

BETTER COLLABORATION

TRANSFORM

BETTER COMMUNITIES



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

PennDOT Connects July 2025 Newsletter

Does Your Municipality Have a Truck Ordinance?

Zoning officials in recent years have had to deal with issues many may not have imagined just five or 10 years ago. Large-scale warehousing, solar arrays, and data centers top the list. Arguably the biggest issue for many along the already congested thoroughfares across the commonwealth is the surge in requests for warehousing, and the immense size of these facilities.

Last year, the York County Planning Commission (YCPC) published a [Truck Terminal/Distribution Center/Fulfillment Center & Warehouse Logistics Center Model Ordinance](#) to provide guidance for municipalities in York County.

“We’ve had 24.5 million square feet of new warehousing,” said Kurt Leitholf, chief of the municipal planning division in York County. “That’s an example of the scope that York County is facing with this new kind of development. It was something we thought was needed.”

“We still have a lot of development going in some of the municipalities north of York City, lots of warehousing coming in,” added Jesse King, senior planner with YCPC. “We had some requests from other municipalities throughout the county saying that they knew their ordinances might not be as up to date as they probably should be ... to properly regulate these larger warehouses, distribution centers, and the truck traffic and employee traffic that comes along with it.”

The document is a model ordinance containing suggested language, current terminology, and definitions commonly associated with regulations, for Truck Terminal/Distribution Center/Fulfillment Centers and Warehouse/Logistics Centers. This model ordinance serves as a summary document of the various components that the YCPC believes are necessary for a municipality to consider when evaluating the impacts of these uses on their municipalities. It should be the goal of the municipality to clearly articulate its expectations and requirements to any developers proposing these uses within their municipality, as well as to clearly address the concerns and interests of municipal residents.



Truck Terminal/Distribution Center/Fulfillment Center

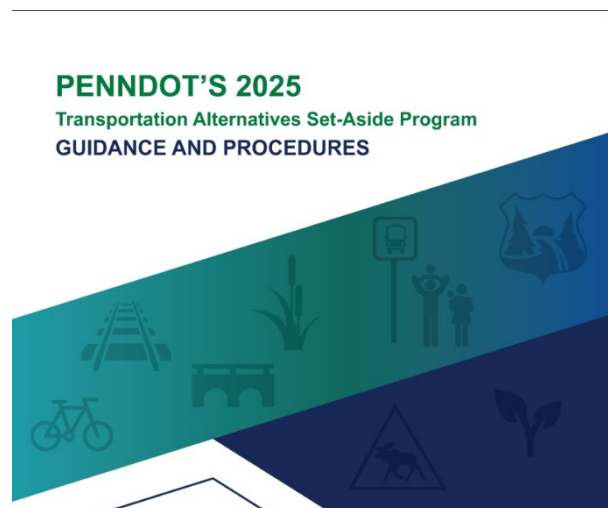
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Warehouse/Logistics Center Model Ordinance

A model ordinance designed to provide municipalities with language that addresses the increased intensity and impacts of warehouse-type uses.



MARCH 2024



Eligible project sponsors must submit draft applications by September 5, 2025, for District review. After review, final applications may be submitted until October 31, 2025. Selections from participating large Metropolitan Planning Organizations will be due January 23, 2026. The statewide project selection committee will meet in March 2026 to recommend projects for receipt of statewide TA Set-Aside funds. Approximately \$70 million in statewide funds will be made available.

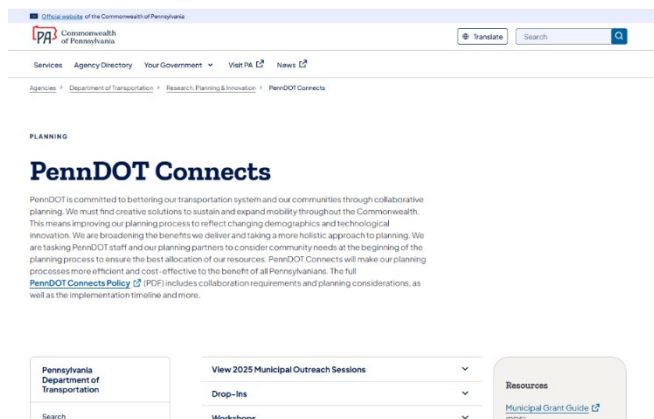
The TA Set-Aside guidance document has been updated to incorporate revisions based on feedback received from the Districts and Metropolitan Planning or Rural Planning Organizations from past rounds. We've also created a video to help guide potential sponsors through the application process. These items will be housed on PennDOT's [TA Set-Aside website](#), and are currently available for review. Please refer to the website and guidance document for eligible project types and sponsors.

An informational webinar was held on July 9, 2025. The webinar recording can be found on the [TA Set-Aside website](#) and in the guidance document at this link: [TA Set-Aside guidance](#).

Questions about the TA Set-Aside program can be directed to RA-pdTASA@pa.gov or 717.775.3276.

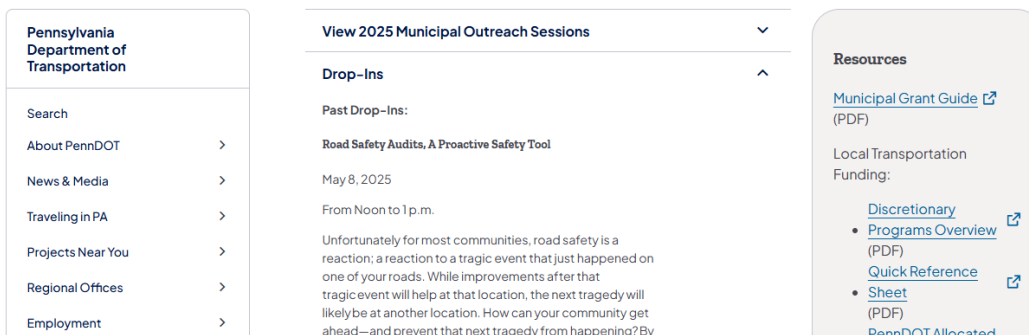
PennDOT Connects Resources

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



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.



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:

Bridge Investment Program (BIP) – Large Bridge

The goals of the [BIP - Large Bridge](#) grants are to:

- Enhance the safety, efficiency, and reliability of transporting people and freight across bridges;
- Upgrade the overall condition of bridges throughout the United States; and
- Offer financial support that incentivizes and leverages non-federal contributions from sponsors and stakeholders for planning, designing, and constructing eligible projects that will cost more than \$100 million.

The deadline for applying for FY 2026 funds in this rolling application process* is Friday, Aug. 1, 2025, 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.

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

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

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.

Developing IIJA/BIL Grant Proposals:
A Guide for Municipalities



Revised
July 2024

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>

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

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

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/pennidot/research-planning-and-innovation/pennidot-connects.html

Email: PAConnects@pa.gov
Phone: 717-710-2090



Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation

