



Paoli, PA Station Accessibility Improvements



Above: An illustrative site plan of the Amtrak Paoli Station Accessibility Improvements. (Photo provided by Sowinski-Sullivan Architects.)

PROJECT SUMMARY

Current Status	SEPTA led Design (Gannett Fleming-Contractor) with Amtrak® Design Review
Partners	Amtrak, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
Funding	\$36M (\$12M Amtrak, \$24M SEPTA)

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Paoli Train Station is an Amtrak owned station located in Pennsylvania along the Keystone Corridor which extends from Philadelphia to Harrisburg, Pa. The station is served by both Amtrak trains (Keystone and Pennsylvanian) and SEPTA Regional Rail trains (Paoli Thorndale Line). In FY 13, 175,299 Amtrak passengers and 737,857 SEPTA passengers passed through the station. Built in 1953 by the Pennsylvania Railroad, the one-story brick building is not accessible, and in need of improvement. SEPTA and Amtrak have partnered to make modifications to the station and infrastructure at the station to bring it into compliance with 2006 Department of Transportation (DOT) Accessibility standards.

Coined the Paoli Station Accessibility Improvements, the project will include a new center high level platform, elevators, ramps, a pedestrian

overpass, parking lot improvements, ADA improvements to the existing station building, and changes to infrastructure (track, 261 signal from Paoli to Frazer, electric traction) that allow for construction of the center high level platform. Once complete, this work will bring the Paoli Station into compliance making it accessible for all users.

This project will set the stage for additional components needed to construct the Paoli Intermodal Transportation Center (PITC), a new expansive transportation center envisioned to serve the growing needs of the traveling public, and support the Paoli business district and future economic growth in the area. Improvements associated with the new intermodal transportation center will include a bridge over the rail tracks (Darby Road which will replace Valley Road), renovation or replacement of the existing station building, new passenger waiting and ticketing facilities, passenger amenities, bus, shuttle, passenger parking facilities, and potential new retail and commercial business development. The PITC project is being led by SEPTA in coordination with Amtrak, PennDOT, Tredyffrin Township, Willistown Township, Chester County and the Delaware County Regional Planning Commission.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- Improved Accessibility for all users
- Safety Improvements
- Platform Improvements
- Operational Flexibility

PROJECTED TIMELINE

August 2014

Amtrak/SEPTA Accessibility Funding Agreement executed
Amtrak completed restroom modification to the current Station Building

September 2014

Accessible spaces (Inbound Parking lot and Outbound Permit Lot)
Re-Striped by SEPTA

Summer 2015

SEPTA to complete design of the Accessibility Project Improvements

Spring 2016

Construction begins (by Amtrak and/or its Contractor)

September 2016

Ticket counters and signage improvements to be completed in current Station Building (by Amtrak)

2018

Project Completed