

BOARD PACKET

October 1,
2026



BUSINESS

COMMUNITY



TRANSPORTATION

Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance

NEPA

NEPA's Board of Directors 2026-2027

CARBON COUNTY

Wayne Nothstein (County Commissioner)

(Executive Committee - 1st Vice-Board Chairperson)

Harold Pudliner

Joseph Sebelin

Garry Wentz

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LACKAWANNA COUNTY

Philip Condron

Tom Donohue

John McNulty

Kristen Magnotta

Dr. Katie Pittelli **(Executive Committee - Assistant Treasurer)**

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LUZERNE COUNTY

Stephen Barrouk **(Executive Committee - Past Board Chairperson)**

Lindsay Griffin-Boylan

Joseph Lettiere

Mary Malone

Michelle Mikitish **(Executive Committee - Assistant Secretary)**

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Christopher Barrett

Michelle Bisbing

John Christy (County Commissioner)

Mary Frances Postupack

(Executive Committee - Board Chairperson)

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Matthew Osterberg (County Commissioner)

Jennifer Passenti

Anna Van Acker

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(County Commissioner) **(Executive Committee - Treasurer)**

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Michael Rollison

Justin Taylor

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EX-OFFICIO

Jeffrey Box

Megan Kennedy **(NCAC Board Chair)**

Tommy Grimes **(PNE Board Chair)**

(John Augustine - Alternate)

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT
OCTOBER 1, 2026
4:00PM



AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order** – Mary Frances Postupack, Board Chairperson

- II. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Mary Frances Postupack, Board Chairperson

- III. **Board Discussion & Action Items**
 - * June 24, 2026, Meeting Minutes – Mary Frances Postupack, Board Chairperson 1-6

 - * Financial Report - Wendi Holena, VP & CFO 7-8

 - * Accept the Nominating Committee recommendations to appoint Mike Narcavage, Northeast Regional Affairs Director, PPL Electric Utilities to the At-Large seat and Tom Carlucci, Director of Economic Development to the Lackawanna County Board seat.- Steve Barrouk, Nominating Chair & Jeffrey Box, President & CEO

 - * President & CEO Report - Jeffrey Box, President & CEO 9-19

- IV. **Open Discussion** – Mary Frances Postupack, Board Chairperson

- V. **Adjournment to Networking Reception** - Mary Frances Postupack, Board Chairperson

- VI. **Next Meeting** - November 4, 2026

**Board of Directors Report
Minutes of
Wednesday, June 24, 2026**



OFFICERS

Stephen 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
Garry Wentz

LACKAWANNA

Phil Condron
Thomas Donohue
Kristin Magnotta

LUZERNE

Lindsay Griffin-Boylan
Michelle Mikitish

MONROE

Chris Barrett
Michelle Bisbing

PIKE

No Attendees

SCHUYLKILL

Robert Carl
Courtney Fasnacht

WAYNE

No Attendees

AT-LARGE

Jason Bays
Chris Doherty
Alana Roberts

EX-OFFICIO

John Augustine
Jeffrey Box

STAFF

Kurt Bauman
Daniela Domingues
Wendi Holena
Donna Hritz
Kate McMahon
Kylie Montigney
Steve Ursich

Board of Directors Report

Minutes of

Wednesday, June 24, 2026



The NEPA Alliance held a Board of Directors Meeting on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, both in person and via video conference. 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.

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

Steve Ursich introduced new staff member Daniela (Dani) Domingues, the new Business Finance Specialist. Dani shared that she most recently worked at Fidelity Bank as a loan processor. She also noted that she holds a degree in criminal justice and sociology. Dani expressed that she is excited to join the team at NEPA and looks forward to contributing to the organization. Steve noted that Dani is multilingual in Portuguese, Spanish, and English.

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes - A motion was made by Cynthia DeFebo and seconded by Michelle Mikitish to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on May 6, 2026. **Motion carried.**

Financial Report - Wendi reported that on the Statement of Activities as of April 30, 2026, NEPA has total revenues of \$3.4 million and total expenses of \$3.4 million. She further reported a small increase in net assets of \$2,009. Wendi stated that NEPA had originally budgeted \$2,952 and that she expects the surplus to increase over the next few months. She stated that NEPA is 10 months or 80% through the fiscal year. She noted that NEPA's revenues and expenses are at 73%. Wendi stated that NEPA is behind schedule with some contracts due to pass-through funding. Wendi further reported that NEPA has an unrestricted cash balance of \$958,644 and net assets of approximately \$2 million. She also reported that NEPA's fiscal year ends on June 30th and will begin working on year-end in preparation for the auditors.

A motion was made by Phil Condon and seconded by Michelle Mikitish to accept the Financial Report as presented. **Motion carried.**

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 NEPA Budget Adoption - Michelle Mikitish reported that the Budget & Finance Committee reviewed and accepted the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget as presented. Wendi reported that the proposed budget includes several new funding streams, resulting in a significant increase over the previous fiscal year. She noted that NEPA's Fiscal Year 2026 Budget totaled \$4.7 million, while the proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget totals \$7.6 million, representing an increase of approximately \$2.9 million. Wendi explained that the increase is primarily due to two new contracts: the Historically Disadvantaged Businesses Service Center Program and the Historically Disadvantaged Business Micro Grant Program. Of the additional funding, approximately \$2.4 million is designated as pass-through funding. She also noted that the budget includes anticipated funding from the Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Program, the Economic Growth Fund, and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). Wendi reported that the proposed budget provides for 28 full-time positions, including two vacant positions and one new position. She stated that the budget projects total revenues of \$7.6 million and total expenses of \$7.6 million, with a modest increase in net assets of \$1,822. She emphasized that the budget was prepared conservatively. Wendi further reported that several existing funding sources experienced slight changes. She noted that ARC funding decreased by approximately \$50,000, while PREP funding remains level; however, the organization received a one-time special initiative allocation of \$5,300 during the previous fiscal year that is not included in the proposed budget.

Board of Directors Report Minutes of Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Jeff Box added that the new budgeted staff position is intended to serve as the CDFI Manager. He reported that NEPA's CDFI application remains under review by the U.S. Department of the Treasury. Jeff concluded that the proposed budget is balanced and financially sound.

A motion was made by Kristin Magnotta and seconded by Harold Pudliner to approve the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget as presented. **Motion carried.**

Resolution – 2026-4 - Authorizing the Submittal of a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant (RACP) Application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of the Budget and for NEPA to Serve as a Fiscal Sponsor on Behalf of Keystone College - Kurt reported that the project was funded several years ago and consists of two separate \$1 million RACP awards that have since been combined into one single contract. He explained that Keystone College was originally set up to work with Lackawanna College, and the new development staff member, who previously worked at WVIA, requested that the sponsorship be switched to NEPA based on NEPA's successful administration of two previous projects. He further stated that the county has released its obligation to the project and transferred it to NEPA. Kurt stated that the resolution formalizes NEPA's role as the fiscal sponsor for the project. NEPA will receive \$20,000 in administrative fees to manage the grant on Keystone's behalf. Kurt stated that Keystone has secured a portion of match, and that the grant will support the restoration of the college's library on campus.

A motion was made by Cynthia DeFebo and seconded by Michelle Mikitish to approve the authorization of the Submittal of a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program Grant (RACP) Application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of the Budget and for NEPA to Serve as a Fiscal Sponsor on Behalf of Keystone College as presented. **Motion carried.**

Appointing Commissioner Matt Osterberg, Jared Soto, Chris Barrett, and Micah Gursky to the MPO Policy Board for 2-year terms – Jeff reported that, in accordance with NEPA's Bylaws, the Board is required to appoint and/or reappoint members to serve on the MPO Policy Board. Kate reported that the appointments are for two-year terms commencing July 1, 2026, and expiring June 30, 2028. She noted that the MPO Policy Board consists of one Board member representing each of the four MPO counties. Kate further reported that all four current representatives have agreed to serve an additional two-year term and are being recommended for reappointment.

A motion was made by Dr. Katie Pittelli and seconded by Mary Frances Postupack to appoint Commissioner Matt Osterberg, Jared Soto, Chris Barrett, and Micah Gursky to the MPO Policy Board for a 2-year term. **Motion Carried.**

Appoint NEPA Board Member Cynthia DeFebo from Pike County to the MPO Technical Planning Committee – Kate also reported that NEPA has one Board member seat on the MPO Policy Board that rotates among the four MPO counties. She noted that the seat was previously held by Micah Gursky, representing Schuylkill County. In accordance with the rotation schedule, the seat now transfers to Pike County, and Cynthia DeFebo has agreed to serve a two-year term ending June 30, 2028.

A motion was made by Dr. Katie Pittelli and seconded by Michelle Mikitish to appoint Cynthia DeFebo to the MPO Technical Planning Committee representing Carbon County as presented. **Motion Carried.**

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 NEPA Work Plan Adoption – Jeff reported that the annual Work Plan is included on pages 9–18 of the Board packet. He explained that the report provides an overview of NEPA's divisions and the programs administered within each division. Jeff noted that, in accordance with the organization's Bylaws, the Board is required to review and adopt the annual Work Plan each year.

