

The Mid-Allegheny Minutes



September 9, 2026 Dinner Meeting

The first meeting of the ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section 2026-2027 program was held at the Indiana Country Club. Kicking off our year **Gary Madey, PE** the ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section President made announcements for the upcoming year. Followed by **Linda Zug**, encouraging attendance at the upcoming Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA on October 22-23.

Doug Zubal, PE, the ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section Vice President introduced **Nicholas Puzak, PE** from Gibson-Thomas Engineering who presented on Route 22 Pedestrian/Bicyclist Bridge Hoodlebug Trail.

Located in Indiana County, the Hoodlebug Trail provided the solution to crossing the busy section of US 22, which was frequently used by students as a route to Walmart. Several alternatives were considered and the selected solution was the overhead pedestrian and bicyclist crossing.

The bridge provides a safe connection between Hoodlebug, Ghost Town, Blairsville Riverfront, and West Penn trails along with economic development opportunities.

- 2011 Planning and Funding began
- 2016 Design
- 2024-2026 Construction

The design included switchbacks to achieve the vertical clearance required to cross US 22. The deck of the three span steel girder bridge is fully enclosed with a fence to provide safety for the pedestrians and traffic below. The project overcame challenges along the way including the township declaring no bridges could pass over US 22 and insufficient funding at the time of the bid. The team found solutions and was able to provide solutions to benefit the region.

Many thanks to Nick for the interesting presentation.



Photos: Gary Madey, Doug Zubal, Linda Zug, and Nicholas Puzak.

ASHE Mid-Allegheny is looking for vendor sponsors to present at our November and March meetings. Sponsorship will include a 5-10 minute presentation during happy hour. Please reach out to Bob Schmidt at rschmidt@saiengr.com for more information.

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Upcoming events include:

- Fall Octoberfest Social at Pittsburgh Brewing– October 21, 2026 (\$35 per person for Mission BBQ)
- Commercial Street presentation at Dinner Meeting – November 10, 2026 – on a Tuesday
- District 10 Good, Bad, and the Ugly – January 13, 2027

We sincerely thank all our Members and Sponsoring Firms for your continued support of the Section.

Additional information on the events above can be found on our website.

The 2026-2027 Membership Renewals and Mid-Allegheny Club Sponsorships are now due and can be made online. Please use the following link.

<https://ashemidallegheny.simpletix.com/>

Anyone wanting to join the Mid-Allegheny Section, please complete the New Membership application which can be found at www.midallegheny.ashe.pro/ and send to mhetrick@pa.gov.

New Membership payment can be made at <https://ashemidallegheny.simpletix.com/>

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Contact the ASHE Mid-Allegheny Section

Website: www.midallegheny.ashe.pro

Email: ashe.midallegheny@gmail.com

If you have comments or suggestions related to presentations, meetings, or this newsletter, please forward a brief e-mail to the effect. Our board welcomes feedback so we can better serve our membership and industry.