



Guide to the

ALLEGANY COUNTY Department of Public Works

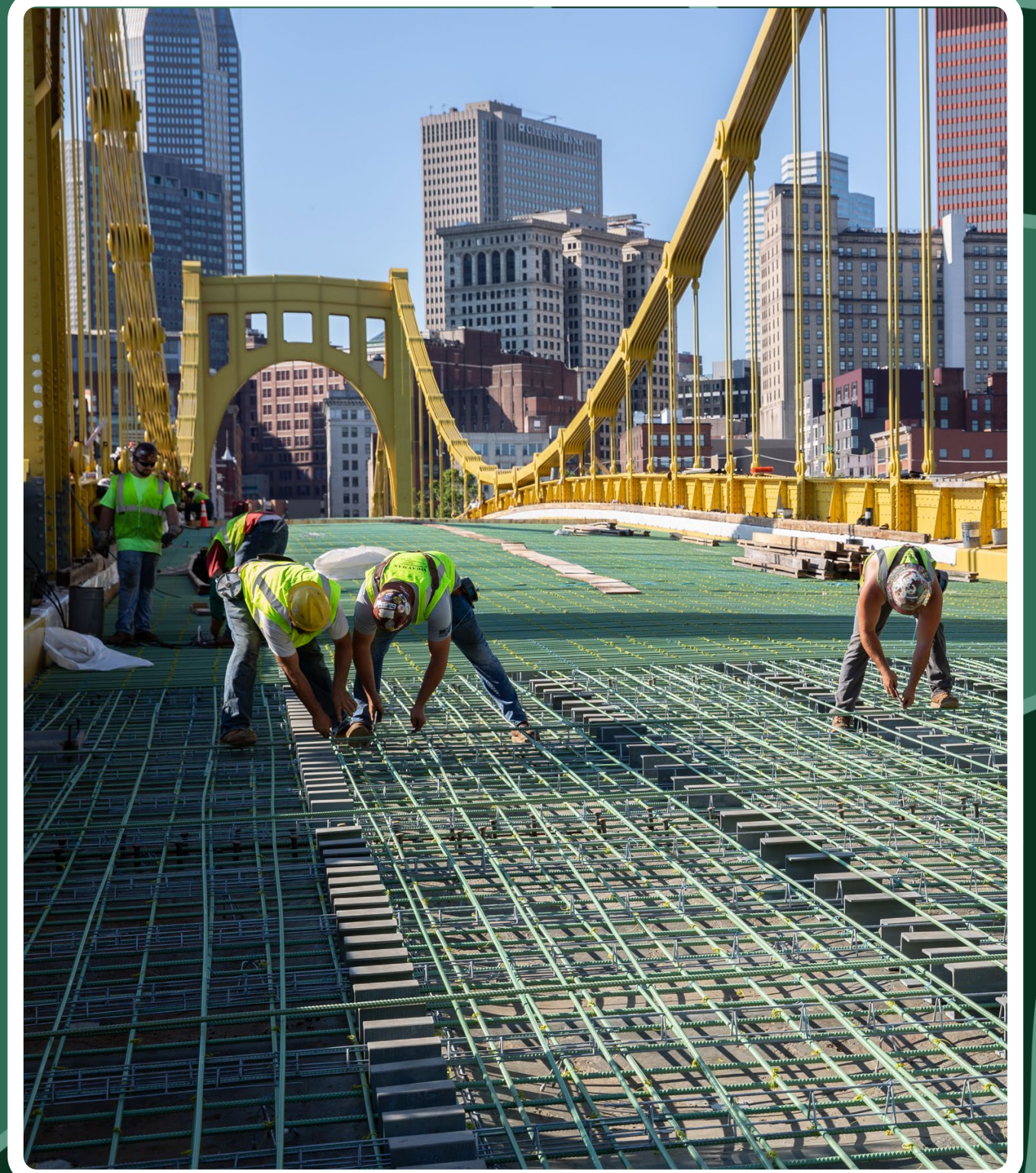


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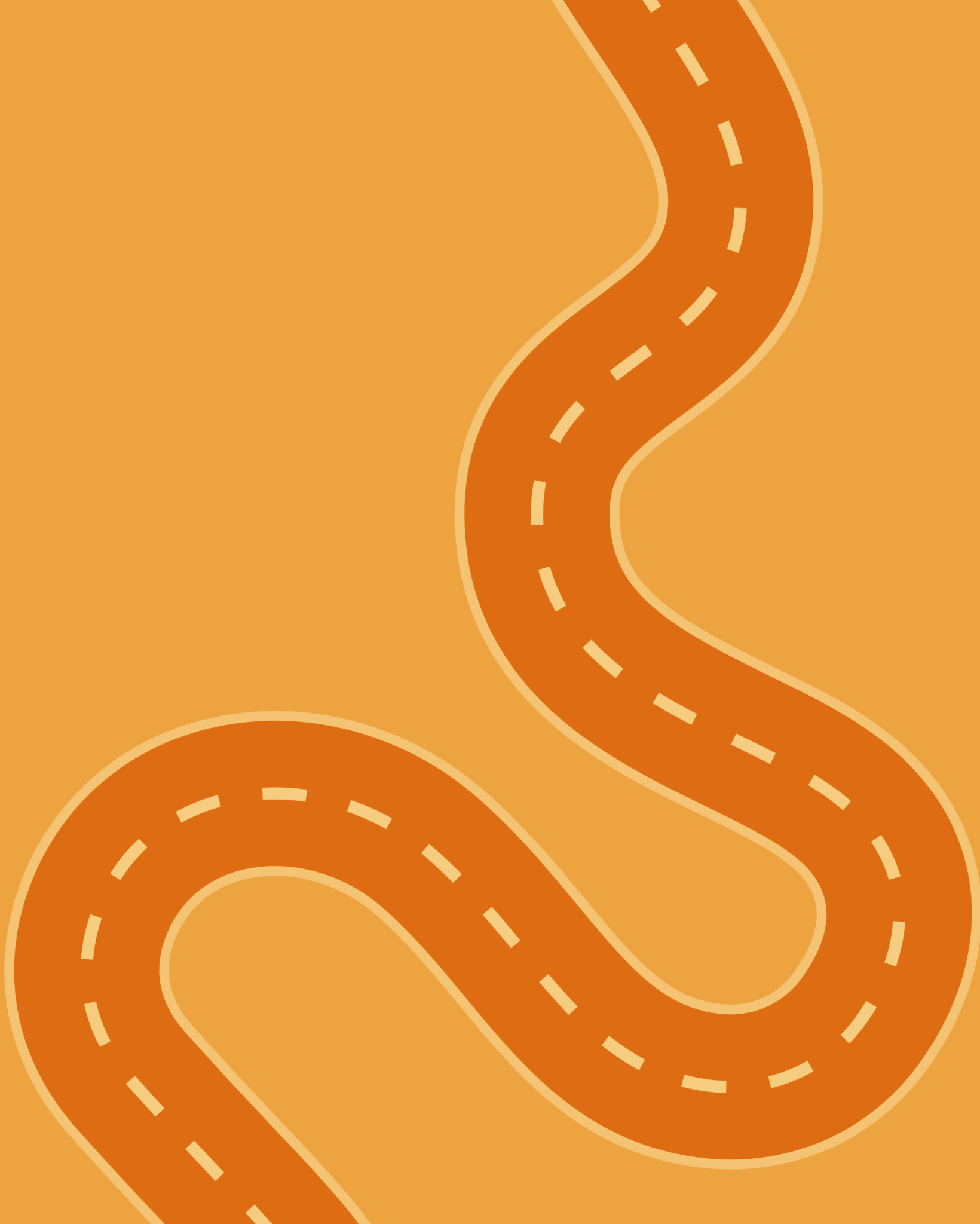
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A Message from the **COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

Dear Residents of Allegheny County,

Our communities thrive when we have strong, well-maintained infrastructure that connects us to one another and the resources we need. The Allegheny County Department of Public Works plays a critical role in ensuring that our roads and bridges are safe, accessible, and capable of supporting the daily lives of our residents.

As your County Executive, I'm deeply committed to the mission of Public Works and the work it does every day to improve the quality of life for everyone in our region. Infrastructure is about more than just the physical structures that surround us; it's about the connections we build within our communities. Whether it's ensuring that our children can safely travel to school, that our transportation network is reliable for our workers, or that emergency vehicles can get where they need to go quickly during severe weather, the work of Public Works touches every aspect of our lives.

Well-maintained infrastructure is foundational to our shared goals of safety, equity, and economic vitality. In this guide, you'll learn more about the essential services Public Works provides and the types of projects they manage to keep our county moving forward.

These projects are not just about maintenance; they're about progress. From sustainable building practices to innovative transportation solutions, Public Works is leading the way in creating a more resilient and connected Allegheny County. I am proud of the dedicated professionals at Public Works, who work tirelessly to ensure our infrastructure meets the highest standards.

Together, we will continue to build a county that is not only strong and safe, but also vibrant and welcoming to all who live, work, and visit here.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement as we work to maintain and enhance the infrastructure that keeps Allegheny County strong and connected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sara Innamorato'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sara Innamorato
Allegheny County Executive



INTRODUCTION

The Allegheny County Department of Public Works ensures that county-owned roads and bridges are in good condition and safe for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians. By continually exceeding industry standards, the department has been accredited by the American Public Works Association (APWA) four times since 2007. It was the first agency in Pennsylvania to receive the prestigious honor.

Most people don't give much thought to the roads and bridges they use daily. That's a good thing because it means entities like this department are doing their job well - properly maintaining our infrastructure and helping to keep our communities safe and connected. However, infrastructure issues sometimes arise, and when they occur, residents often don't know where to turn for information or how to ask for help.

The purpose of this guide is to clear up any confusion you might have regarding the maintenance of roads and bridges and make it easier for you to find the infrastructure-related information and assistance you need. Throughout this guide, you will find embedded links to the many resources offered by the department and other entities.



ROAD AND BRIDGE HELP





ROADS

Roads and highways in Allegheny County are owned and maintained by various entities, including:

- The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
- Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
- Allegheny County
- Local municipalities
- Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT)
- Private owners

The Allegheny County Department of Public Works maintains 408 miles of those roads – more than the distance between Pittsburgh and New York City! Maintaining that amount of roadway is no easy feat. It requires a staff of more than 200 spread out throughout the area at the County Office Building, seven maintenance garages, and a sign shop.

Those hard-working, dedicated men and women provide numerous services, including:

- Milling and paving
- Roadway repairs and preventative maintenance
- Salting and plowing during winter weather
- Drainage work
- Slope stabilization
- Roadway line painting
- Roadway sign installation
- Traffic calming
- Storm cleanup
- Street sweeping and litter pickup
- Vegetation control
- Project design and management
- Multimodal improvements
- Permitting
- Property acquisition

The department continually inspects county roads to rate their condition and determine when work is needed. It also annually receives hundreds of service requests from the public, which further helps it identify problem areas.

Find an issue on a road? See [Who Owns My Road](#), and if it's a county road, create a [Service Request](#).

View answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#).





Speed Reduction/Traffic Calming

The most common issue residents send to Public Works is speeding. The department's top priority is the safety of drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians on county-owned roads and bridges, so it takes speeding very seriously.

Reducing it requires a team effort between Public Works and local police departments. Public Works can help by installing new road signs, pavement markings, and traffic-calming devices, such as speed humps. The local police, meanwhile, are responsible for enforcing traffic laws, including speeding.

Please note that Public Works traffic engineers must follow federal and state guidelines when deciding how to reduce speeding, and many roads do not meet the necessary criteria for new traffic-calming devices. Those criteria include road type, width, traffic volume, speed limit, and crash history. For example, the department can't install speed humps on arterial, high-traffic, or four-lane roads or roads with a speed limit above 30 mph.

Additionally, installing new stop signs is not an option to slow traffic. Stop signs are intended to designate right-of-way for drivers at intersections. Public Works can only install them if specific criteria are met. If the department installs a stop sign where it isn't warranted, drivers will likely ignore it, creating a serious safety issue.

