#### May 2024 Newsletter



#### Volunteers Needed: Pedalcycle and Pedestrian **Advisory Committee**

PennDOT is seeking applicants for the Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PPAC), which advises on cycling and pedestrian programs in Pennsylvania providing direction and comments on projects funded by PennDOT and state agencies, ensuring the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. Interested individuals should submit their letters of interest and resumes by June 6. 2024, through the PennDOT Application Form <u>web page.</u>

The PPAC consists of 17 members, including government officials and public appointees. The committee meets regularly and represents various user groups, including urban, suburban, and rural constituencies, as well as specific interest groups like trails, pedestrians, seniors, and children. PennDOT emphasizes diversity and inclusion in committee membership. Members are expected to be knowledgeable about transportation laws, standards, funding, and equity issues and will serve a three-year term after appointments are made.

Questions about PPAC can be directed to RA-PDBIKEPEDPA@pa.gov.



#### **PennDOT Innovation Improves Safety, Saves**

### **Taxpayer Dollars, and Enhances Customer Service Experience**

PennDOT's recent publication, Focus On Innovations, showcases the department's commitment to efficiency, safety, and fiscal responsibility using commonsense solutions to address the most pressing issues facing the state's communities. These include the rapid reopening of I-95 using recycled materials, diversity initiatives like the Mentor-Protégé Program, and the adoption of paperless technologies for project delivery.

The department collaborates with various councils and programs to drive innovation at all levels. Some notable advancements include winter maintenance tools, a Moveable Median Barrier System, and initiatives like Targeted Overlay Pavement Solutions and Cold Central Plant Recycling aimed at enhancing road durability and sustainability.

By embracing innovation, PennDOT aims to serve Pennsylvanians better while reducing environmental impact and construction time.



#### Focus on Infrastructure Upgrades and **Education to Improve Traffic Safety**

PennDOT recently released the 2023 Statewide Traffic Fatality Data, reporting 1,209 deaths in motor vehicle accidents on Pennsylvania roads last year. To enhance traffic safety and reduce accidents, it has allocated \$29.1 million in federal grants for behavioral safety programs statewide. They've also invested \$482 million in Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program funds in 337 safety projects from 2018 to 2023. Additionally, \$50M of state funds went into safety upgrades at over 1,000 sites, like rumble strips and high friction surface treatments.

Read more about PennDOT's efforts to improve traffic safety here.



### \$49.5M+ Invested to Improve Pedestrian Access, **Trails, and Public Transit**

In a recent press release, PennDOT announced over \$49.5 million in investments in 55 projects across Pennsylvania to improve community transportation resources and public accessibility to them, including creating biking and walking paths, enhancing pedestrian access to public transit, and improving safety around schools with new crosswalks and sidewalks.

Notable projects involve closing streets for pedestrian and bicycle routes, extending sidewalks, enhancing safe routes to school, installing ADA-compliant sidewalks, and connecting trails. Projects were selected based on criteria like safety benefits, cost-effectiveness, and collaboration with stakeholders.

The federal Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TASA) funds projects like pedestrian and bike facilities, public transit access improvements, community enhancements, and safe routes to school. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) extends funding for TASA until 2026. A list of projects recently awarded this funding can be found on PennDOT's TASA web page.





#### **Updated Grant Resources!**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) – a.k.a. the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) signed by President Biden in 2021 has provided critical investment in our transportation system. It also significantly expanded discretionary or competitive funding for state and local governments.

Local governments and others interested can find the latest on federal grant opportunities, including an updated guide for developing grant proposals!

Learn more on our blog or at penndot.pa.gov/IIJA.



## See How PennDOT is Working for You

The PennDOT team is proud to deliver results that improve your mobility and quality of life, through smart management and innovation.

Across the state, 1,750 projects are underway or expected to start or go out for bid this year, with a total value of \$11.57 billion (as of April 30, 2024).

Visit <u>penndot.pa.gov/results</u> to see all the ways we're working for you across Pennsylvania. You can view statewide results or select a specific county to see results and featured projects from our 11 Engineering Districts.







The following is a list of federal grant programs currently accepting applications:



#### Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program

The <u>Active Transportation Infrastructure</u> <u>Investment (ATIIP) Program</u> offers grants for planning, designing, and building safe and connected active transportation projects. ATIIP projects enhance safety, efficiency, and reliability; improve connectivity between active and public transportation, bolster infrastructure resilience; protect the environment; and enhance quality of life, particularly in disadvantaged communities. This program provides funding for two different grant categories: (1) Planning and Design Grants and (2) Construction Grants.

