



Breakdown of 2024-25 PA Budget

On February 9, Gov. Josh Shapiro released his \$48.3 billion **2024-2025 budget** proposal to the entire Pennsylvania General Assembly. This is the first step in the budget process, followed by negotiations with the legislature, with a resolution deadline of **June 30, 2024**.

PCRG will closely monitor as lawmakers hold committee hearings with leaders of departments and agencies to review the governor's budget proposal. During these negotiations, it's important to remember **there's currently \$14 billion in budget reserves that the legislature will not reinvest back into our communities**. Money that could go to housing, public transportation, education, public safety and so much more.

Shapiro included a **five-point housing plan** that lays out investments in housing development, home repair programs, eviction prevention, and assisting the unhoused. Specifically:

- Make the **Whole Home Repairs Program** permanent with an allocation of **\$50 million**.
- Increase the **PA Housing and Rehab Enhancement Fund (PHARE)**, or "housing trust fund" cap to **\$100 million over the next five years**.
- **\$10 million** for the **Homeless Assistance Program**
- **\$5 million** for **legal representation** in eviction proceedings.
- **\$5 million** to local jurisdictions for **rapid response to emergency housing** situations.

PCRG was recently with Gov. Shapiro, DCED Secretary Rick Siger, local and state leaders, and economic development stakeholders when the governor announced his **10-year economic development strategy** to make Pennsylvania more competitive with surrounding states. Part of that strategy was highlighted in his budget proposal, which includes more than **\$600 million in investments** to secure development sites, address regional competitiveness challenges, incentivize innovative projects – and funding for small business development. Specifically:

- **\$500 million to PA SITES** for commercial and industrial site development to attract new businesses.
- **\$25 million for the Main Street Matters Program** (a modernized version of the Keystone Communities Program) to support small businesses and downtown corridors. This is an increase from the \$7 million allocated this year.
- **\$3.5 million for regional challenge grants** to incentivize the development of vibrant and economically resilient regions that will enable PA to compete with neighboring states.
- **\$20 million in capital for entrepreneurs** who have historically lacked access to startup funding.

Public transit systems throughout Pennsylvania are severely underfunded, limiting mobility and affordability for people trying to get to work, school, and other destinations reliably and safely. Shapiro's proposal makes historic investments in public transit throughout the commonwealth, including in Allegheny County, including:

- Increase the state share to **\$282 million by allocating \$1.5 billion in new funding over five years**.
- About **\$40 million** in additional funding for **Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT)**