

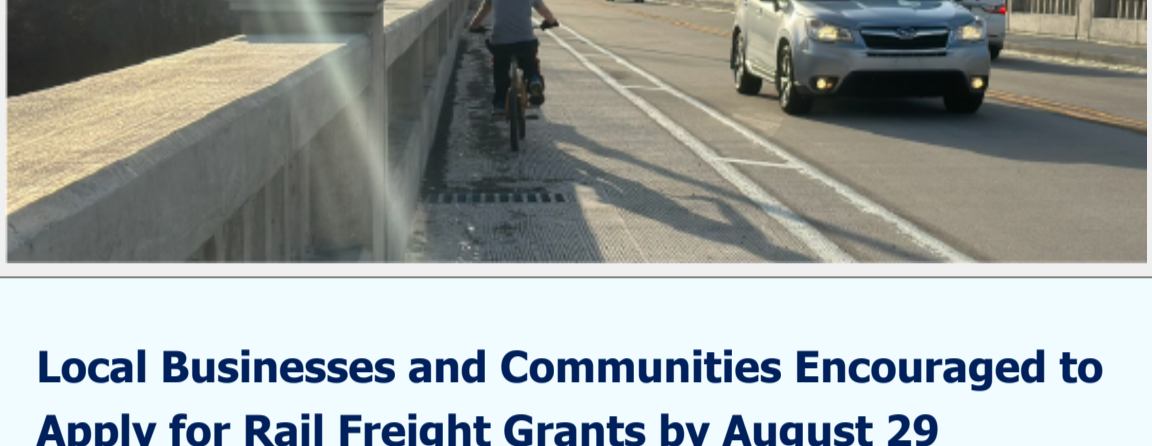
## **Important Bridge Projects in Fayette and Lackawanna Counties Receive National Recognition**

Two bridge projects in Pennsylvania have received regional [America's Transportation Awards](#) for their contributions to local communities and use of cutting-edge technology. These awards are part of a national competition sponsored by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) that celebrates transportation projects that make communities better places to live, work, and play. Regional winners may advance to national honors later this year—stay tuned for the latest updates.

PennDOT's [Crawford Avenue Bridge](#) rehabilitation project in Fayette County restored a vital connection between neighborhoods, businesses, and community resources. Completed in late 2024, the project enhanced safety and reliability while adding pedestrian and bike-friendly features—essential for those using the nearby [Great Allegheny Passage](#) trail. Users now enjoy improved access and a more connected community.

The second award-winning project replaced the aging [Milwaukee Road Bridge over Gardner Creek](#) in Lackawanna County with a more reliable structure. What made this project stand out was its use of advanced digital tools. Instead of relying on traditional paper blueprints, a 3D digital model guided the entire process—from design to construction. Completed ahead of schedule in mid-2024, the bridge improvements showcased innovation and teamwork.

[PennDOT's Statewide Performance Results website](#) provides information about state infrastructure in Pennsylvania, including completed work and significant projects.



## **Local Businesses and Communities Encouraged to Apply for Rail Freight Grants by August 29**

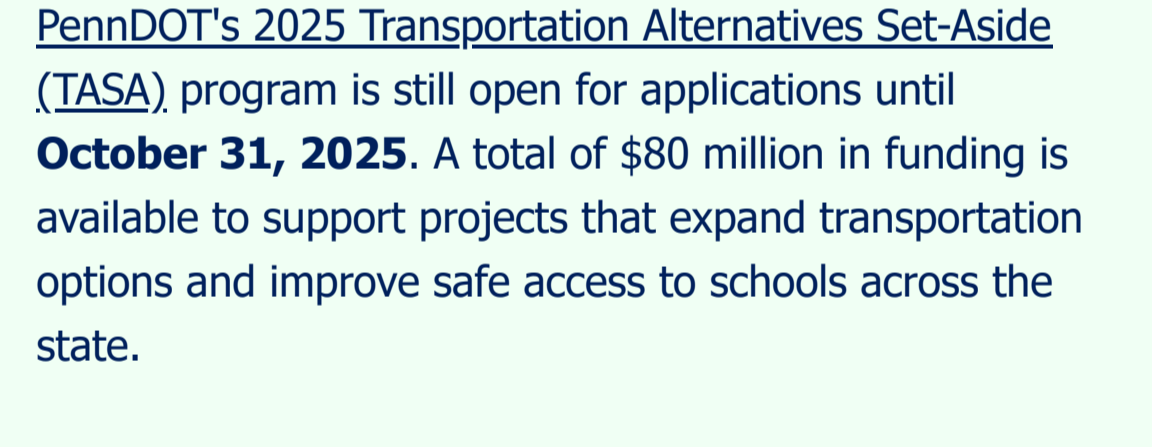
### ***\$41 Million Available to Improve Safety and Connectivity***

Pennsylvania is home to the most operating railroads in the U.S., making the following opportunity much more critical to our state's continued economic growth.

