

## Former Executive Director of Community Action Lehigh Valley Named to National "Hall of Fame"

By Ela Madrazo / CALV

LEHIGH VALLEY - The National Community Action Foundation has named the former executive director of Community Action Lehigh Valley to its "Hall of Fame." Alan Jennings worked at CALV for 41 years, serving as the nonprofit's executive director for 32 of those years. He left

the organization in 2021 due to an ongoing battle with Parkinson's that limited his ability to handle the multiple stresses of the agency's work. He was succeeded by Dawn Godshall, who nominated him for the elite recognition.

According to Godshall, Jennings was the visionary who built the agency into one of the most dynamic Community Action Agencies in the nation for over four decades. "He affected countless lives through his dedication to our community. His induction into the National

Community Action Foundation Hall of Fame is a testament to his remarkable contributions and the lasting legacy he left behind. Without his leadership, the Lehigh Valley would be a much different place," Godshall said.

CALV is one of more than 1,100 Community Action Agencies that serve low-income people throughout the nation. Thirteen individuals were named to the Hall of Fame out of thousands of possible awardees who served since Congress passed the Economic Opportunity

Act of 1964. CALV was founded in December, 1965. During its first 15 years, the agency's record was spotty. Jennings joined the agency as an employment counselor in December, 1980. In 1982, the agency was almost abolished due to weak performance. Jennings

was promoted to a position that planned and implemented new programming that enabled the agency to be removed from a sanction status that was imposed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania when Congress gave administrative responsibility to states. The agency

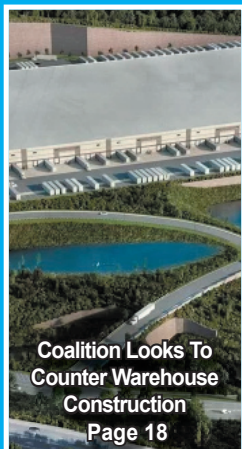
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Honoring 80 Years of  
Service at Marshall's Creek  
Fire Company  
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Celebrating Women's  
Leadership  
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Coalition Looks To  
Counter Warehouse  
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## I-80 Expansion Project In Stroudsburg

By Rep. Ann Flood

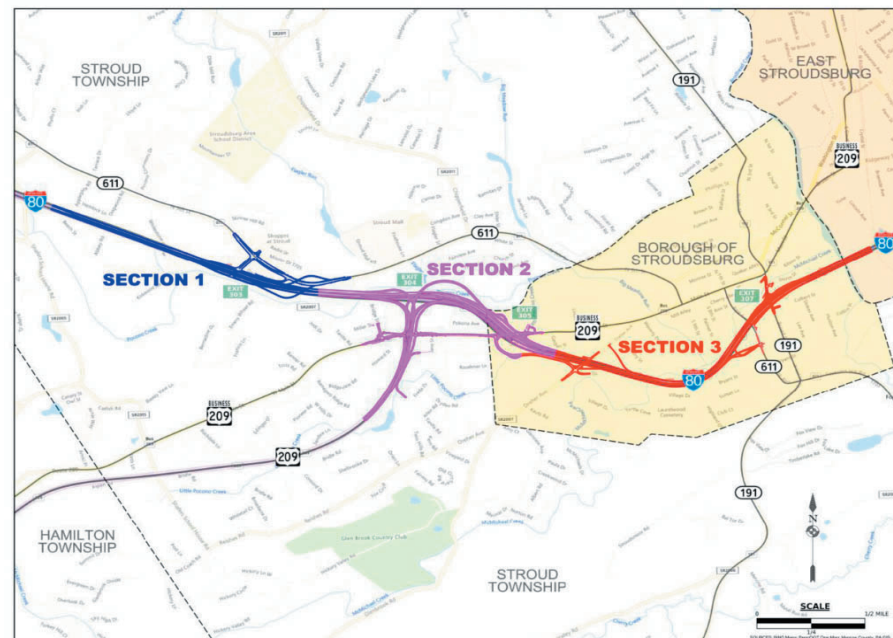
STROUDSBURG - No one enjoys surgery. It's painful, disruptive, and requires time to heal—but when it's necessary, you go through with it because you know it will ultimately make you healthier and stronger. Infrastructure projects, like the I-80 expansion, are much the same. They're inconvenient, often frustrating, and never come at the perfect time. But just like a critical surgery, they are essential for long-term safety, efficiency, and sustainability.

Many of you have heard about the I-80 expansion project over the last few years. As the project moves forward, I want to provide a factual overview to ensure everyone understands its scope and necessity.

Interstate 80 was designated in 1956 as one of the original routes of the Interstate Highway System. Stretching from New Jersey to California, it is the second-longest interstate in the country, serving as a vital corridor for national freight, commuter traffic, and tourism. Here in our community, I-80 is more than just a highway—it's a road we rely on daily for basic needs, whether visiting friends, running errands, or taking our kids to school.

While a project of this magnitude is never easy—and many of us would rather avoid the disruption—its necessity cannot be ignored.

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