

**COUNTY OF DELAWARE
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
RESOLUTION NUMBER 2025-5**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
A NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK**

WHEREAS, The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) stated in its 2021 report card that the United States received a grade of C- regarding the current state of infrastructure and that more than six trillion dollars would be needed to restore the nation's infrastructure to a state of good repair of which over two trillion dollars is currently not funded and the remainder is inadequately funded; and

WHEREAS, The United States Congress has introduced HR 4052, The National Infrastructure Bank Act, to create a new, \$5 trillion National Infrastructure Bank (NIB), authorized to invest in infrastructure projects only, requiring no new federal spending and no new federal taxes, and capitalized by existing Treasury debt, as was done previously in U.S. history; and

WHEREAS, the American Society of Civil Engineers 2022 Report Card graded Pennsylvania C- in 15 categories of basic infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, 51% of Pennsylvania roads are in fair or poor condition; and

WHEREAS, Over the next 10 years Pennsylvania's public water systems are projected to have a \$24 billion funding gap, over and above recent federal programs; and

WHEREAS, Delaware County has been fighting to halt the privatization of drinking water systems in Delaware County; and the NIB could finance replacement of old water lines in the county; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has the 9th largest bridge inventory in the nation, including the second highest number of poor condition bridges in the nation; 13.8% are structurally deficient, and it needs at least \$18 billion annually to fix bridges; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to a 2022 report by the Federal Highway Administration, Delaware County had 55 bridges listed in poor condition, or 14.4 percent of Delaware County's 383 bridges, significantly higher than the 7 percent average nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a funding gap of \$7 billion over the next 10 years to repair existing wastewater systems; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania needs to fund \$6.7 billion in storm water projects over the next 3-5 years; and

WHEREAS, transit funding shortfalls in Pennsylvania include \$4.6 billion for SEPTA capital needs alone; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a shortfall of over \$10 billion to fix or replace old and deteriorating schools; the Philadelphia school system alone needs \$7-9 billion, and Pennsylvania needs \$5.4 billion to end the gap between rich and poor school districts; and

WHEREAS, a School Facilities Study of Chester Uplands School District issued in 2021 indicated substantial infrastructure repair needs, highlighting two schools: Chester High School, which is 50 years old, and needs \$23 million in repairs, and Main Street Elementary, which is 71 years old, and needs over \$9 million in repairs; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a shortage of at least 267,000 rental homes affordable and available for extremely low income tenants; and

WHEREAS, there is a critical shortage of affordable homes in Delaware County: for every 100 extremely low-income families, seniors, and people with disabilities renting in Delaware County, only 23 affordable rental homes are available to them; and

WHEREAS, Delaware County has experienced a health care crisis with two hospitals closing in the county, including Delaware County Memorial Hospital, putting a massive strain on the system; the NIB could finance new hospitals and facilities for the County; and

WHEREAS, a new NIB will help finance the infrastructure needs of Pennsylvania and Delaware County, in partnership with state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the NIB is modeled on previous banks which helped build much of our infrastructure under Presidents George Washington, James Madison, Abraham Lincoln, and Franklin D. Roosevelt; the last such bank helped bring the United States out of the Great Depression and win WWII; and

WHEREAS, the NIB will create twenty-five million new jobs, paying Davis-Bacon wages, and include Buy America provisions; disadvantaged business enterprises will receive significant disbursements, and the bill mandates large-scale minority hiring.

WHEREAS, the NIB will dramatically expand opportunities for small and medium size businesses, and increase revenues into state and local governments; according to experts, the Bank will grow the economy by 5% per year as did its predecessors; and

WHEREAS, many organizations have issued endorsements of the NIB: thirty state legislatures have introduced or passed resolutions of support, including the Pennsylvania Legislature; dozens of city and county councils have endorsed; national endorsements include: The National Black Caucus of State Legislators, the National Asian-Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators; The National Asian-Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators; Council of State Governments-East Region (which includes Pennsylvania); The National Association of Development Organizations (all 541 Regional Planning Commissions), the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters, and many more; and Pennsylvania endorsements include the following city and county councils: Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Allentown, Lancaster, State College, Northampton County Council, and Allegheny County Council, the Northern Tier Central Labor Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA that:

1. County Council hereby calls upon the United States Congress to pass H.R. 4052, or its equivalent, to create a National Infrastructure Bank to finance urgently needed infrastructure project

2. Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Pennsylvania delegation to Congress, the Governor of Pennsylvania, and the President of the United States.

ADOPTED by the County Council of the County of Delaware, Pennsylvania, this ____ day of _____, 2025.

BY: DELAWARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Dr. Monica Taylor, Chair

ATTESTED: _____
SHARON SCATTOLINO, County Clerk