Visit the [Roads](#) page on the county's website for more information about how to get help with a road issue and answers to frequently asked questions.

Paint Problem?

If you find roadway paint on your vehicle, wash it at a pressure car wash as soon as possible. If the wash doesn't remove the paint, spray the paint residue with WD-40. Allow the WD-40 to stay on the area for one to two hours and then rewash the vehicle. For heavy accumulations or paint that has dried for several days, apply a liberal coating of petroleum jelly to the dried paint, allow it to stay on overnight, and rewash the vehicle. Don't scrub the finish with a solvent or scouring cleanser.





BRIDGES

About Our Bridges

Bridges in Allegheny County are owned and maintained by various entities, including:

- The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
- Allegheny County
- Local municipalities
- Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT)
- Railroad companies
- Private owners

The nearly 2,000 local bridges are all different shapes and sizes. Some are so small and generic that you might not even know you're driving over them. Regardless, they all play a vital role in keeping us safe and connected.

The Allegheny County Department of Public Works maintains 518 bridges, some of the area's most essential and iconic structures, including:

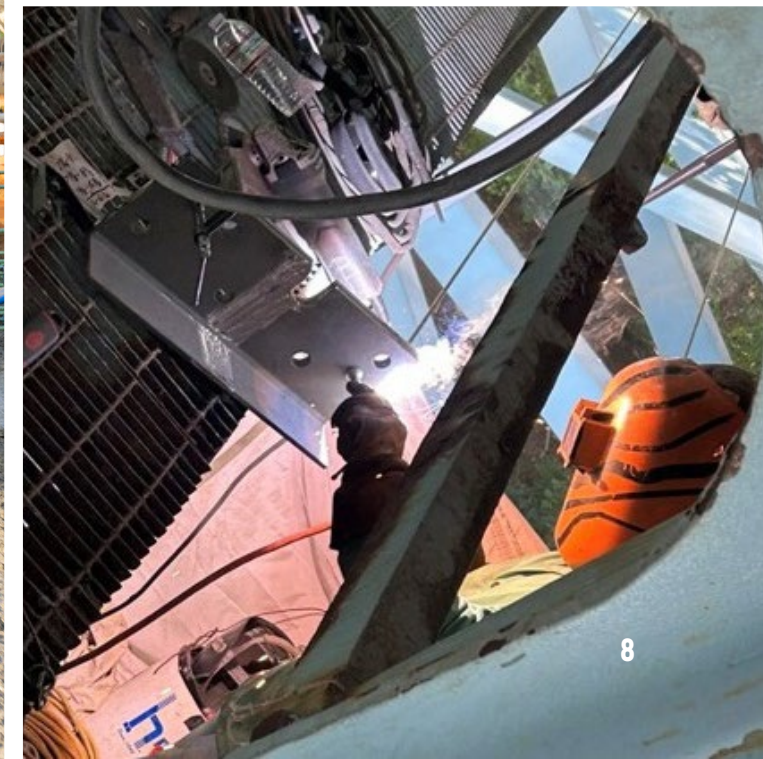
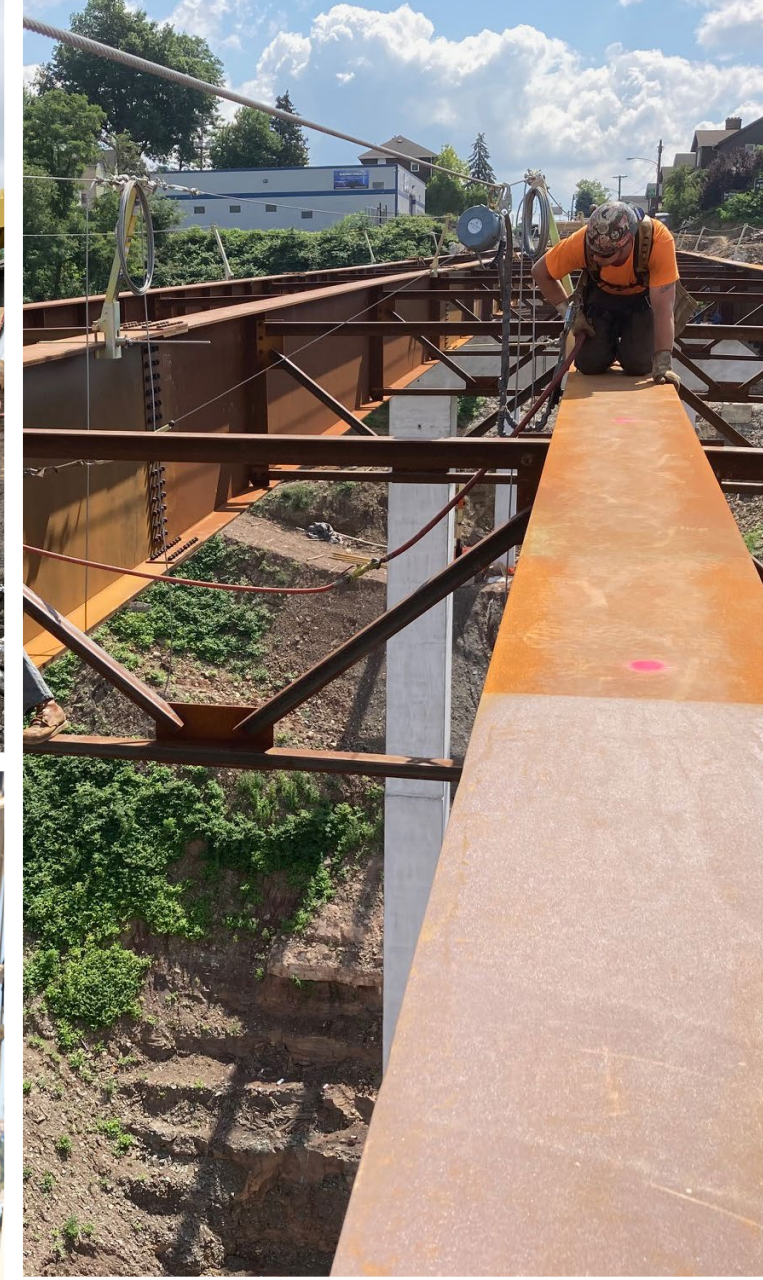
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| • Roberto Clemente Bridge | • Coraopolis Bridge |
| • Andy Warhol Bridge | • Dooker's Hollow Bridge |
| • Rachel Carson Bridge | • Fleming Park Bridge |
| • David McCullough Bridge | • Glenwood Bridge |
| • Philip Murray Bridge | • Rankin Bridge |
| • Homestead Grays Bridge | • W.D. Mansfield Memorial Bridge |

Public Works takes the maintenance of those bridges very seriously. The department and PennDOT hire certified inspectors to inspect county-owned bridges for problems. Inspectors look at larger bridges at least once every two years and smaller bridges at least once every two to five years. Inspectors sometimes analyze bridges in poor condition more frequently.