Board of Directors Report Minutes of Wednesday, June 24, 2026

A motion was made by Cynthia DeFebo and seconded by Harrold Pudliner to accept the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 NEPA Work Plan as presented. **Motion Carried.**

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Committee Memberships - Steve Barrouk reported that the Committee Membership Report is included on pages 19–21 of the Board packet. He thanked the Board members for their continued participation and willingness to serve on NEPA's committees. Steve noted that each Board member has been assigned to a committee and encouraged anyone interested in serving on a different committee to contact Jeff.

A motion was made by Michelle Mikitish and seconded by Phil Condron to accept the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Committee Memberships as presented. **Motion carried.**

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Board Meeting Schedule - Steve Barrouk reported that the Board Meeting Schedule for the new fiscal year is included on page 22 of the Board packet. He noted that the next Board meeting will be held on October 1, 2026, at Mohegan Pennsylvania in Wilkes-Barre.

Business Development Services - Steve Ursich reported that, over the past six weeks, NEPA Alliance has funded six loans totaling approximately \$1.8 million. He noted that loan demand remains strong. Steve further reported that the overall loan portfolio balance has declined slightly due to the payoff of two large hotel loans in the Philadelphia area, totaling approximately \$9 million. He stated that the portfolio is expected to grow significantly in the coming months, with approximately \$6–7 million in loan funding scheduled to close in July. Steve noted that staff are compiling year-end program performance metrics. He stated that the two Historically Disadvantaged Business programs are expected to be deployed by this time next year. Steve thanked the Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) and the Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission for their partnership and support in implementing the programs. Finally, Steve reported that NEPA has received numerous follow-up questions from the U.S. Department of the Treasury regarding its Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) application, which he believes is a good sign.

Steve Ursich provided the Board with a brief overview of the capitalization strategy for the proposed Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) Program and the types of loans that will be offered. Steve explained that capitalization of the CDFI will come from a variety of funding sources. He noted that potential sources include:

1. Direct funding from the U.S. Department of the Treasury through grants and/or loans;
2. Financing through the Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh; and
3. Lines of credit established with local financial institutions.

Steve stated that the mix of funding sources will depend on borrowing costs and the need to ensure that NEPA Alliance generates sufficient operating income to cover the administrative costs associated with the loan portfolio. He further reported that he will be working with Kurt to seek support from foundations, which actively invest in mission-based initiatives within their communities, including affordable housing, small business development, and other community investment priorities. Steve noted that local banks are expected to participate in the program to help meet their Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) objectives, although several program details are still being finalized. He concluded by stating that multiple prospective borrowers are already waiting for the CDFI Program to become operational.

Community & Economic Development Services - Kurt reported on recent additional ARC investments, noting that six projects have been invited to submit full applications:

Board of Directors Report

Minutes of

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

-
1. Jim Thorpe Borough – Asa Packer Mansion: \$100,000 for electrical and HVAC upgrades.
 2. September 11th Memorial Alliance: \$100,000 planning grant for a trail connecting all three memorial sites.
 3. Geisinger: \$250,000 workforce development project.
 4. Johnson College: \$350,000 aviation workforce project.
 5. White Haven: \$50,000 Main Street program.
 6. Pocono Services for Families and Children: \$100,000 childcare expansion project.

Kurt further reported that Integrative Counseling Services – Elevator Upgrades was awarded a \$98,222 LSA grant that NEPA prepared on its behalf. Micah thanked Kurt for his assistance in securing an ARC Access Road grant to improve roadway access for employee entry and service deliveries to St. Luke's Hospital in Schuylkill County.

Communications & Membership - Donna reported that as of May 31st, NEPA had 318 members, generating total revenue of \$245,643.00. She further reported that NEPA's Networking Reception is scheduled for Thursday, October 1st at Mohegan Pennsylvania in Wilkes-Barre. She noted that the format will be consistent with previous years. Donna reported that NEPA is scheduled for a media event with Milazzo Industries, Inc. in Wilkes-Barre on Friday, August 7th in Pittston. She also noted that NEPA's social media metrics are included on page 31 of the board packet. In closing, Donna announced that Michael Skowronski will be retiring after 41 years of dedicated service to NEPA. She expressed her appreciation for Michael's knowledge, professionalism, and unwavering willingness to assist whenever needed, and wished him continued success and happiness in his retirement. Donna introduced Kylie Montigney as the new marketing intern.

