Corridor Study is ongoing. Michael Baker International is the consultant on the study through NEPA's open-end consultant agreement. A management team including representatives from Pocono Township, Stroud Township, Monroe County and District 5 was created to provide guidance during the study development and has been meeting monthly. A public open house was held in person on January 21st in Pocono Township. It was attended by over 50 people. Stakeholder interviews were also held in January. The wikimapping survey was open from January 9th to February 13th. The results can be accessed here: <https://new.wikimapping.com/rt-611-corridor-study>.

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A meeting of the study steering committee was held on April 14th to review the findings from the public outreach and stakeholder interviews. In addition, the steering committee reviewed the study recommendations. They include 30 recommendations in four main areas- safety, traffic operations, capacity and land use/policy.

A second Public Open House will be held on May 6th from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at the Pocono Township Building to review the public feedback and study recommendations. A presentation will be conducted at 6:00pm. The study is expected to be completed by June.

Active Transportation Plan

The Active Transportation Plan was adopted by the Policy Board on June 17, 2025. NEPA staff has developed an Active Transportation page on the NEPA website with federal, state, and local resources. It can be found here- <https://www.nepa-alliance.org/active-transportation/>. One of the recommendations in the plan is to establish an Active Transportation Task Force to assist with the implementation of the plan. A meeting with the task force was held October 22nd to discuss activities for the coming year. Two in-person active transportation summits are being planned for next spring to share information about funding opportunities and provide education about bicycle and pedestrian topics. The Active Transportation Task Force met on March 5th to discuss the Active Transportation Summits. The task force recommended holding the summits in the fall instead to share information about grant opportunities which are typically open early in the year. The next meeting of the Active Transportation Task Force is scheduled for August 6th.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- Staff continues to update the HUB site for the transportation program- <https://nepa-gis-nepa-alliance.hub.arcgis.com/pages/transportation>.
- Staff continues to update the mapping for the PA 611 Corridor Study- <https://arcg.is/10z0bP0>.
- Staff has created the 2027 Transportation Improvement Program online map- <https://arcg.is/1XHWw6>
- Staff has updated the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) mapping with the upcoming 2025-2026 classes- <https://arcg.is/14v0Xe>.

Regional and Statewide Meetings

Staff attended the following regional meetings and conferences:

- Schuylkill Chamber Infrastructure Committee Meeting- March 12, April 9
- Pike County Road Task Force Meeting- March 19, April 16
- Eastern Pennsylvania Freight Alliance Meeting- March 16
- GIS for Transportation Symposium- March 16-19
- PennDOT Connects Workshops- March 26, April 2
- PennDOT District 4 Legislative Briefing- April 7
- Lackawanna Luzerne MPO Meeting- April 7
- PennDOT Planning Partners Call- April 15
- PA GIS Conference- April 14-17
- Pennsylvania Statewide Freight Forum- April 15-16
- MCTA Covered Bus Facility Groundbreaking- April 17
- PA Municipal Road Maintenance and Safety Symposium- April 20-21

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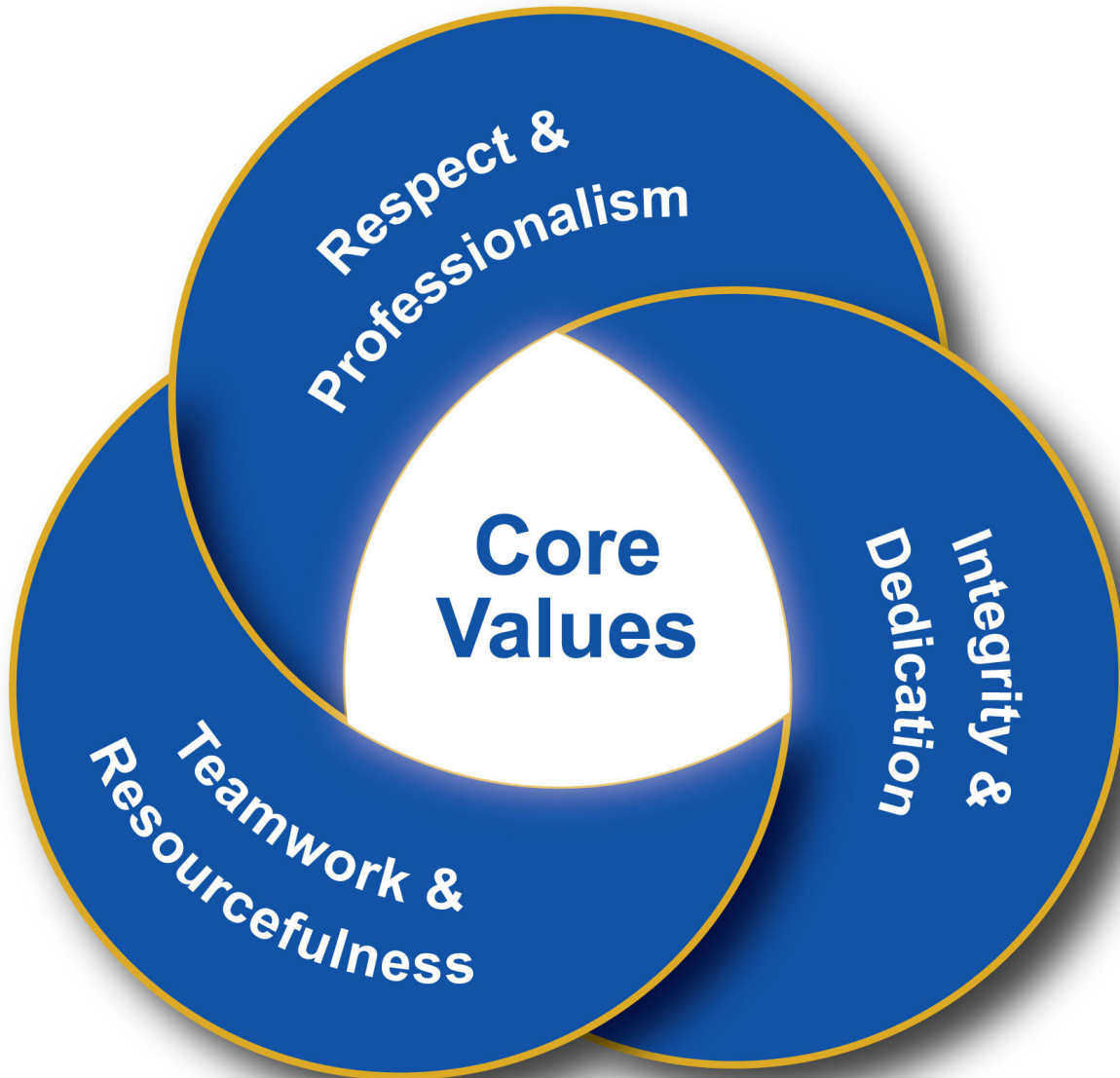
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NEPA's Mission

The Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) is a regional, multi-county, community and economic development agency providing leadership, planning, and services to businesses, communities, entrepreneurs and institutions lacking adequate access to capital and financial resources that enhance and revitalize distressed communities within the region.



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