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## PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **PEDA Priorities for Pennsylvania Economic Development**

**Harrisburg, PA, May 1, 2019** – The Pennsylvania Economic Development Association (PEDA) announced its FY2019-20 advocacy priorities during its 2019 Spring Legislative Conference.

According to PEDA President James Becker, “it’s essential that we prioritize the programs and policies that are key to Pennsylvania’s economic growth and our local communities’ competitiveness, so that we can support our existing businesses and attract new ones.”

The priorities, which are outlined in great detail on [PEDA’s website](#), are as follows:

1. Modernize Commonwealth financing & incentive programs to meet the evolving needs of businesses.
2. Support public and private infrastructure development funding because the state is lacking shovel ready sites for new and existing businesses.
3. Improve the regulatory climate in Pennsylvania to allow for improved coordination and a streamlined permitting process, along with an expedited and collaborative inter-agency review, especially as it pertains to high priority economic development projects.
4. Provide for innovative training initiatives because Pennsylvania companies have identified difficulties in finding skilled workers to fill available positions in their companies, inhibiting their ability to grow.
5. Enhance Pennsylvania First funding to provide the flexibility necessary to rapidly respond to companies’ needs, increasing investment in the state and competing more effectively with other states.

Over 180 economic development professionals attended the conference to discuss key economic development policies and programs for the economic growth of the Commonwealth and to share best practices. In addition to the adoption of these priorities, the three-day event’s attendees heard from Governor Tom Wolf, Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development Secretary Dennis Davin and Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding, among others.

### **About Pennsylvania Economic Development Association**

PEDA’s mission is to promote sound economic development policies, provide leading-edge economic development education and nurture an effective statewide economic development network to foster the economic growth of the Commonwealth. To learn more, please visit [www.peda.org](http://www.peda.org).

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