Transportation Services - Kate reported that development of the 2027–2030 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is nearing completion. She noted that a 30-day public comment period and public hearing were held, with only one comment received. She also reported that the PA 611 Corridor Study has been completed by Michael Baker International. She added that supplemental funding was secured for the project, along with a local match provided by the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau (Chris Barrett). Kate stated that the next Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) update is due by January 2028 and will take approximately eighteen months to complete. She noted that a scope of services guiding the LRTP development was approved by the MPO Technical Committee last week, and that Michael Baker International will also serve as the consultant. She added that staff will increase public outreach related to the LRTP by attending events across the region and gathering feedback on transportation needs and issues in each county. Kate also reported that staff will be working on the update of the PennDOT Work Program, which is revised every two years.

President & CEO Report – Jeff expressed his appreciation to staff for their continued dedication, noting the long hours they contribute throughout the year and recognizing this effort as a reflection of strong leadership across the organization's Vice Presidents and divisions. He also thanked the Board of Directors for their ongoing support. In addition, Jeff extended his gratitude to Steve Barrouk for his service over the past two years as Board Chairperson and welcomed Mary Frances Postupack as the incoming Chairperson. Finally, Jeff acknowledged and thanked Michael for his many years of dedicated service to the organization.

Open discussion – Board Chairperson Steve Barrouk thanked the Board of Directors and staff for their cooperation and participation. He noted that it had been a challenging year for the organization and emphasized that there is a strong sense of mutual respect and professionalism among all members. He also welcomed Mary Frances Postupack as the incoming Board Chairperson.

**Board of Directors Report
Minutes of
Wednesday, June 24, 2026**



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

Respectfully submitted: Donna Hritz,
Vice President Communications & Operations
June 30, 2026

Statement of Activities

August 2026

	Prior YTD	Current YTD	Budget	Percentage of Budget
Revenues:				
Grants/Projects	\$ 533,317	\$ 555,767	\$ 7,131,578	8%
Membership Fees	40,913	39,768	238,608	17%
Rental Income	2,147	2,895	24,253	12%
RLF Admin. Fees	8,050	43,672	110,000	40%
Match from Other Sources	20,500	18,000	60,000	30%
Other Receipts	12,773	8,059	52,000	15%
Contributed Services	-	-	26,000	0%
Total Revenues	<u>617,700</u>	<u>668,161</u>	<u>7,642,439</u>	<u>9%</u>
Expenses:				
Personnel	377,438	418,402	2,455,669	17%
Benefits	150,708	163,966	1,080,494	15%
Contractual	4,198	18,560	3,279,135	1%
Professional Fees	250	102	26,000	0%
Travel and Per Diem	2,854	6,978	71,766	10%
Meetings and Seminars	11,854	6,806	113,220	6%
Postage	1,318	507	3,500	14%
Supplies	1,232	3,114	32,750	10%
Publications and Memberships	8,017	9,989	82,351	12%
Printing	1,272	787	5,000	16%
Advertising	2,478	1,541	23,000	7%
Occupancy	6,988	7,633	121,350	6%
Equipment Rental & Maintenance	1,385	1,113	8,100	14%
Depreciation	10,063	10,180	61,081	17%
Telephone/Internet	4,892	3,827	30,970	12%
Insurance	-	-	50,550	0%
Information Technology	7,378	9,051	107,276	8%
Interest	5,648	5,257	30,505	17%
Other Costs	19,200	127	31,900	0%
Contributed Services	-	-	26,000	0%
Total Expenses	<u>617,173</u>	<u>667,940</u>	<u>7,640,617</u>	<u>9%</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	<u>\$ 527</u>	<u>\$ 221</u>	<u>\$ 1,822</u>	

Net Assets	
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,958,826
Increase (Decrease)	221
Current Balance	<u>\$ 1,959,047</u>

Statement of Financial Position

August 31, 2026

Assets	Prior Year	Current Year	Liabilities	Prior Year	Current Year
Unrestricted Cash Invested	\$ 1,149,424	\$ 673,002	Accounts Payable	399,333	415,444
Restricted Funds Invested	94,121	540,882	Deferred Project Funds	94,121	540,882
Membership Fees Receivable	-	22,825	Employee Benefits Payable	235,898	229,502
Advances/Deposits/Prepays	44,015	57,989	Payroll Withholdings	5,026	6,305
Accounts Receivable-Projects	1,524,435	1,937,478	Deferred Membership Fees	170,790	161,217
Loan Receivable - EGF	-	60,769	Capital Lease Payable	460,362	427,897
Depreciable Assets (Net)	508,547	447,349			
			Total Liabilities	1,365,530	1,781,247
			Net Assets *	1,955,012	1,959,047
Total Assets	\$ 3,320,542	\$ 3,740,294	Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 3,320,542	\$ 3,740,294

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

Board of Directors Report
October 1, 2026



Dear Board Members,

As we gather for our Annual Reception, we must be thankful for the excellent overall position NEPA has attained in 2026.