The inspectors mainly focus on identifying areas where the bridge has deteriorated due to age, weather, road salt, and vehicle use. They report their findings – sometimes hundreds of pages long – to Public Works bridge engineers, who review them.

Find an issue on a bridge? See [Who Owns My Infrastructure](#), and if it's a county bridge, create a [Service Request](#).

View answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#).





Bridge Inspections

As part of the inspections, bridges receive a rating based on the level of deterioration found on their most essential parts. A bridge with a 7 through 9 rating is in good condition. If it's rated 5 or 6, it's in fair condition. And if it receives a 4 or lower rating, it's in poor condition. To find out the rating of a bridge in your area, visit [PennDOT's Bridge Conditions Map](#).

Bridges in poor condition are not necessarily unsafe. The locations and levels of deterioration found determine whether a bridge is safe. Public Works always errs on the side of caution. If its engineers think there is any chance a county-owned bridge might be unsafe, they take immediate action.

One such action might be implementing a vehicle weight limit on a bridge. Any bridge without a weight limit can safely handle single-unit vehicles (such as cars) weighing 36 tons or combo vehicles (such as tractor-trailers) weighing 40 tons covering its entire roadway. For example, the longest county-owned bridge – the Homestead Grays Bridge – can safely support at least 177 tractor-trailers at one time, or the weight equivalent of about 1,100 elephants.

As a bridge deteriorates over time, it might no longer be able to safely support as much weight as it once did. When that occurs, Public Works implements a weight limit. That's no cause for alarm. It's simply a way to ensure safety, slow deterioration, and extend a bridge's life.

Other actions county engineers might take after receiving an inspection report include:

- Closing a bridge (which is rarely done).
- Having an on-call contractor make emergency repairs.
- Having in-house Public Works maintenance staff make repairs.
- Performing preventative maintenance.
- Starting design on a preservation project, which prevents and slows deterioration.
- Starting design on a rehabilitation project, which restores a bridge to almost its original condition.
- Starting design on a replacement project, where a bridge is demolished, and a new one is built.



SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

During cold weather, various entities remove snow and ice from our roads and bridges, including:

- The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
- Allegheny County
- Local municipalities
- Private owners

Making matters confusing to the public, the entity responsible for the general maintenance of a road or bridge might differ from the one responsible for plowing and salting it. That's because entities often enter into winter operations agreements to improve efficiency.

For example, if a municipality plows and salts all the roads around a county-owned road, it doesn't make much sense for a county salt truck driver to travel the extra distance to clear that one road of snow and ice. Instead, the county will pay the municipality to do it. As a result, the county-owned road is cleared more frequently, and the county can focus its time and effort on other roads.

To determine which entity is responsible for plowing and salting a specific road within the county, use the [Who Plows My Road](#) map.



Winter Storm Plan

The Allegheny County Department of Public Works keeps 357 miles of roadway as safe and passable as possible during winter storms. To accomplish that challenging task, it uses more than 50 trucks, an average of 18,000 tons of salt, and 3,500 gallons of liquid calcium chloride annually.

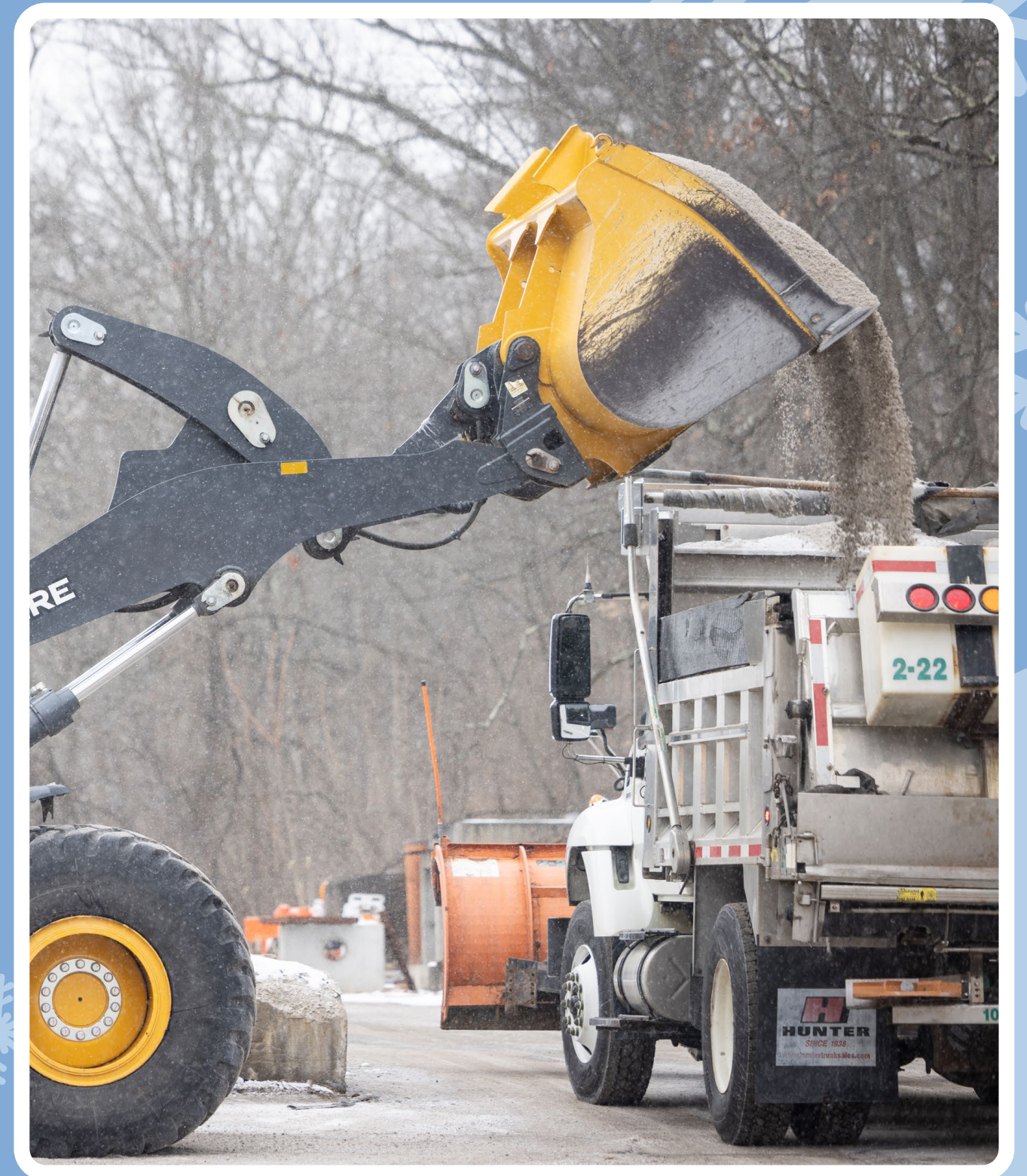
The amount of salt and liquid calcium chloride used each year is the weight equivalent of about 30,000 polar bears!

