

BETTER COLLABORATION

# TRANSFORM

BETTER COMMUNITIES



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

PennDOT Connects May 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.



## Did You Miss the Opportunity to Enhance Your Transportation Planning and Learn about Free Resources & Municipal Support!

**Audiovisual recordings of this year's sessions are now available! See the recording links below.**

### Learn about:

- **PennDOT's One Map GIS Platform:** The demo provided an overview of PennDOT's GIS platform to gather data to assist with local planning efforts.
- **PennDOT's Local Bridge Inventory:** The demo introduced 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 was intended for:

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

*Note: These sessions focused on the resources available to municipalities through the PennDOT Municipal Outreach*

Program and other sources and did **not** focus on specific projects on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in PennDOT Districts.

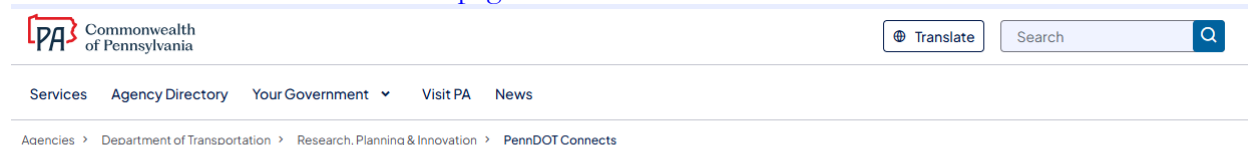
Find your PennDOT District: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/penndot/regional-offices.html>

| District    | Recording Link                 |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| District 1  | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 2  | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 3  | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 4  | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 5  | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 6  | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 8  | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 9  | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 10 | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 11 | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |
| District 12 | <a href="#">Recording Link</a> |

## PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach Resources

Want to learn more about the free one-on-one support, resources, newsletters, and tech sheets available to support municipal transportation planning and land use development?

Go to the [PennDOT Connects webpage](#)



### PLANNING

## PennDOT Connects

PennDOT 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. PennDOT Connects will make our planning processes more efficient and cost-effective to the benefit of all Pennsylvanians. The full [PennDOT Connects Policy](#) (PDF) includes collaboration requirements and planning considerations, as well as the implementation timeline and more.

## 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

### Road Safety Audits: A Proactive Safety Tool

Unfortunately for most communities, road safety is a reaction; a reaction to a tragic event that just happened on one of your roads. While improvements after that tragic event will help at that location, the next tragedy will likely be at another location. How can your community get ahead—and prevent that next tragedy from happening? By using proactive, proven safety processes that identify risks and take action before the crashes occur. These methods include developing a local road safety plan, road safety audits, and a systemic approach—all part of the safe system approach. This webinar discussed Road Safety Audits, and how they can be used in your community to identify potential safety risks, and deploy proven, low-cost safety measures to prevent future tragedies—before people are hurt.

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## 2025 ARLE

PennDOT will be accepting applications for the 2025 Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) Funding Program from **June 1st through June 30th, 2025**. The 2025 program will continue to prioritize safety enhancements considering both PennDOT's [Safety Network Screening](#) methods for the project location and [Crash Modification Factors](#) associated with proposed improvements.

A [pre-application scoping form](#) is **required** prior to submitting an application. Scoping forms should be submitted via email to [ARLE@pa.gov](mailto:ARLE@pa.gov). **Feedback on scoping forms that were received by April 28, 2025 will be provided by May 30, 2025.** The completed and reviewed scoping form must be uploaded as an attachment to the formal application submission.

The scoping form is a fillable web page. If you wish to save a partially-completed form to finish later, click the “Save” button at the top of the screen and save the file to your computer. When you want to work on the form again, navigate to the scoping form webpage, click “Open” at the top of the page, and select the file you saved to your computer.

When you are ready to submit the scoping form, click the “Save” button and then attach the file to an email to [ARLE@pa.gov](mailto:ARLE@pa.gov). Please also attach a detailed cost estimate and project location map. Applications must be submitted electronically through the Single Application for Assistance at <https://grants.pa.gov/Login.aspx>.