We are at full staff, based on available funding; our finances are strong, and our programs are effective throughout the region.

I appreciate the opportunity to lead this group of professionals, and I am proud, as we all should be, of all that NEPA has accomplished.

We have several initiatives underway, as we always do, for future programming. Our CDFI initiative is still waiting approval from the U.S. Department of Treasury in Washington. Once up and running, we will need additional staffing, and the initiative will provide NEPA with additional resources. We will continue to flourish with our ARC project work and other programs.

Overall, we had an impressive Fiscal Year with our programs, and hopefully Fiscal Year 2027 will be better!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve Northeastern Pennsylvania!

Respectfully,

Jeff

Board of Directors Report October 2026



APEX Accelerator

Counseling Activity (6/11/2026 – 9/15/2026)

New Active Clients for the Period: 13

Active Clients for the Period: 61

Initial Introductory Counseling Sessions for the Period: 13

Follow-up Counseling Sessions for the Period: 194

Events: 5

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.

Contract Awards Activity (6/11/2026 – 9/15/2026)

Award Type	Number of Awards	Number of Clients	Total Value
Federal Prime	115	19	\$15,765,964.28
State/Local Prime	0	0	\$0
Federal/State Subcontracts	16	3	\$435,505.96

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.

International Business Development Program

This fiscal year, the International Business Development program has assisted six companies. This includes processing three international projects through Pennsylvania's Global Export Network. Staff also submitted two 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.

Board of Directors Report October 2026



BusinessPA International - Regional Export Network Goals

Performance Measurement	Goal	YTD Totals
Active Clients	56	6
Export Actions	105	5
Exporting Companies	14	0
Export Sales	\$25,121,441	\$0
Projects	73	3
ATR Attributed Sales	\$10,299,790.81	\$0
New Clients	8	0
Total (weighted and capped measure) <i>Calculated 9/17/26</i>		3.49%

Business Finance Center

The Business Finance Center has been able to close 19 loans totaling \$10,432,500. Through these loan closings, the small businesses are expected to create 32 jobs and retain 95 jobs in the next 3 years. Loans closed since that last meeting include the following business sectors:

- Paper Product Manufacturing
- Mental Health Specialists
- Sand and Gravel Mining
- Engineering Services

NEPA Alliance BFC continues to work with local and regional lenders in navigating the quickly changing rate and lending market. The programs continue to be sought after as a mechanism to mitigate bank exposure risk and stabilize business balance sheets and cashflows.

SBA 504		
	Number	Balance
Approved Loans	17	\$ 20,697,000.00
Closed Since Last Meeting	8	\$ 9,037,000.00
Outstanding Loans	94	\$ 63,127,432.34
Total	119	\$ 92,861,432.34
SBA Community Advantage		
	Number	Balance
Approved Loans	2	\$ 605,000.00
Closed Since Last Meeting	5	\$ 1,025,000.00
Outstanding Loans	52	\$ 6,946,926.34
Total	59	\$ 8,576,926.34
PIDA		
	Number	Balance

Board of Directors Report October 2026



Approved Loans	3	\$ 2,755,186.00
Closed Since Last Meeting	0	\$ 0.00
Outstanding Loans	17	\$ 6,068,954.72
Total	20	\$ 8,824,140.72
Internal Funds		
	Number	Balance
Approved Loans	2	\$ 140,000.00
Closed Since Last Meeting	6	\$ 370,500.00
Outstanding Loans	176	\$ 9,334,599.00
Total	184	\$ 9,845,059.00
NEPA BFC Active Portfolio	358	\$ 95,910,412.40

Eleven (11) out of thirteen (13) 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 4th quarter of 2025-2026 which represented an 85% response rate. Eleven (11) 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 4th 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	2	2	2
APEX Accelerator	7	7	7
International	3	3	3

Board of Directors Report October 1, 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
ESU	Hospitality Program Consolidation	MO	\$2.5M	\$2.5M	Full application under development

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.