Throughout the winter season, the department monitors weather forecasts and makes plans days in advance of upcoming storms. Crews preload salt onto trucks and install plows if 2 or more inches of snow are predicted.

During a storm, county drivers follow routes designed for efficiency. If needed, Public Works keeps drivers over the end of their shifts and brings in additional drivers to provide around-the-clock coverage until precipitation stops falling and county-owned roads are clear.

Depending on traffic, county salt truck drivers take about one to two hours to complete their routes. They then take about an hour to return to the nearest maintenance garage, reload with salt, and restart their routes. So, if snow falls quickly, there will likely be accumulation on the roads. In those difficult conditions, drivers are encouraged to slow down, leave extra space between their vehicle and the one in front of them, and give county drivers plenty of room to navigate.

If there is a snow or ice issue on a county-maintained road, you can create a service request using the [Allegheny County Support Center](#). You can also call 412-350-4626 between 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays. If the problem is an emergency, please call 9-1-1 immediately.





LANDSLIDES

Landslides are the movement of soil, rock, or debris down a hill. Water, erosion, or human activity are the primary causes of landslides, which are common in this region because of our hilly terrain and variable weather. Unfortunately, landslides can close roads, bring down utility poles and wires, and damage homes and properties.

For those reasons, the Allegheny County Department of Public Works does everything it can to prevent landslides from occurring. The department is constantly inspecting county-owned roads for signs of trouble. That includes watching for leaning guide rail or utility poles, pavement cracking or sinking, exposed tree roots, and retaining wall deterioration.

The department then takes preventative steps, including diverting water from problematic hillsides using trenches, curbs, or sandbags. It installs drainage ditches or piping to allow trapped water to drain from heavy, wet soil. Crews also continually clean and repair the county's more than 10,000 inlets, catch basins, and outfalls.

To further help prevent landslides, Public Works and Allegheny County Emergency Services created an online [Landslide Portal](#). The portal shows which areas of the county are most susceptible to landslides and need to be monitored. It also provides practical and educational guidance to municipal leaders to help them implement preventative and corrective actions for slopes at risk for a landslide.

If a landslide occurs along a county-owned road, Public Works first focuses on keeping the road open or reopening it as quickly as possible. It does that by cleaning up the fallen soil, rock, and debris and ensuring that the nearby hillside won't keep falling.

Sometimes, to ensure driver safety, the department will keep a road closed until the nearby hillside can be stabilized. That work might include installing a rock embankment, placing rock-filled (gabion) baskets, or constructing a retaining wall.

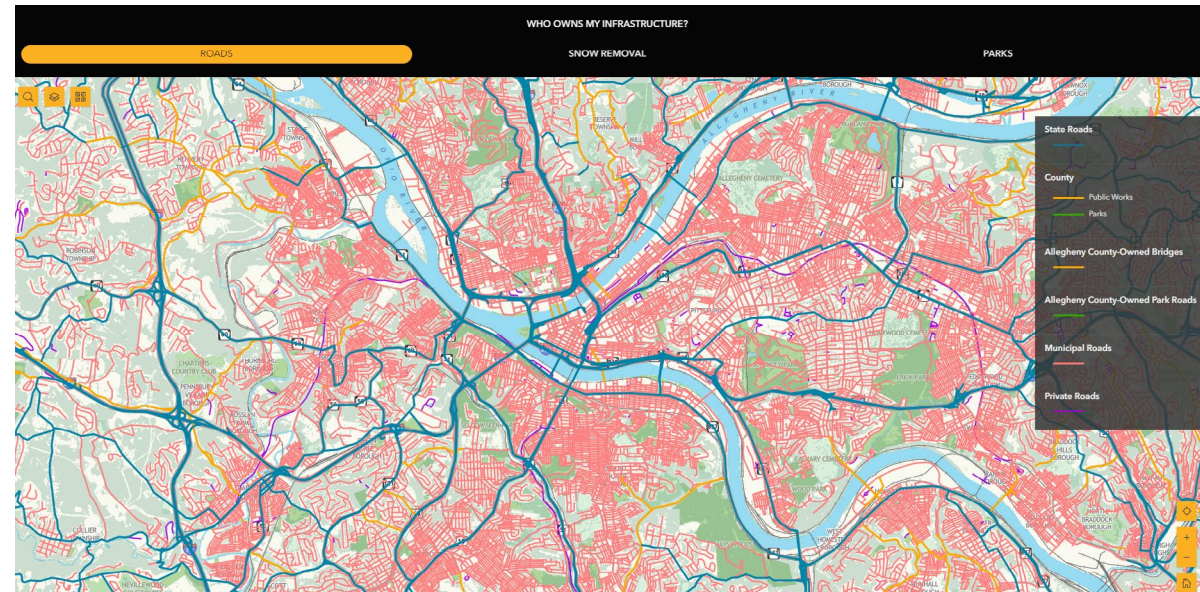
Many landslides that affect county-owned roads originate from private property. In those instances, the property owner is responsible for stabilizing the problematic slope, which can be costly. When that occurs, the county works with property owners to develop amicable solutions that protect taxpayer money while ensuring safety on the county-owned road.