PennDOT is [currently accepting applications](#) for two key rail freight grant programs: [the Rail Transportation Assistance Program \(RTAP\)](#) and [the Rail Freight Assistance Program \(RFAP\)](#). These programs provide funding to help businesses expand and upgrade their rail networks.

[During the last round of funding awards](#), \$55 million was awarded to 30 projects, helping create or sustain 344 jobs across the state. These grants are designed to preserve vital rail services and spark new economic opportunities through enhanced freight lines.

[Applications are now open](#) through **4:00 p.m. on Friday, August 29, 2025**. Full program details and application resources are available on [PennDOT's Bureau of Rail, Freight, Ports, and Waterways website](#).



## **Apply Now! \$80 Million in Safety Grants for Pedestrians and Cyclists Still Available**

PennDOT's [2025 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside \(TASA\)](#) program is still open for applications until **October 31, 2025**. A total of \$80 million in funding is available to support projects that expand transportation options and improve safe access to schools across the state.

The TASA program funds a variety of projects, including:

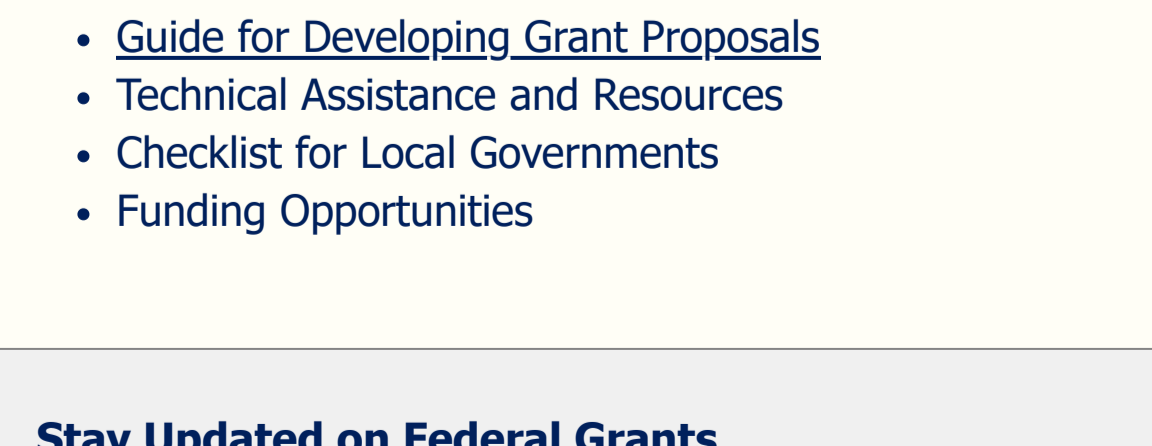
- Pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Better access to public transportation
- Safe routes to school
- Improving neighborhoods by saving historic buildings and maintaining green spaces
- Protecting nature by managing rainwater or helping animals move around safely
- Useful trails that help people get where they need to go
- Making roads safer for pedestrians and bicyclists

### **Key Deadlines:**

- There is a two-step application process to ensure projects are feasible and well-aligned with program goals. If a draft application isn't submitted by the deadline, the final application will not be accepted.
  - Draft application due to PennDOT district offices by **September 5, 2025**.
    - **This is a mandatory step** so the proposal can be reviewed, and feedback provided.
  - Final application due by **October 31, 2025**.
    - Finals can only be submitted after a draft review and a meeting with PennDOT.

- Final project recommendations will be made in **March 2026**.

[PennDOT's TASA website](#) offers detailed program materials, comprehensive information on eligibility and how to apply, and a recording of an informational session held in July. Questions can be submitted to [RA-pdTASA@pa.gov](mailto:RA-pdTASA@pa.gov).



## **Does Your Community Need Funding Support for Important Local Projects?**

[PennDOT's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\) website](#) is a valuable resource for communities seeking federal funding. It offers tools and assistance for developing competitive grant proposals, planning infrastructure projects, and navigating the grant application process.

### **Key features:**

- [Guide for Developing Grant Proposals](#)
- Technical Assistance and Resources
- Checklist for Local Governments
- Funding Opportunities

## **Stay Updated on Federal Grants**

[PennDOT's IIJA website](#) offers the latest news on federal grant opportunities and awarded projects. Check back regularly for updates that could benefit your community.

**There are currently no federal grant programs accepting applications.**

platforms? Find images, videos, and other resources in the **Funding Media Center**.

## Contact Us



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