26-27 ARC Project Pipeline & Status:

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 submitted
Junior Achievement of NEPA	Inspire to Hire	LU	AD	\$150,000	\$250,000	Full App in submitted
Kline Banks McAdoo Sewer Authority	KBM Authority Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan	LU/CA	AD	\$100,000	\$100,000	Full App submitted
Lackawanna County	Lackawanna County Comprehensive Economic Development Assessment and Long-Term Strategy	LA	AD	\$80,000	\$80,000	Full App in progress
NEPA	CDFI	RE	AD	\$235,000	\$300,000	Full App under review
NEPA	PREP	RE	AD	\$461,425	\$461,425	Full App in submitted
Pocono Services for Families and Children, Inc.	Expansion of Early Learning and Ready Workers	MO	AD	\$100,000	\$100,000	Full App in progress
The Wright Center	North Scranton Practice-Revitalizing, Enhancing, and Advancing Community Health	LA	AD	\$500,000	\$500,000	Full App in submitted

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Organization	Project	CO	ARC	ARC Request Amount	Funding Leveraged	Status
Greater Wyoming Valley YMCA	Pittston YMCA Early Education Expansion	LU	AD	\$278,000	\$278,000	Full App in submitted
City of Carbondale	Enterprise Dr. Improvement Project	LA	LAR	\$1,219,629	\$25,000	Approved
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 submitted
Jim Thorpe Borough	ASA Packer Mansion Improvements	CA	AD	\$100,000	\$100,000	Full App in progress
Marywood University	Ignite the Light for Science	LA	AD	\$171,000	\$171,000	Full App in progress
CYC Wyoming Area	CYC Child Care Expansion Project	LU	AD	\$151,000	\$151,000	Full App in progress
Blakely Borough	Advancing Economic Development and Job Growth in Blakely Borough Through Grid Modernization	LA	AD	\$512,000	\$512,000	Full App in progress
Luzerne County - Hanover Twp	Great Valley Boulevard Road Improvements	LU	LAR	\$1,259,300	\$0	Full App in progress
Total Requested:				\$7,055,984		

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. NEPA was invited to apply for \$176,000 for the 2026-2027 Engage program year. In total, over 220 businesses will be interviewed, and 5 business focus groups will be held as part of the Engage program, with 30 of those business visits being led by NEPA.

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 90 businesses have submitted funding applications, 40 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

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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. As an economic development organization, NEPA Alliance can serve as an applicant for the Statewide LSA and PA RACP programs. A list of grants we have written is listed within the table below.

Client	Co	Grant Program	Amount Requested	Status
Rising Light Ridge - Sewer Plant	LU	PA RACP	\$5,000,000	Not awarded
Diocese of Scranton (Holy Cross HS) – Facility Upgrades	LA	PA RACP	\$3,000,000	Not awarded
Diocese of Scranton (WB CYC) – Facility Upgrades	LU	PA RACP	\$1,563,555	Not awarded
Nativity Miguel School – Facility Upgrades	LA	PA RACP	\$3,140,167	Not awarded
Allied Health Services – Elevator Upgrades	LA	PA RACP	\$1,875,000	Awarded 27% - \$500,000
Integrative Counseling Services - Elevator Upgrades	LA	LSA (Monroe)	\$98,222	Awarded 100% - \$98,222
Leisure Lake – Sewer Infrastructure	MO	LSA (Monroe)	\$391,842	Not awarded
Keystone Human Services - Disability Accessible Vans	RE	LSA (Statewide)	\$221,664	Awarded 77% - \$171,743
Luzerne County Historical Society - Facility Renovation	MO	LSA (Statewide)	\$986,529	Awarded 46% - \$450,000

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA NONPROFIT & COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE CENTER

NCAC Membership: NCAC currently has 88 active members.

NCAC Technical Support Highlights:

- Keystone Human Services
- For Pete’s Sake
- Carbondale YMCA
- Panter Valley School District
- SHINE – After School Program
- PEEC

NCAC Capacity Building:

- NCAC submitted a capacity building grant to the Weinberg Foundation in the amount of

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\$150,000 to for capacity building program for the next two fiscal years.

- NCAC held an *Introduction to PA RACP* workshop on September 26th at WVIA in Jenkins Township. The workshop was attended by 29 participants.

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.

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 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. The site will be launched by 1-1-27.