If you need to report a landslide, **call 9-1-1 immediately.**





WHO OWNS MY INFRASTRUCTURE?



Who Owns My Infrastructure?

If you spot or experience an issue on a road or bridge, the first step to resolving the problem is determining which entity owns that road. The county makes that painless by offering a couple of interactive maps.

Who Owns My Road Map

The Who Owns My Road map will help you identify which entity is responsible for the general maintenance of a specific road or bridge.

Who Plows My Road Map

The Who Plows My Road map will show you which entity is responsible for salting and plowing a particular road or bridge.

Using the maps is easy!

- 1** Type the address where there is an issue.
- 2** The screen will then zoom the map to the location of the problem.
- 3** Click on the problematic road to determine which entity is responsible for fixing the issue and what phone number to call for assistance.



SERVICE REQUEST

Service Request

If your issue is on a county-owned road, you can create a service request or ask a question of Public Works staff using the [Allegheny County Support Center](#). You can also call 412-350-4626 between 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays. If the problem is an emergency, call 9-1-1 immediately. If you sustain property or vehicle damage and believe a county-owned road or bridge or a Public Works activity caused the issue, you may file a damage claim by calling 412-350-3754.

Public Works can help with most road-related issues, including:

- [Potholes and sinkholes](#)
- [Pavement deterioration](#)
- [Roadway bumps](#)
- [Roadway snow or ice accumulation](#)
- [Clogged inlets or catch basins](#)
- [Property flooding caused by roadway stormwater runoff](#)
- [Overgrown grass, weeds, bushes, and trees](#)
- [Downed trees](#)
- [Damaged, faded, missing, or needed road signs](#)
- [Faded, missing, or needed roadway markings](#)
- [Needed speed reduction/traffic calming](#)
- [Driveway approach lips or deterioration](#)
- [Deteriorated or needed curb](#)
- [Damaged, deteriorated, missing, or needed guide rail](#)
- [Roadside litter](#)
- [Roadkill](#)

Please note that the department can't assist with the following:

- Water main breaks, gas line leaks, or downed utility wires. When those occur, please call 9-1-1 or the appropriate utility company immediately.
- Problems related to traffic signals, street lights, and sidewalks not located on a bridge. Those types of issues are the responsibility of the local municipality regardless of the road's owner.
- Requests for new signs with a flashing beacon or warning light, radar speed signs, accessible parking signs, engine brake restrictions, and speed limit changes. Those requests should be made to the local municipality, regardless of the road's owner.
- Requests for new convex mirrors. The installation of new mirrors along roads is now prohibited in Pennsylvania. Existing mirrors may remain in place until they need to be replaced, at which point, they must be removed.
- Requests related to a school zone or school bus stop should be made to the local school district.

Public Works can help with most bridge-related issues, including:

- [Potholes or holes on the bridge deck](#)
- [Bridge deterioration](#)
- [Falling bridge material](#)
- [Roadway or sidewalk snow or ice accumulation](#)
- [Deteriorated sidewalk](#)
- [Clogged drainage facilities](#)
- [Burned out street lights](#)
- [Damaged, faded, missing, or needed road signs](#)
- [Faded, missing, or needed roadway markings](#)
- [Needed speed reduction/traffic calming](#)
- [Damaged, deteriorated, missing, or needed guide rail](#)

Please note that the department can't assist with the following:

- Issues related to a river, stream, or creek unless a county-owned bridge or culvert is possibly involved. In most cases, property owners are responsible for stream and creek maintenance on their properties. For more information, view the [Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection \(DEP\) Stream Maintenance Booklet](#).
- For stream and creek maintenance assistance, contact the [DEP Southwest Regional Office](#) at 412-442-4000. For general flood-related assistance, contact the Federal Emergency Management Agency at 1-800-621-3362. The agency also offers [post-flooding information and resources](#).



PROJECTS & RESOURCES





PROJECTS & TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS

Infrastructure projects and traffic restrictions in Allegheny County are common between March and November. In fact, a joke often told around here is that the Pennsylvania state flower is a traffic cone.

While drivers and nearby residents understandably can become annoyed with the inconveniences caused by infrastructure projects, the work being done is critically important. This region has older infrastructure that requires regular preventative maintenance and repairs and, sometimes, even replacement of our roads, bridges, and utility lines. The sight of traffic cones means vital investments are being made to ensure our communities remain safe and connected.

The Allegheny County Department of Public Works completes dozens of large projects annually. Because that work can be a short-term nuisance, the department aims to keep municipalities, emergency services, school districts, Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT), and the public informed about project schedules, detours, and progress. It does that in several ways:

[Allegheny County Press Releases](#)

Public Works issues press releases that anyone - not just the media - can view and receive. To sign up to receive press releases, visit the [Email Updates](#) page, enter your email address and choose either "All Allegheny County Releases" or "Public Works/Transportation Releases."

[Allegheny Alerts](#)

The system dispatches phone calls, emails, and text messages to subscribers depending on where they want to receive the project notification. To receive Public Works notifications using Allegheny Alerts, visit the [Sign Up](#) page, enter your information, and choose "Public Works."

Public Works posts project notifications and updates on the county's social media channels



[Allegheny County's Website](#)

Public Works maintains a Projects and Closures page on the county's website. The page includes a map showing all the locations where large projects are occurring on county-owned roads and bridges. The page also provides links to project pages, where users can find overviews, start and estimated end dates, location and detour maps, plans, photos, and progress updates.

