

For Immediate Release

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SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority (JRA) Invests in Regional Promotion to Attract New Companies

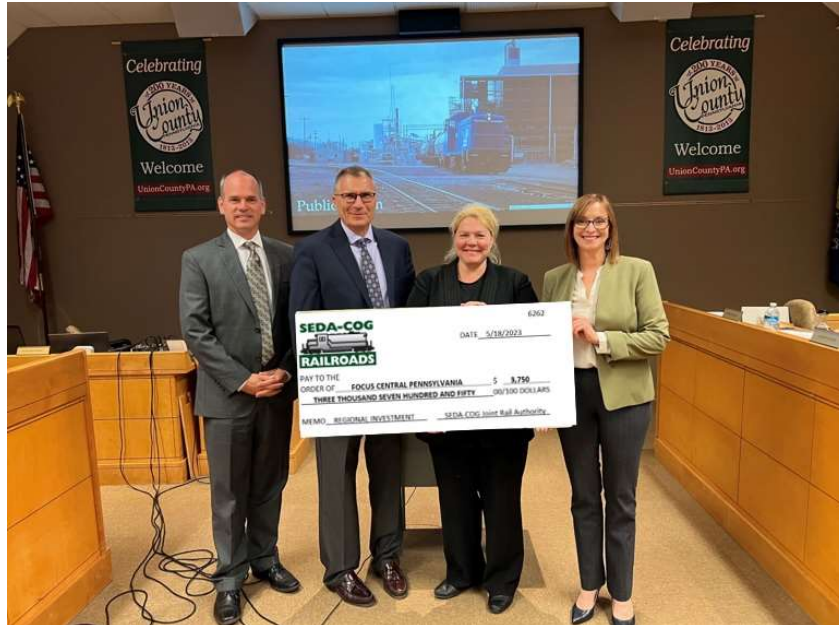


Image left to right: Steven Beattie, SEDA-COG JRA; Russ Graham, SEDA-COG JRA; Lauren Bryson, Focus Central PA; Jennifer Wakeman, DRIVE

Lewisburg, PA – SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority (JRA), owner of six short line railroads in Central Pennsylvania is investing \$3,750 for 2023 to support the mission of Focus Central Pennsylvania to attract investment that cultivates economic growth in Central Pennsylvania. A check was presented by SEDA-COG JRA’s Executive Director Steven Beattie and Board Chair Russ Graham to Lauren Bryson, Focus Central PA’s Executive Director and Jennifer Wakeman, Executive Director of DRIVE, Chair of Focus Central PA Board of Directors.

“The JRA is proud, once again, to support the good work of Focus Central PA to help us locate more rail-served industries on our system and contribute to economic investment and growth in the region” said Steven Beattie, Executive Director, SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority.

The Lewisburg, PA based JRA is a nine-county municipal authority offering the best of public ownership of the trackage and fixed facilities, while freight service to customers is handled by the private sector through an agreement with the North Shore Railroad Company & Affiliates. The SEDA-COG Joint Rail Authority’s mission is to preserve and foster rail service in Central Pennsylvania and to further economic development through retention, improvement and expansion of the infrastructure and the rail service it supports. Since 2017, *The Joint Rail Authority has invested over \$16 million into upgrades and replacement of rail facilities and development of additional tracks to serve new industrial sites.*

Focus Central Pennsylvania is part of a committed team in the region that is driving economic development for communities in Centre, Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Union, Snyder, and Mifflin communities. The mission of Focus is to attract and support expansion of capital investment that creates quality career opportunities for the families of Central Pennsylvania. Focus pro-actively connects with site location consultants and companies looking to expand. This work helps our communities become an even greater place to live and work.

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