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

NEPA Board Meeting

10/1/2026

Social Media Report Card

Last 30 Days | As of September 15, 2026



FACEBOOK

2,019 Followers (-2)
5,437 Views
52 Interactions



INSTAGRAM

1,927 Followers (-11)
526 Reach
14 Interactions



LINKEDIN

2,540 Followers (+16)
3,649 Impressions
7.4% Engagement



X

1,878 Followers (+2)
434 Impressions
0 Engagements



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Transportation Planning Services Division

Long Range Transportation Plan Update

The next NEPA MPO Long Range Transportation Plan is due by January 2028 and the update is underway. Michael Baker International is the consultant assisting with the plan development. A scope of services for the plan was approved in June. A steering committee to help guide the plan development has been established and a kickoff meeting was held on August 11th. The LRTP outline was reviewed, stakeholders were identified, and plans for public outreach were discussed. A [Wikimap public survey](#) has been developed to allow for the public to identify transportation issues and needs. NEPA staff is attending public events to solicit responses to the public survey. Staff attended the West End Fair in Monroe County and Pike County Senior Expo and plans are underway to attend several other events throughout the fall. Stakeholder interviews will be conducted in the coming months.

2027-2029 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) describes the transportation- related work activities that NEPA Alliance and the NEPA MPO Committees will perform during the next two state fiscal years for our four-county metropolitan planning area. The current NEPA MPO UPWP will expire on June 30, 2027. Development of the 2027-2029 UPWP is underway. At the August Technical Committee meeting, staff provided an overview of the UPWP process, status of current UPWP tasks and proposed tasks for the 2027-2029 UPWP. At the September 15th MPO meeting, a supplemental planning funds request for a Tamaqua Gateway Study was discussed. Staff is also in discussion with the Lackawanna-Luzerne MPO about a joint Coordinated Transit Plan which would cover six counties.

The schedule for the development and approval of the UPWP is below. The NEPA Alliance Board of Directors will consider approval of the 2027-2029 UPWP at the January 2027 board meeting.

- **October 13, 2026-** NEPA MPO Technical Committee Meeting- review draft UPWP
- **October 23, 2026-** NEPA MPO Technical Committee authorizes submission of draft UPWP to FHWA and FTA by email ballot
- **October 23, 2026 to December 7, 2026-** 45-day review period for FHWA and FTA (includes time for revisions and resubmission to FHWA and FTA prior to distribution to MPO committees)
- **December 8, 2026-** Distribute final 2027-2029 UPWP to NEPA MPO committees
- **December 15, 2026-** Joint NEPA MPO Policy Board and Technical Committee Meeting to approve UPWP and refer to NEPA Board of Directors
- **January 6, 2027-** NEPA Board of Directors Meeting to approve UPWP
- **January 29, 2027-** Submission of 2027-2029 UPWP to PennDOT

PA 611 Corridor Study

Development of the PA 611 Corridor Study has been completed. Michael Baker International was the consultant on the study through NEPA's open-end consultant agreement. The study identified 30 recommendations in four main areas- safety, traffic operations, capacity and land use/policy. Many of the capacity and traffic operations recommendations involve additional lanes on PA 611 and intersection improvements including realignment and traffic signal upgrades. The study was finalized in June and has been posted to the NEPA website [here](#).

Active Transportation Plan Implementation

The Active Transportation Plan was adopted by the Policy Board on June 17, 2025. NEPA staff have developed an Active Transportation page on the NEPA website with federal, state, and local resources. An Active Transportation Task Force has been established to assist in plan implementation. The task force met

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on August 6th. Staff reviewed the current Active Transportation Plan Record Card which tracks the status of the recommendations in the Active Transportation Plan. In addition, Active Transportation Workshops are being planned for the fall, with input from the task force. Topics, locations, and scheduling for the workshops were discussed. The workshops will be held in-person in October/November. Another meeting of the Active Transportation Task Force will be held in late September or early October.

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 has created the 2027 Transportation Improvement Program online map- <https://arcg.is/1XHWwb6>

Staff has updated the NEPA MPO Functional Classification map- <https://arcg.is/0Ovau00>.

Staff has updated the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) mapping with the upcoming 2026-2027 classes- <https://arcg.is/14v0Xe>.

Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS)

NEPA is responsible for the collection of data for the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS). The HPMS is a national level highway information system that includes data on the extent, condition, performance, use and operating characteristics of the nation's highways. MPOs are required to update and confirm data included in the HPMS on an annual basis. The collection involves fieldwork at over 90 locations within the NEPA MPO region roadway network identified by PennDOT Central Office. An HPMS Workshop was held on July 21st. Staff are now collecting data at various locations assigned by PennDOT. The completed HPMS dataset is due to Central Office in December.

Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)

NEPA has partnered with PennDOT to deliver the LTAP training series in the Lackawanna-Luzerne Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) region, the NEPA MPO region and Wayne County. Fifteen (15) classes were held in 2025-2026, with 282 attendees. Scheduling for Fall 2026 is underway, with five calls scheduled so far. LTAP will also continue to offer courses in an online format.

Regional and Statewide Meetings

Staff attended the following regional meetings and conferences:

- Pike County Road Task Force Meeting- July 16, August 20, September 17
- Schuylkill Chamber Infrastructure Committee Meetings- September 10
- Lackawanna-Luzerne MPO Meeting- July 7
- NEPA Trails Forum Meeting- August 11
- PennDOT Planning Partners Calls- July 16, August 19
- PennDOT Planning Partners Annual Meeting- September 1-3
- LTAP Annual Meeting- September 24

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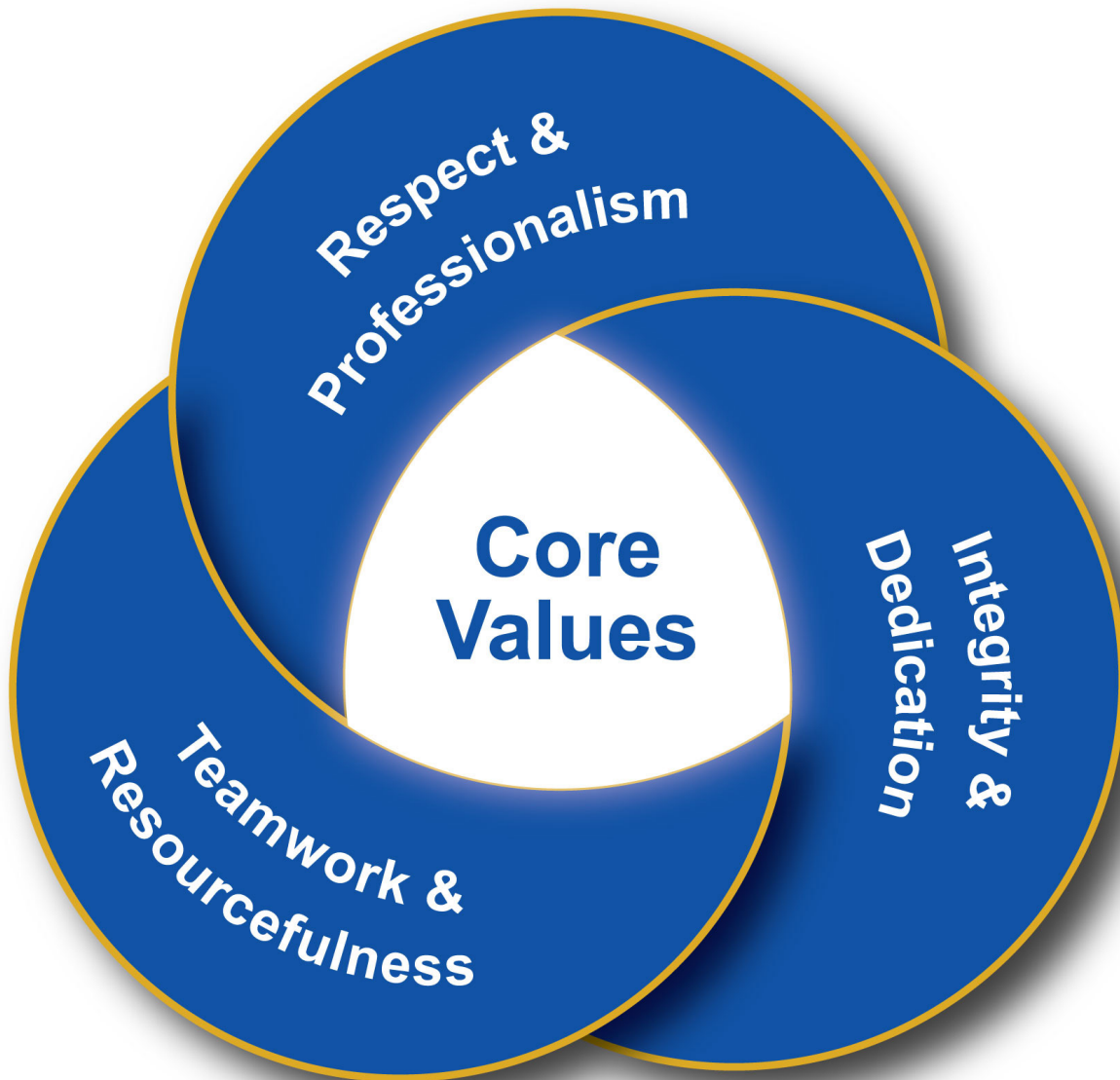
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NEPA's Mission

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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