ARLE Funding Program  
information: <https://docs.penndot.pa.gov/Public/Bureaus/BOO/TSPortal/FUNDARLE.html>

Contact us via email at [ARLE@pa.gov](mailto:ARLE@pa.gov) with questions.

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## 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.

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 federal grant program currently accepting applications:

### Safe Streets for All (SS4A)

[SS4A](#) provides competitive grant funding for the planning and construction of safer roads and streets to prevent death and serious injury for everyone, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, and drivers. It also funds tools to strengthen approaches to roadway safety, tailored to the unique needs of local, Tribal, and regional communities.

- The deadline for requesting PennDOT support is June 12, 2025.
- The application deadline is Thursday, June 26, 2025, 5:00 p.m. EST.

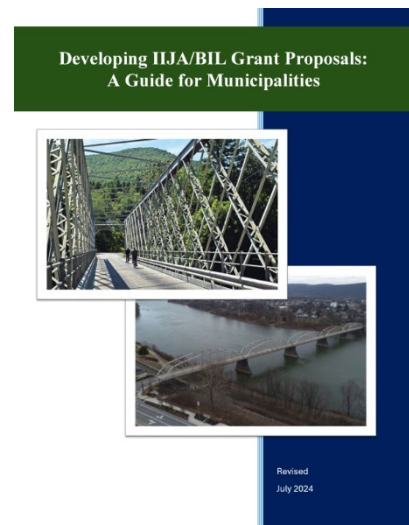
PennDOT will consider providing support for grant proposals on a case-by-case basis.

For any questions about transportation federal funding opportunities, please use the following email: [RA-PDTRANSFEDFUNDOPP@pa.gov](mailto:RA-PDTRANSFEDFUNDOPP@pa.gov).

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## Guide for Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Grant Applications

PennDOT has added a [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.



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## 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 the upcoming Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFOs) for key programs within the IIJA and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), as well as adjacent programs that support IIJA 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 IIJA page at <https://www.pa.gov/en/services/penndot/apply-for-penndot-infrastructure-and-jobs-act--iija--grants.html>.

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

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

DOT Competitive Grants Dashboard: <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dashboard>

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## FREE Transportation and Land Use Planning – One-on One Assistance and Training

PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach offers **free** one-on-one 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](#).

If you answer yes to any of the questions below, reach out to [PennDOT Connects Municipal Outreach for assistance](#).

- Are you involved with municipal land use and transportation planning activities?
- Could your municipality use assistance to help shape future land use or transportation projects?
- Would you like to learn how to advance your community's planning and transportation-related goals?
- Have you heard about PennDOT Connects, but would like to know more about the free training and assistance available to your municipality?

PennDOT Connects helps local governments and regional/municipal planning organizations consider community needs during the planning process. Examples include:

- Safety issues/concerns



- Bicycle/pedestrian accommodations
- Transit/multimodal considerations
- Stormwater management
- Presence of/impacts from (current/future) freight-generating land uses
- Utility issues
- Transportation operations considerations
- Emergency services accommodations
- Planned development
- Long-range transportation plans
- Regional planning studies (e.g., corridor studies, resource management studies, watershed studies, etc.)
- Consistency with current community comprehensive or other plans
- Consistency with current and/or proposed zoning
- Other proposed transportation improvements
- Impacts on the natural, cultural, or social environment
- Right-of-way considerations
- Anticipated public opinion
- Community or cultural events in the candidate project area
- Maintenance Agreement requirements

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## 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).

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## PennDOT Connects

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## PennDOT Connects Newsletter

Was this newsletter forwarded to you? If yes, [click here](#) to subscribe to receive a copy directly to your inbox.



### Pennsylvania Department of Transportation PennDOT Connects Municipal Resources

[www.pa.gov/agencies/penndot/research-planning-and-innovation/penndot-connects.html](http://www.pa.gov/agencies/penndot/research-planning-and-innovation/penndot-connects.html)  
Email: [PAConnects@pa.gov](mailto:PAConnects@pa.gov)  
Phone: 717-710-2090



Pennsylvania  
Department of Transportation

