

# Clearly Ahead Development Newsletter



SPRING 2026 EDITION

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## Clearly Ahead Visits D.C. for a Day on the Hill

Recently, Clearly Ahead Development joined [Trust for Public Land](#) and other Pennsylvania partners to lobby Congress for outdoor recreation funding. The team spent the day in Washington D.C. to express the importance of the [Land and Water Conservation Fund's](#) (LWCF) and its economic impacts for creating and preserving public land and water access to communities nationwide.

The team personally met with Senators Fetterman and McCormick, and the staff of Congressman Glenn GT Thompson, along with five other PA Congressman staff during the one-day event.

As part of the meetings, the team encouraged legislators to support the [Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act](#), which would support building community schoolyards and interpretive trail systems in local communities.

Additionally, the team provided testimonials of successful public projects and shared local community impact projects that will improve the environment and create public recreational parks. Swales, CEO, Clearly Ahead Development and current President of Pennsylvania Economic Development Association shared the importance outdoor recreation plays in the economy statewide and its importance to rural and urban communities. Locally, Swales was able to share the importance of planning projects that incorporate the removal of low head dams from public waterways and creation of public in-water recreational features for paddling, tubing, fishing, and nature watching.

LWCF has leveraged 46,000 projects since its inception in 1965 to create and preserve outdoor recreational opportunities. The outdoor recreation economy is a \$1.1 trillion economy and one of Pennsylvania's fastest growing industries, generating \$20.4 billion in 2024.



Trust for Public Land, Team PA



Trust for Public Land, Senator McCormick



Trust for Public Land, Senator Fetterman



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Greeting Members,

Welcome to the spring edition update. Here is a snapshot of our year-to-date local economic data. Let's just say Q2 continues to be a sprinting pace!

This year we have assisted 87 local businesses to help with small business decisions and planning projects. Albeit companies request we keep their information private, it is exciting to work with projects that have significant job retention and job creation components. Local manufacturers appear to be investing and incorporating advanced technologies into the workplace to remain competitive and to introduce parts of their production that were once outsourced and bringing them in house. This helps solidify the health of businesses and creates and retains local jobs!

Out-of-area inquiries continued to be strong with 27 companies from 9 states and 1 foreign country expressing interest in our region. This is right in line with 2024 and 2025 performance. Foreign and domestic firms continue to seek strategic opportunities to localize production, improve logistics, and advanced technology implementation to remain competitive.

Local and out-of-area project inquiries take immense planning. Transitions often involve significant infrastructure planning, investment, lead times, and the need for technical or financial assistance—areas where Clearly Ahead is proud to help serve.

If your business is planning a project or exploring new opportunities, we welcome you to reach out. We're here to support your goals and help you grow right here in Clearfield County. Thank you for your continued support—and for choosing to call Clearfield County home.

Take care,  
Rob Swales  
Chief Executive Officer  
Clearly Ahead Development





## CCIDA Revolving Loan Fund Supports Local Business Growth

The Clearfield County Industrial Development Authority (CCIDA) offers a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) providing low-cost financing to help local businesses expand and invest in their future. With a competitive 5.25% interest rate, eligible businesses in manufacturing, industrial, commercial, and warehousing sectors can access funding for real estate, construction, renovations, equipment purchases, and working capital.

Loans of up to \$250,000 or 50% of total project costs are available, with a minimum 10% borrower contribution required. The program currently supports 14 local businesses across Clearfield County.

The application process is designed to be straightforward and efficient. Applicants are asked to submit a minimum of three years of financial records, along with any relevant business plans, proposals, or agreements. Funding decisions are typically made within 30 to 45 days, allowing businesses to move forward quickly with critical projects.

For more information, contact Paul McCloskey at [pmccloskey@clearyahead.com](mailto:pmccloskey@clearyahead.com).

