

PAOLI RAIL YARD REDEVELOPMENT

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

- 1984:** A concentration of PCBs (Polychlorinated biphenyls) is discovered at Amtrak's Paoli railroad marshaling yard ("rail yard"), leading to its declaration as a federal Superfund site.
- 1994:** Septa decides to move their regional commuter rail system car storage station from the rail yard; AMTRAK (as the landowner) starts to make plans to utilize the vacant property.
- 1996:** Tredyffrin and Willistown Townships, Chester County, Septa, Amtrak, the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, PennDot and the EPA form the Paoli Rail Yard Task Force to monitor the Superfund cleanup and coordinate planning for reuse of the rail yard.
- Consultants complete the "Paoli Rail Yard and Transportation Center Plan" for the Task Force. The Plan recommends relocating the Paoli Amtrak/R5 train station to the rail yard.
- Late 90's:** The Superfund cleanup encounters numerous obstacles.
- 2001:** The Paoli Community Master Plan is adopted by Tredyffrin and Willistown to supplement the 1996 Plan with long range development plans and transportation improvements for the Paoli business district.
- 2005:** The Superfund cleanup is complete.
- 2007:** Tredyffrin and Willistown adopt ordinance amendments to regulate and guide development at the rail yard and surrounding business district.
- 2009:** AMTRAK selects Strategic Realty Investments as the developer of the rail yard.
- 2010:** Work begins on a feasibility study for widening Route 252 under the Amtrak bridge by Route 30.
- Work begins on a bike/pedestrian plan for Paoli to develop recommendations for overcoming key impediments, such as safely crossing Route 30.
- STILL TO COME:** Tredyffrin and Willistown form a joint municipal authority to coordinate and administer funding.
- A lengthy development process for the rail yard begins that will include plans for road improvements.
- Consultants are selected to begin design of road improvements, paid for out of Federal and State grants.
- Additional funding is pursued for station and road improvements.