



News for Immediate Release

March 26, 2014

PennDOT Keystone Corridor Work Requires Temporary Move of Historic GG1 Locomotive

Move Scheduled for Saturday Morning, April 5

Harrisburg – PennDOT announced today that as part of ongoing improvements on the Keystone Corridor, the historic GG1 Pennsylvania railroad locomotive No. 4859 will be temporarily moved from its spot at the Harrisburg Transportation Center to a siding 1,000 feet west of the station.

Amtrak is managing the move, which will take place on Saturday April 5 beginning at 7 a.m.

The move of both the historic GGI locomotive and caboose is necessary so a \$36 million project to improve power, signals, track and switches into the Harrisburg Transportation Center can be completed. The upgrades will further improve the train times from Harrisburg to Philadelphia and New York City. Work started in late 2013 and will conclude by 2017.

An Amtrak locomotive will push the GGI and caboose to a siding near the 7th Street garage about 1/4 mile away. The locomotive later will be “shrink-wrapped” to protect it from the elements until it can be moved back to its current location.

Because of safety concerns during the move, spectators will only be able to view the move from an overlook area at the transportation center or from other designated, public areas away from the station. Parking is available at nearby parking garages or metered spots on nearby city streets.

The GG1, one of the world’s most distinctive locomotives and a mainstay of the Pennsylvania Railroad, served the Harrisburg station on service to Philadelphia and New York City between 1938 and 1981. No. 4859 pulled the first electrically powered train into the Harrisburg station on Jan. 15, 1938. It was located at the station as a memorial to that service in 1986, designated as the official state locomotive and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Harrisburg Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society maintains both No. 4859 and the caboose.

Media Contact: Rich Kirkpatrick, (717) 783-8800

###