Public Works emails and mails notification letters to municipal administrators, emergency services, school districts, post offices, garbage services, and PRT.





Questions & Complaints

While work is occurring on a road or bridge, Public Works sometimes receives questions and complaints about the project. The department appreciates that feedback, as it can help lessen a project's negative impact on the public. Some of the questions and complaints received are more common than others.

A frequent complaint from residents is seeing workers at a work zone standing around watching while other workers are seemingly doing all the labor. That can be frustrating, especially when you're eager for a project to end.

The reason that sometimes occurs is not because the workers are lazy. Work at construction sites must occur in a specific order to be done properly, and construction workers are often specialized. They might be steel and iron workers, painters, carpenters, electricians, heavy equipment operators, etc. Because of that, the workers on-site often can't do their work simultaneously. It's similar to a football player specializing in kicking who can't be brought onto the field until his team scores a touchdown.

Also, there are on-site inspectors and project managers whose job is to watch the work taking place, ensuring that workers remain safe, follow construction plans as designed, perform high-quality work, remain on schedule, and avoid unexpected costs.

Another often irritating sight for residents is when work is not occurring at a construction site where a road or bridge is closed. There are numerous reasons that might occur, including:

- Construction contractors have the ability – with limits – to set their work schedules. For example, a contractor might decide to work four 10-hour shifts Monday through Thursday and not work on Friday. They might also choose to place all of their crews at another work site for a few days where a need is more immediately pressing. Contractors always have until a specific date the county sets to complete their work. Unless there are unforeseen circumstances, Public Works will penalize contractors financially if a project isn't completed by that date.
- Weather that is too hot, cold, or wet for the remaining work to occur. For example, new concrete and asphalt cannot be poured and placed in certain conditions. If it is, the end product will be poor and deteriorate quickly.
- Heavy equipment issues. Contractors try to continue working when equipment breaks down. Sometimes, though, that is not possible because that specific equipment is needed to complete the next step on the construction plans.
- Specific work is completed earlier than expected. Construction projects are a team effort, often involving a primary contractor and multiple specialized subcontractors. If one contractor completes their work early, another contractor might not have the crews available to get on-site earlier than expected. If that occurs at the end of the project – often when only line painting or guide rail installation remains – a road or bridge might remain closed while no work is occurring.

One common question from residents is why crews can't work overnight to get projects done faster. Sometimes, contractors can work overnight, especially when needed at a critical, high-traffic location. However, in most cases, Public Works prevents contractors from performing work overnight for several reasons:

- The noise and lights associated with construction work can be disruptive to residents trying to get sleep. In fact, municipalities often have a noise ordinance that can restrict overnight construction work.
- Overnight work is more dangerous for workers.
- Overnight work is significantly more expensive than work done during regular business hours. Public Works generally believes those extra costs are not an effective use of taxpayer money. Available funding is better used getting more projects completed instead of much fewer projects done faster.



ADOPT-A-ROADWAY PROGRAM

Littering along roads is a constant problem. It lessens the appearance of our neighborhoods, kills wildlife, reduces property values, and negatively affects business and tourism. The Allegheny County Department of Public Works does its best to combat the problem, but unfortunately, keeping up with the amount of litter thrown from vehicles can be difficult.

That's why the county created an [Adopt-a-Roadway program](#), which provides an excellent opportunity for organizations, corporations, groups, and individuals to help protect the environment, show pride in their communities, enjoy camaraderie, and receive well-earned recognition.

Road adopters are required to organize at least two cleanup events annually. In return, Public Works posts recognition signs along the adopted road, giving the adopters credit for their efforts.

An adopting group's primary contact must be 18 or older. Cleanup event participants must be 14 or older. Also, at least one adult must accompany every eight minors, and minors must have parental permission.

Public Works provides "Litter Crew Ahead" signs and safety vests. After each cleanup event, the department picks up and properly disposes of all the bags of litter.

Signing up to participate is incredibly easy. Potential adopters can visit the [Adoption Application](#) page on the county's website, click on an available road on an interactive map, click "Adopt This Road," and fill out some basic information.

For more information about the program or to ask questions, visit the Adopt-a-Roadway page on the county's website, email adopt-a-roadway@alleghenycounty.us, or call 412-350-2501.





PERMITS

The Allegheny County Department of Public Works requires permits before three types of activities:

Construction

Doing construction work within, under, or over county right-of-way. Right-of-way is an area of land designated for use as a road or bridge, including the travel portion, shoulders, curbs, berms, gutters, and any other area needed for drainage structures, guide rail, or road signs. Examples of typical work within county right-of-way include utility line installations and repairs, driveway and sidewalk installations and repairs, road sign installations and repairs, new storm sewer connections, and new road connections.

Special Events

Hosting a special event or film shoot that will require a traffic restriction on a county-owned road or bridge. Special events include parades and other community events, runs, walks, athletic competitions, block parties, exhibits, and performances. First Amendment activities, such as public assemblies and marches, political and religious speeches, printed material distribution, and signature collection, do not require a Public Works permit.

Overload/Oversize Vehicles

Driving a vehicle larger than 8 feet, 6 inches wide; 13 feet, 6 inches high; 75 feet long; and/or 80,000 pounds over a county-owned road or bridge.

The type of permit required for construction work is called a Highway Occupancy Permit (HOP). To learn about the county's HOP policies, procedures, and fees pertaining to construction, view the [Public Works Permits Manual](#).

How to Apply for a Permit

Construction

To apply for a HOP pertaining to construction, fill out the [Highway Occupancy Permit \(Construction\) Application](#). Depending on the type of planned construction, you might need to submit other forms along with your application. To download those other forms, visit the [Road and Bridge Permits](#) page on the county's website.

The completed forms and a bond or certificate of insurance can be emailed to hop@alleghenycounty.us or mailed to:

Allegheny County Department of Public Works
Attn: Permits Manager
County Office Building
542 Forbes Avenue, Room 501
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

After all necessary forms have been submitted, Public Works will review them. If the project is approved, fees will be assessed. After the fees are paid, Public Works will issue the permit. Construction work is only allowed within county right-of-way once a permit has been issued. When emergency work is necessary, a permit is required within 72 hours after the work is completed.

