



BETTER COLLABORATION

TRANSFORM

BETTER COMMUNITIES

The latest news and information from PennDOT Municipal Resources network of people and places

January 2026 Newsletter

2026 Municipal Outreach Sessions

Through PennDOT Municipal Resources, 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 intergrated and more effective.



Registration Open for 2026 PennDOT Municipal Outreach Sessions

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:

- **What is Happening in Your District:** The Districts will provide contacts and share projects successes and projects in planning.
- **PennDOT's One Map GIS Platform:** The demo will provide practical uses for the mapping data.
- **Free Transportation Planning Resources:** The PennDOT Municipal Resources program has **free** one-on-one support, one-hour drop ins (webinars), newsletters, and tech sheets to support municipal transportation planning.

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, MPO & RPOs, and county planning staff.
- Ask questions about PennDOT projects in your area.
- Access free resources and expert support to achieve your goals.

Note: These sessions will focus on the resources available to municipalities through the PennDOT Municipal Resources Program and other sources and may not cover 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, Registration Link	City
District 1	April 30	9-11 a.m.	District 1 & Virtual	Oil City, PA
District 2	April 28	1-3 p.m.	District 2 & Virtual	Clearfield, PA
District 3	May 5	9-11 a.m.	All Virtual	
District 4	April 2	1-3 p.m.	District 4 & virtual	Dunmore, PA
District 5	March 26	1-3 p.m.	District 5 & Virtual	Allentown, PA
District 6	April 7	9-11 a.m.	All Virtual	
District 8	March 25	9-11 a.m.	All Virtual	
District 9	April 9	1-3 p.m.	All Virtual	
District 10	April 29	1-3 p.m.	District 10 & Virtual	Indiana, PA
District 11	March 18	1-3 p.m.	All Virtual	
District 12	April 15	1-3 p.m.	District 12 & Virtual	Uniontown, PA

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.

Grant Funding Still Available for Safer Travel and Community Improvements

[PennDOT's Multimodal Transportation Fund \(MTF\)](#) is investing [over \\$47 million in 54 projects across 34 counties](#) to improve roads, bridges, bike paths, and sidewalks—creating safer travel and stronger communities.

- [PennDOT is still accepting applications](#) for the next round of MTF grants until February 13, 2026, at 4:00 p.m., with funding awards to be announced later this year.

Learn more about eligibility and ongoing transportation improvements at [PennDOT's Multimodal Transportation webpage](#).



Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

In January 2026, the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission announced it is investing \$2 million to help communities across Pennsylvania preserve historic places, strengthen local revitalization efforts, and prepare for the nation's 250th anniversary this year.

PHMC offers two types of grants for historic resources that are listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Applicants may apply for only one category:

Construction Grants

Construction grants support the rehabilitation, preservation, and restoration of publicly accessible historic resources owned by nonprofit organizations or local governments. Awards range from \$5,000 to \$100,000 and require a 50/50 cash match.

Planning Grants

Planning grants support community-based historic preservation planning and project-specific planning initiatives, including municipal planning efforts focused on historic resources. Awards range from \$5,000 to \$25,000 and require a 50/50 cash match.

- *Applications are due March 2, 2026. Grants will be awarded through a competitive selection process and are contingent on the availability of funds.*

Visit the [PHMC website](#) for eligibility information and grant guidelines.

Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant

The BUILD program invests in transportation projects that make a real difference for local communities. These projects aim to enhance safety, sustainability, and quality of life while facilitating easier transportation. They also support jobs, tourism, and innovation, helping the region stay connected and competitive.

- *The deadline for requesting PennDOT support is Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2026.*
- *The deadline to apply for this program is Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2026, 5:00 p.m. EST.*

Local Governments are eligible to apply. Eligible projects are both Capital Projects including highway, bridge, and road and intermodal projects and Planning Projects used in developing comprehensive, land use, and transportation plans.

To learn more about the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program visit their website: <https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants>

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

PennDOT Municipal Resources 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 Municipal Resources Transportation Planning Assistance request form by [clicking here](#).



If you answer yes to any of the questions below, reach out to [PennDOT Municipal Resources](#) 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 Municipal Resources, but would like to know more about the free training and assistance available to your municipality?

PennDOT Municipal Resources 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

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>

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. 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 Transform 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 Municipal Resources

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