



The latest news and information from PennDOT Connects' network of people and places



PennDOT Connects January 2025 Newsletter



2025 Municipal Outreach Sessions

Through PennDOT Connects, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and its regional planning partners are strengthening their partnerships with communities by involving local government at the very beginning of the planning process so that land use, development, and transportation are better integrated and more effective.

Enhance Your Transportation Planning: Free Resources & Municipal Support!

Empower your municipality and its voice in local transportation: Join us for an interactive workshop where you can engage with PennDOT, collaborate with peers, and discover valuable resources to enhance your community.

Learn about:

- **PennDOT One Map GIS Platform:** The demo will provide an overview of PennDOT's GIS platform to gather data to assist with local planning efforts.
- **PennDOT Local Bridge Inventory:** The demo will introduce PennDOT's new inventory tool with information on local bridges.
- **Free Transportation Planning Resources:** The municipal outreach program has free one-on-one support, resources, newsletters, and tech sheets to support municipal transportation planning and land use development.

This workshop is intended for:

- Municipal officials, planners, and engineers.
- Community leaders and advocates.
- Anyone interested in improving their local transportation systems.

Don't miss out on this chance to:

- Network with other municipalities, learn from their successes, and find areas for collaboration.

- Network with PennDOT and county planning staff.
- Ask questions about PennDOT projects in your area.
- Access free resources and expert support to achieve your goals.

*Note: This session will focus on the resources available to municipalities through PennDOT Municipal Outreach Program and other sources and is **not** focused on specific projects on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in PennDOT Districts.*

Find your PennDOT District: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/penndot/regional-offices.html>

District	Date	Time	Facility, Format, and Registration Link	Address
District 1	April 28	1-3 p.m.	PennDOT District 1 & Virtual	255 Elm Street Oil City, PA 16301
District 2	May 1	9-11 a.m.	PennDOT District 2 & Virtual	70 PennDOT Drive Clearfield, PA 16830
District 3	May 12	9-11 a.m.	All Virtual	
District 4	April 8	9-11 a.m.	PennDOT District 4 & Virtual	55 Keystone Industrial Park Dunmore, PA 18512
District 5	March 27	1-3 p.m.	PennDOT District 5 & Virtual	1002 Hamilton Street Allentown, PA 18101
District 6	April 14	9-11 a.m.	All Virtual	
District 8	March 26	9-11 a.m.	All Virtual	
District 9	April 1	1-3 p.m.	All Virtual	
District 10	April 15	1-3 p.m.	PennDOT District 10 & Virtual	2550 Oakland Avenue Indiana, PA 15701
District 11	March 25	1-3 p.m.	All Virtual	
District 12	April 9	1-3 p.m.	PennDOT District 12 & Virtual	825 North Gallatin Avenue Ext. Uniontown, PA 15401

Attendance options noted for each district:

- In Person at District Office or Virtual (Go-To-Webinar)
- All Virtual (Go-To-Webinar)

Registration: To register, click on the **Facility, Format, and Registration Link** above for the session you want to attend.

PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach Resources

Go to the [PennDOT Connects webpage](#) to access tech sheets, recorded training, and other resources.

New Local Transportation Funding Resources!


Are you looking for funding options for a transportation project or do you want to learn more about transportation funding opportunities? These quick reference guides provide information on the available funding.

[Local Transportation Funding Discretionary Programs Overview](#)

This reference sheet has the common transportation funding opportunities that Pennsylvania municipalities may apply for.



Local Transportation Funding Discretionary Programs Overview

Common Transportation Funding Opportunities for Pennsylvania Municipalities					
Program Name	Agency	Overview of eligible activities	Award Limits	Match Requirements	Deadline
Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF) 	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)	Road and bridge improvements, traffic signal enhancements, transit facilities, streetscapes, traffic calming measures, trails, intelligent Transportation Systems, safety improvements, including those for intersections, school zones, or bike/ped facilities.	\$100,000 to \$3 million	30% of MTF award	Annually by July 31st

[Local Transportation Funding Quick Reference Sheet](#)

This reference sheet provides a quick overview of commonly requested items for local roads and transportation systems as well as various discretionary programs that may fund them. Before applying, always confirm specific project eligibility using the referenced websites and working with the program contact(s).

[Local Transportation Funding PennDOT Allocated Funds](#)

This reference sheet provides a quick overview of commonly requested items and activities for local roads and transportation systems, including various direct allocation to municipalities that may fund them. Note: this tool provides general guidance on the programs listed, project eligibility for all items should be confirmed by visiting the referenced websites and speaking with your Municipal Services Representative or Financial Consultant.

The reference sheets can be found on the [PennDOT Connects webpage](#) under the Resources block on the right side of the webpage.

PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach Educational Opportunities

Go to the [PennDOT Connects webpage](#) to learn about upcoming educational opportunities. Click the down arrows next to the Drop-Ins and Workshops tabs to view the current offerings and past sessions.

Recorded Drop-Ins

Did you miss the drop-in below? Click on the title to watch the recording. All drop-ins are on the [PennDOT Connects webpage](#).

Aligning Your Ordinances, Policies, and Codes with Your Active Transportation Plan (ATP)

In addition to developing your Active Transportation Plan (ATP), your community will also need to review the ordinances and policies that will support active transportation goals. Changes may need to be made to your roadway design standards in your SALDO, sidewalk design and maintenance ordinances, or other items. Having ATP design, maintenance, and other factors built into ordinances will facilitate implementation and achievement of your ATP goals.



Now open: 2025-26 WalkWorks Active Transportation Planning Grant Round!