If you have a question about applying for a HOP related to construction, call 412-350-5874.



Special Events

A HOP is also required for special events and film shoots that will cause a traffic restriction on a county-owned road or bridge. To apply for that type of HOP, fill out the [Highway Occupancy Permit \(Special Events and Film Shoots\) Application](#).

The completed form and a certificate of insurance can be emailed to specialeventspermit@alleghenycounty.us or mailed to:

Allegheny County Department of Public Works
Attn: Public Information Officer
County Office Building
542 Forbes Avenue, Room 501
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

After the application is received, Public Works will review it. If the traffic restriction for the special event or film shoot is approved, a fee will be assessed. The fee is \$80 for each day of a traffic restriction. After the fee is paid, Public Works will issue the permit. No traffic restriction is allowed on a county-owned road or bridge for a special event or film shoot until a permit has been issued.

Please note that Public Works doesn't approve HOPs for special events that require paid entry, are closed to the public, are small in scale, might damage the road or bridge, are unsafe as determined by Public Works staff or local law enforcement, or conflict with another nearby event.

If you have a question about applying for a HOP pertaining to a special event or film shoot, call 412-350-2451.



Overload/Oversize Vehicles

An Overload/Oversize Permit is required before a company can take a very large or heavy vehicle onto a county-owned road or bridge. To apply for that type of permit, fill out the [Overload/Oversize Permit Application](#). The completed form and a certificate of insurance should be emailed to oversizepermits@alleghenycounty.us or mailed to:

Allegheny County Department of Public Works
County Office Building
542 Forbes Avenue, Room 501
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

After the application is received, Public Works will review it. If the driving trip is approved, a fee will be assessed. The fee is \$100 for single trips involving a county-owned road and \$250 for single trips involving a county-owned bridge. The fee for annual permits involving county-owned roads is \$200 and \$500 for county-owned bridges. Please note that some trips require a police escort, which can add to the overall cost.

Applications must be submitted at least three business days before an overloaded or oversized vehicle can use a county-owned road or bridge. A minimum of two weeks' notice is required for superloads, which are vehicles that are more than 16 feet wide, 160 feet long, and/or 201,000 pounds.

If you have a question about applying for an Overload/Oversize Permit, call 412-350-2517.





SOLICITATIONS

The Allegheny County Department of Public Works constantly needs contractor and consultant services as well as the equipment and materials required to complete its projects. To fill those needs, the department posts advertisements using an online application called Bonfire.

The department posts requests for bids and proposals for contractor and consultant services on Bonfire's [Public Works Procurement Portal](#). Prospective contractors and consultants must make submissions on Bonfire for services entirely paid for by the county. They must make submissions for services funded in part by federal or state funding on the [Pennsylvania Department of Transportation \(PennDOT\) Engineering and Construction Management System \(ECMS\)](#).

Before submitting, prospective contractors and consultants should view [Public Works Guidelines for Consultant Services](#), [Public Works Selection Criteria for Consultant Services](#), and the [Allegheny County Sustainability Profile Form](#). If you have a question, call 412-350-5914.

Invitations for bids and requests for proposals for Public Works equipment and materials are posted on Bonfire's [Allegheny County Procurement Portal](#).

View the [Supplier's Guide](#) page on the county's website to learn about the procurement process for equipment and supplies. Additional information can be found on the [Allegheny County Division of Purchasing and Supplies](#) page. If you have a question, call 412-350-2491.

Public Works makes a special effort to seek out minority, women, and disadvantaged business enterprises (MBEs, WBEs, and DBEs, respectively) for consideration. Also, many contracts have MBE, WBE, and DBE requirements. For more information, view the [Public Works Guidelines for Consultant Services](#) and the [Allegheny County Equity and Inclusion Department](#) page on the county's website.





RECORDS





RECORDS

The Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law (RTKL) allows the public to inspect or obtain copies of Allegheny County's public records. Requests for county-owned road- or bridge-related maps or right-of-way information can be submitted online using the [Allegheny County Support Center](#). Choose "Public Works," "Maps/Records," and describe your request in detail.

All other Public Works-related records requests go through the Allegheny County Office of Open Records. Use the [RTK/Open Records Center](#) to submit a request online.

You may also submit a request via mail, fax, email, or in person. Download and fill out the [Pennsylvania Office of Open Records Standard Right-to-Know Law Request Form](#). Then, do one of the following:

- Email it to openrecords@alleghenycounty.us.
- Mail it or deliver it in-person to: Open Records Officer, Allegheny County Courthouse, Room 202, 436 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219.
- Fax it to 412-350-4925.

Visit the [Open Records](#) page on the county's website for more information about the county's Open Records policy, request process, and fees.





CAREERS





CAREERS

The Allegheny County Department of Public Works offers jobs and internships related to engineering, road and bridge maintenance, accounting and finance, purchasing and procurement, safety, and more.

Along with competitive salaries, Public Works jobs come with some great benefits, including:

- Generous paid time off, including 15 vacation days for all new full-time employees
- Health, dental, vision, and life insurance
- A retirement pension and optional 457(b) deferred plan
- Paid parental leave
- Tuition discounts at local universities
- Health and wellness incentives and rewards
- An opportunity to make a direct and positive impact in your community

To view the full-time and part-time positions available in Public Works, visit the [Allegheny County Careers Portal](#). For information about the application process, visit the [Information for Applicants](#) page on the county's website.

Public Works also provides civil engineering and safety internship opportunities. Interested applicants should email a cover letter and resume to dpwemployment@alleghenycounty.us. For more information, visit the [Public Works Internships](#) page on the county's website.

If you have questions about an open position or internship, call 412-350-5969.



A nighttime photograph of the Andy Warhol Bridge in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The bridge is illuminated with blue and purple lights, and its structure is reflected in the water below. In the background, a large firework display is visible against the dark sky, with red and white streaks. The city lights of Pittsburgh are visible in the distance. A white text box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing contact information for the Allegheny County Department of Public Works.

CONTACT US

Allegheny County Department of Public Works

County Office Building

542 Forbes Avenue, Room 501

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Phone: 412-350-4636

Fax: 412-350-538