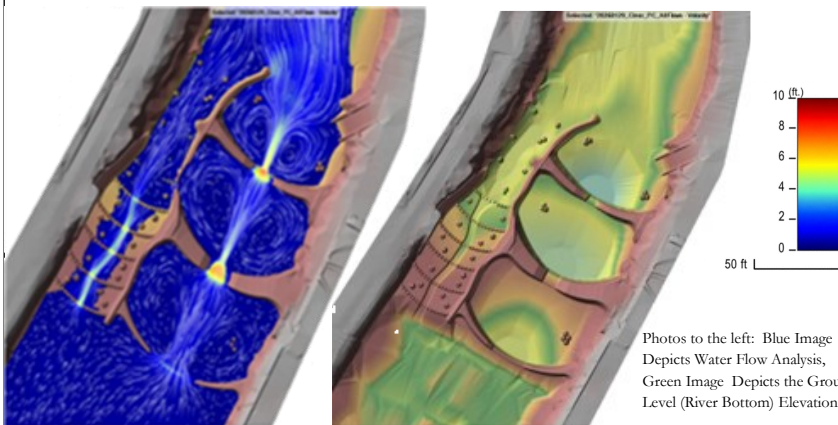


## Greater Clearfield Chamber of Commerce “Talk of the Town Luncheon”

The Greater Clearfield Chamber of Commerce will host its “Talk of the Town” Luncheon on Thursday, May 28, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Moena Restaurant. This event will bring together local business and civic leaders to discuss Clearfield’s priorities, recent progress, and future vision for the community. Featured speakers include Clearly Ahead CEO Rob Swales, Clearfield County Commissioners John Sobel, Tim Winters, and Dave Glass, and Clearfield Mayor Mason Strouse. The luncheon provides an opportunity for networking and meaningful dialogue on regional economic development. Reservations are required by May 22. Kindly RSVP to the Clearfield Chamber by calling 814-765-7567 or emailing [admin@clearfieldchamber.com](mailto:admin@clearfieldchamber.com).

## Whitewater Park Update

The professional team of Stahl Sheaffer Engineering (Clearfield, PA) and Calibre Engineering, Inc (Highlands Ranch, CO) recently conducted site permit meetings with USACOE and DEP Dam Safety for the Raftsmen Dam in Clearfield and Pee Wee’s Nest Dam in Irvin Park, Curwensville. Design work continues on the proposed Whitewater Recreation Parks to finalize water trail access points both upstream and downstream of the proposed features to help ensure ADA-accessible public access. The final engineering design will achieve all public goals to improve river safety, maintain upstream water elevations, and enhance fish and aquatic habitat for local residents and out of area visitors.



Clearly Ahead invites you to our Membership Mixer on June 11, 2026, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM.

Join us for an afternoon of connection, conversation, and community.

Formal invitations will be mailed soon with additional details -stay tuned!

We look forward to seeing you there.

## River’s Landing Event Center: Your Local Destination for Life’s Most Meaningful Moments

Below is a testimonial from one of our satisfied clients:

“Our experience at River’s Landing Event Center in Clearfield, PA exceeded every expectation. From start to finish, the entire team delivered an event that was seamless, elegant, and truly memorable.

The in-house catering through The Dented Keg was exceptional. The buffet dinner was not only beautifully presented, but also flavorful, perfectly seasoned, and served at an ideal temperature with generous portions. What impressed us most was the team’s flexibility—they thoughtfully customized the menu to include items we requested that were not originally offered and graciously accommodated guests with special dietary needs.

The staff went above and beyond in every aspect. Their attention to detail and willingness to step in wherever needed ensured that everything was ready on time and executed flawlessly. The venue coordinator was outstanding, providing hands-on support—even assisting our presenter with technical challenges to ensure a smooth and successful presentation and spontaneously donating to our prize table for our guests.

The setting itself is absolutely stunning. The expansive wall of windows overlooking the river created a breathtaking backdrop, and guests thoroughly enjoyed stepping out onto the balcony to take in the view and fresh air.

From the coordinator to the chef to the waitstaff, every member of the team was professional, warm, and a pleasure to work with. They made the entire planning process effortless and the event itself unforgettable. We look forward to hosting future events here and highly recommend River’s Landing Event Center and The Dented Keg to anyone seeking an exceptional venue and dining experience.”

**Christine Koss, Quality Designator  
Northwest Institute of Research**

Nestled in the heart of the community, River’s Landing Event Center offers a versatile, welcoming space for business meetings, community events, weddings, showers, and celebrations of life. The facility accommodates both small and large gatherings with flexible layouts, comfortable seating, and modern amenities, including audiovisual equipment.

With its scenic riverfront views, balcony access, and partnership with Dented Keg Brewing Company for catering, River’s Landing provides a convenient, high-quality experience for any occasion. Ample parking, accessible design, and an inviting atmosphere make it a preferred venue for both local and out-of-town guests.

Now accepting reservations—contact 814-768-7838 or [censminger@clearyahead.com](mailto:censminger@clearyahead.com) to learn more or schedule a tour.