

The Honorable Mike Carroll, Acting Secretary of PennDOT
Confirmation Statement
Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Chairman Langerholc, Chairman Flynn, and members of the Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to meet with many of you to discuss our numerous growth and investment opportunities available through transportation across our state. I am honored to be the Governor's nominee to serve in the role as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). This is an agency that represents the very definition of public service in how it touches people's lives even when they may not realize it.

The transportation industry, and Pennsylvania as a whole is realizing benefits from enhancing our business and customer-service practices, implementing the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and taking steps to advance equity in our organizations and industries.

From my previous seat as a state representative, I witnessed this agency's ongoing progress and much more. From 2006 through last year, I saw and was a part of many significant changes in transportation laws and how our system is funded. I knew the importance of and voted for past legislation to invest in transportation and worked tirelessly to ensure a safe and efficient transportation network. As chair of the House Transportation Committee from 2018-2022, I learned firsthand about this agency's accomplishments, challenges, and opportunities realized across various transportation modes, licensing and vehicle services. As Secretary, I look forward to further engaging with you regarding these and much more.

I know the importance of our mission of maintaining and improving the network of roughly 40,000 miles of state-owned roads and roughly 25,000 state-owned bridges, 52 transit systems, hundreds of public and private airports and heliports, three ports and the privately-owned network of more than 5,600 miles of freight railroad lines. Our partnership also extends to another 78,000 miles of local roads, and 6,600 local bridges.

Additionally, as a CDL holder, I have not only a personal understanding of the commitment of the PennDOT and industry team members working to keep our communities safe, but also the driver and vehicle services and operations that touch millions of Pennsylvanians. With the department's responsibility for the state's 12.1 million vehicle registrations and 10.1 million driver's licenses and IDs, enhancing customers' experience will be a continued focus.

We are at a unique moment in time where we have significant federal funding coming to Pennsylvania for the first time in years, and which we'll continue investing to make it safer for Pennsylvania drivers while supporting jobs and our economy. I remain committed to working on solutions that address our funding reliability and ensure that every dollar that should be used on our roads and bridges will be.

I look forward to our continued partnership toward improving Pennsylvania's transportation system and economy.