Walking, biking, using a wheelchair, and accessing public transit are independent, reliable, and resilient transportation modes that are healthy for our bodies, minds, finances, communities, and the environment. The WalkWorks motto is “mobility options for all.” The WalkWorks Program looks forward to a time when everyone in Pennsylvania has a full range of transportation options available to them.



WalkWorks is pleased to announce its ninth round of funding for the development of **Active Transportation Plans**. Grants and technical assistance will be offered to a limited number of municipalities and planning organizations to assist with the development of Active Transportation Plans during the period of July 2025 through June 2026. These plans are essential to efforts to establish activity-friendly routes that connect people to everyday destinations, thereby expanding opportunities for physical activity and improving public health.

In the context of this Funding Opportunity, active transportation includes walking, biking, using a wheelchair, and accessing public transit. Eligible applicants include municipalities, Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organizations (MPOs/RPOs), and other governmental entities, such as counties, with the capacity to complete the proposed project and adopt the resulting plans.

Go to the [WalkWorks Grant Opportunities page](#) to learn more. An informational webinar reviewing the FOA will take place on **Wednesday, February 4, at 12 p.m.** [Register for the webinar.](#)

Discretionary Grants Spotlight - Update

PennDOT's [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\) webpage](#) offers the latest news and information on federal grant opportunities available through the IIJA, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Grant opportunities, application guides and other resources on federal grant funding are added as they become available, so please visit often to see if any of these grant funding programs are an opportunity that would benefit your community.

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

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

[The PROTECT program](#) will help build and maintain road, transit, port, and railway infrastructure that can better withstand severe weather events. PROTECT's grant funding provides for the continued operation and quick recovery of these transportation systems after extreme weather and aims to inspire innovation and best practices that other regions can replicate and adopt.

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

The deadline for requesting PennDOT support is Monday, Feb. 10, 2025.

The deadline to apply is Monday, Feb. 24, 2025, 11:59 p.m. EST.

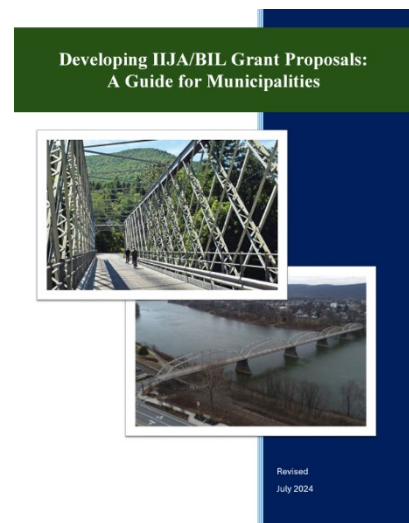
Webinar slides and recordings will be posted on the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) [PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program Website](#). Recorded webinars include:

Preparing a Benefit-Cost Analysis for the PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program

PROTECT Notice of Funding Opportunity – How to Apply

Guide for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grant Applications

PennDOT has added a [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(BIL\) guide for grant applications](#) to the website dedicated to the IIJA, and specifically the federal discretionary programs. Also, included are Grant Alerts that provide background on these opportunities including eligibility, application deadlines, and federal and Department of Transportation (USDOT) resources and guides to assist in applying for the specific programs.



Grants Resources

USDOT Discretionary Grant Resources

The USDOT has developed a discretionary grant preparation checklist for federal fiscal year 2024 to help applicants prepare and chart a strategic pathway to apply for infrastructure investments. More than \$32 billion is available to the USDOT this fiscal year to provide competitive grant funding to local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, transit agencies, Tribal governments, U.S. Territories and state departments of transportation. The USDOT has published a list of anticipated dates for upcoming Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) for key programs within the BIL and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), as well as adjacent programs that support BIL and IRA objectives. This list is not comprehensive, and the agency will periodically update it with additional programs and revised dates as appropriate. Both resources can be found on PennDOT's IJA page at <https://www.pa.gov/en/services/penndot/apply-for-penndot-infrastructure-and-jobs-act-ija--grants.html>.

USDOT Navigator: <https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>

Federal Transit Administration BIL Website: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/BIL>

Key Notices of Funding Opportunity: <https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/key-notices-funding-opportunity>

FREE Transportation and Land Use Planning – Assistance and Training

PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach offers **free** assistance and training to municipalities to better integrate local land use development and transportation goals into the state transportation planning process.

Any municipal staff member, government official or planning partner is eligible to request **free** planning assistance or personalized training. Simply fill out the PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach Training/Assistance request form by [clicking here](#).



Do You Know Your MPO or RPO?

PennDOT and its Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Rural Planning Organization (RPO) partners have a long-standing relationship jointly preparing transportation studies, plans, and programs to make the best transportation project investments possible with available resources. This strategic alliance is now of even greater importance for PennDOT Connects implementation. Together, the MPO/RPO planning partners and PennDOT can effectively collaborate and communicate with municipalities — and other community stakeholders (e.g., transit operators, economic development agencies, etc.) — to improve transportation system performance and achieve more livable communities. The collaborative effort of municipalities, MPO/RPO planning partners, and PennDOT is key to ensuring that opportunities to improve transportation and communities are realized.

MPO/RPO contacts can be found [here](#). Use the “Sort & Filter” button to find your contact(s).

PennDOT Connects

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is committed to bettering our transportation system and our communities through collaborative planning. We must find creative solutions to sustain and expand mobility throughout the commonwealth. This means improving our planning process to reflect changing demographics and technological innovation. We are broadening the benefits we deliver and taking a more holistic approach to planning. We are tasking PennDOT staff and our planning partners to consider community needs at the beginning of the planning process to ensure the best allocation of our resources. This approach, PennDOT Connects, will make our planning processes more efficient and cost-effective to the benefit of all Pennsylvanians.

PennDOT Connects Newsletter

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