- The deadline for requesting PennDOT support is June 3, 2024.
- The deadline for applying is June 17, 2024, 11:59 PM EST.



### Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation Program

The <u>Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing</u> <u>Transportation (SMART) Program</u> offers funding for projects that use advanced smart city technologies to improve transportation efficiency and safety. The program aims to help communities solve real-world challenges and enhance their data and technology capabilities.

It has two stages:

- 1. Planning and Prototyping Grants
- 2. Implementation Grants

Currently, funding is available for Stage 1, with

Stage 2 funding opportunities to be announced soon.

Please note, anyone submitting for a SMART grant is asked to reach out to Derrick Herrmann, PennDOT Transformational Technology Division at <u>deherrmann@pa.gov</u>.

• The deadline for applying is July 12, 2024, 5:00 p.m. EST.

#### Safe Streets and Roads for All

The <u>Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)</u> <u>Program</u> offers grants for diverse roadway safety initiatives involving planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational measures. It targets all roadway users, including pedestrians, cyclists, motorists, and public transportation users, aiming to prevent fatalities and serious injuries. Grants support the development of tools to enhance community safety approaches tailored to various local, Tribal, and regional needs.

The SS4A Program provides funding for:

- Planning and Demonstration Grants Funding to develop an Action Plan, conduct supplemental safety planning to enhance an Action Plan, and carry out demonstration activities to inform the development of or update to an Action Plan. Applicants can bundle all three activities into one application or request funding for just one. Each applicant can apply for only one grant type, but both grant types allow for Planning and Demonstration projects. The ultimate goal of each supplemental planning and demonstration activity is to develop or update an Action Plan.
- Implementation Grants provide funding for projects and strategies outlined in an Action Plan addressing roadway safety issues, as well as financing supplemental planning, demonstration, and design activities related to

these projects and strategies. Applicants for Implementation Grants must possess an existing Action Plan or a substantially similar plan meeting its eligibility criteria.

- The deadline for requesting PennDOT support is:
  - May 2, 2024 (Round 2)
  - August 15, 2024 (Round 3)
- There are two remaining deadlines for <u>Planning and Demonstration Grants \*</u>:
  - May 16, 2024, 5:00 PM EST
  - August 29, 2024, 5:00 PM EST
- There is one deadline for <u>Implementation</u> <u>Grants</u>:
  - May 16, 2024, 5:00 PM EST

\* Applications received on or before each deadline will be reviewed and evaluated separately from applications received at other deadlines.

\* Applicants may also reapply if not selected if the application is received by the last Planning and Demonstration Grants deadline of August 29, 2024, 5:00 PM EST.

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#### Bridge Investment Program

The goals of the <u>Bridge Investment Program (BIP)</u> - Large Bridge grants are to:

- 1. Improve safety, efficiency and reliability of the movement of people and freight over bridges;
- 2. Improve the overall condition of bridges in the United States; and
- 3. Provide financial assistance that both leverages and encourages non-federal contributions from sponsors and stakeholders involved in the planning, design, and construction of eligible projects that will cost more than \$100 million.
- The deadline for requesting PennDOT support for fiscal year (FY) 2025 is July 1, 2024.
- The deadline for applying for FY 2025 funds in this rolling application process\* is August 1,

# 2024, 11:59 p.m. EST.

\* Submissions will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis until program funding is expended or the notice of availability is superseded.

#### **BIP – Planning and Bridge Project Grants**

The goals of the <u>BIP - Planning and Bridge Project</u> grants are identical to the above Large Bridge grants, except eligible projects must cost less than \$100 million.

- **Planning** grant deadlines for FY 2025:
  - Requesting PennDOT support September 17, 2024
  - Applying for funds in rolling application process\* – October 1, 2024, 11:59 PM EST
- Bridge Project grant deadlines for FY 2025:
  - Requesting PennDOT support October 18, 2024
  - Applying for funds in rolling application process\* – November 1, 2024, 11:59 PM EST

\* Submissions will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis until program funding is expended or the notice of availability is superseded.

For more information about PennDOT Pathways, visit our website at **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**.

## Contact Us

Website Comment Form: <u>Click here</u>





<u>PennDOTPathways@pa.gov</u>

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