

# June 2023 Newsletter



## \$28 Million in Funding Opportunities Through Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program

PennDOT announced last month that the application round for the [2023 Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside \(TASA\)](#) is open to project sponsors with approximately \$28 million in statewide funds available. The TASA provides funding for transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities; infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility; community improvement activities and environmental mitigation; and trails.

Eligible project sponsors include local, county and tribal governments, transit agencies, schools, school districts, nonprofits and small Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs).

Additional projects eligible may include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, conversion of abandoned railway corridors to trails, stormwater management, and construction of turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas. The TASA also includes Safe Routes to School projects, which can include sidewalk/ADA ramp improvements, bike safety lessons and bike rodeos.

Sponsors may submit draft applications through July 17, 2023, for District review. If approved to move on in the process, all applications may be submitted until September 15, 2023. Selections from participating large MPOs will be due December 1, 2023. The statewide project selection committee will meet in January 2024 to recommend projects for the funds.



## Freight Movement Plan to Guide Investment Decisions, Support Jobs and Commerce

In May, PennDOT announced that the [2045 Freight Movement Plan \(FMP\)](#), a comprehensive strategic plan for moving goods throughout the Commonwealth, is available for viewing. The FMP highlights the Shapiro administration's commitment to economic growth and safe travel in Pennsylvania and ensures that Pennsylvania remains eligible for approximately \$58.5 million annually in federal funding through 2026.

"The new Freight Movement Plan will help guide the investment decisions we make regarding the infrastructure that supports freight movement," said PennDOT Secretary Michael Carroll. "The plan positions us to respond to the major changes from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, and ensure Pennsylvania has a safe, efficient and integrated freight system to support jobs and commerce."

The FMP, developed in collaboration with freight stakeholders over a two-year period, provides information on freight infrastructure and PennDOT's efforts to continually improve the safe and efficient movement of freight statewide. The department will regularly track performance measures of the FMP in Pennsylvania's biennial [Transportation Performance Report \(TPR\)](#).

## New Webinar Features Federal Grant Programs Available and New Dashboard for Searching Available Grants

A Webinar showcasing the launch of the new USDOT Discretionary Grant Dashboard is now available at [Identifying USDOT Grant Opportunities Webinar \(May 22, 2023\)](#). The newly launched [USDOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard](#) is a tool that makes it easier to search for and find grant opportunities depending on the type of project, your organization type and other considerations like match requirements.

The May webinar also highlighted currently open grant funding program opportunities from the Federal Highway Administration, including:

### Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)

[The SS4A Program](#) provides grants to support planning, infrastructure, behavioral and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation, personal conveyance, micro-mobility users, motorists and commercial vehicle operators. This program funds the development of tools to strengthen a community's approach to roadway safety and saving lives. SS4A funding is designed to meet the needs of diverse local, Tribal and regional communities that differ in size, location and experience in administering Federal funding.

**Deadline to apply: Monday, July 10, 2023, 5:00 p.m. EST.**

### Wildlife Crossing Pilot Program (WCPP)

[The WCPP is a competitive grant program](#) with the goal of reducing Wildlife Vehicle Collisions (WVC) while improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species. The grant provides funding for construction and non-construction projects. Construction examples include the design and pre-construction of an underpass or overpass for wildlife passage. A non-construction example includes research on safety innovations to reduce WVCs as well as research and monitoring effectiveness of WVC mitigation.

*Because PennDOT is required to administer grants for local/regional partners for this program, we must review and approve all applications for this program to ensure the project can be delivered within the budget and schedule proposed by the applicant.*

**Deadline for requesting PennDOT's approval: July 11, 2022.**

**Deadline to apply: August 1, 2023, 11:59 p.m. EST.**

### Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT)

[The PROTECT Program](#) provides funding to build community infrastructure resilience in the face of extreme weather and natural disasters supporting the continued operation or rapid recovery of crucial local, regional or national surface transportation facilities including highways, public transportation, ports and intercity passenger rail. Projects in the PROTECT program also have the potential to demonstrate innovation and best practices that state and local governments can consider replicating.

PennDOT will consider providing support for regionally supported grant proposals as applicable and may provide data and subject matter expertise as available.

**Deadline for requesting PennDOT support: August 4, 2023.**

**Deadline to apply: August 18, 2023, 11:59 p.m. EST.**

Information on these and other grant opportunities can be found on PennDOT's [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\) website](#). Additional grant opportunities, application guides and other resources on federal grant funding are added as they become available, so please visit the site often to see if any of these grant funding programs are an opportunity that would benefit your community.

For more information about PennDOT Pathways, visit our website at [penndot.pa.gov/funding](https://penndot.pa.gov/funding).

Want to share information on your social or digital platforms? Find image, video and other resources in the [Funding Media Center](#).

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