

SUMMER 2021

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TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAMS



Grant and Reimbursement Programs to Advance and Guide Effective Investment of Public Funds

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) serves the 10-county Pittsburgh region as the official Metropolitan Planning Organization, Local Development District, and Economic Development District. SPC's Transportation Department meets federal mandates with the publication of a long-range (20-year) transportation plan and the establishment of a short-range (4-year) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Planning activities range from data systems and modeling to special transportation studies and air quality analysis.

SPC is committed to assisting our local governments and agencies in the preparation, planning, and execution of their community's priority projects and investments. The information within this document will provide local project sponsors a guide to available resources that can assist with the implementation of a community's shared goals.



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Funding Programs

SPC and PennDOT Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program

Purpose: The Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside (TA) Program provides funding for programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities; infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility; environmental mitigation; recreational trail program projects; and, safe routes to school projects. Key criterion in the review of applications will be readiness for implementation and delivery, safety, consistency with local or regional plans; collaboration with stakeholders; and, statewide or regional significance.

Eligibility:

- Local governments
- Regional transportation authorities
- Transit agencies
- Natural resource or public land agencies, including federal agencies
- School districts, local education agencies, or schools
- Tribal governments
- A nonprofit entity responsible for the administration of local transportation safety programs
- Any other governmental entity with responsibility for oversight of transportation or recreational trails

Deadline: The next application period for the SPC TA program will be between June 28, 2021 and October 15, 2021 with a pre-application due on August 16, 2021. The next application period for the PennDOT TA Program will be between June 28, 2021 and October 15, 2021 with a pre-application due on August 16, 2021.

Local Match Requirement: There is no match requirement; however, local sponsors pay all costs for pre-construction activities (design, environmental clearance, right of way, utilities, etc.) and PennDOT provides 100% cost reimbursement for the construction phase (including construction inspection).

SPC Website: <https://www.spcregion.org/funding-programs/>

PennDOT Website: <https://www.penndot.gov/ProjectAndPrograms/Planning/Pages/Transportation%20Alternatives%20Set-Aside%20-%20Surface%20Trans.%20Block%20Grant%20Program.aspx>

SPC Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

Purpose: The CMAQ Program provides funds for transportation projects and programs that will contribute to attainment or maintenance of the national ambient air quality standards for ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter; and supports goals of the U.S. Department of Transportation: improving air quality, and relieving congestion. Project types include: traffic flow and signal improvements, transportation demand management, transit improvements and programs, commuter bicycle and pedestrian improvements, and diesel emission reductions.

Eligibility: Any qualified government entity, including local governments, regional transit agencies, port authorities, and state agencies, is eligible to apply for CMAQ funding. Non-profits and private sector entities may partner with an eligible applicant to apply for CMAQ funding.

Deadline: Next CMAQ application period will open August 23, 2021 and close September 24, 2021.

Local Match Requirement: 20% match of total project cost (by phase) from local, state, or other non-federal sources

Website: <https://www.spcregion.org/funding-programs/>

DCED Multimodal Transportation Fund (MTF)

Purpose: Provides grants to encourage economic development and ensure that a safe and reliable system of transportation is available to Pennsylvania residents. The program is intended to provide financial assistance to improve transportation assets that enhance communities, pedestrian safety, and transit revitalization. The program is under the direction of the Commonwealth Financing Authority.

Eligibility: Local Governments; Counties; Councils of Governments; Businesses & Non-Profits; Economic Development Organizations; Public Transportation Agencies (including but not limited to an airport authority, public airport, port authority, or similar public entity); and, Rail and Freight Ports

Deadline: Applications were accepted between April 22 and July 31, 2021.

Local Match Requirement: 30% match of requested amount (state/federal grants do not count as match); Grants must be between \$100,000 and \$3,000,000.

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/multimodal-transportation-fund/>

PennDOT Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank (PIB)

Purpose: A PennDOT program that provides low-interest loans to accelerate priority transportation projects. Loan emphasis is on construction projects, but other project phases such as design, right-of-way acquisition, and transportation equipment purchases will be considered.

Local Match Requirement: Projects financed by the PIB include: aviation, high-way/bridge, rail freight, and transit.

Eligibility: Local Governments; Counties; Transportation Authorities; Economic Development Agencies; Non-Profit Organizations; and Private Corporations

Deadline: Always accepting applications

Website: <http://www.penndot.gov/ProjectAndPrograms/Planning/Pages/PA-Infrastructure-Bank.aspx>

PennDOT Automated Red Light Enforcement Program (ARLE)

Purpose: The program provides opportunities to improve safety and reduce congestion. ARLE intends to reduce violations and crashes, provide additional safety benefits to highway users, and improve pedestrian safety. Eligible projects are wide ranging when considering highway safety or mobility. The ARLE Program intends to fund worthwhile projects that can be completed at a relatively low cost, and award grants to projects that will be fully funded at the execution of the grant agreement date.

Eligibility: Local Governments; Planning Organizations; and Commonwealth Agencies

Deadline: Applications were accepted between June 1, 2021 and July 1, 2021.

Local Match Requirement: No matching funds are required for eligibility in the ARLE program

Website: <http://www.dot.state.pa.us/Portal%20Information/Traffic%20Signal%20Portal/FUNDARLE.html>

PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund

Purpose: Provides grants to ensure that a safe and reliable system of transportation is available to the residents of this commonwealth. The program is intended to provide financial assistance to municipalities, councils of governments, businesses, economic development organizations, public transportation agencies, rail freight, passenger rail, and ports in order to improve transportation assets that enhance communities, pedestrian safety, and transit revitalization.

Eligibility: Municipalities; Council of Governments; Business/Non-profit; Economic Development Organization; Public Transportation Agency; Ports or Rail / Freight Entity

Deadline: Applications were open from October 1, 2020 until November 6, 2020. Next application period TBA.

Local Match Requirement: 30% match of the amount awarded; grants normally do not exceed \$3,000,000

Website: <https://www.penndot.gov/ProjectAndPrograms/MultimodalProgram/Pages/default.aspx>

Green Light - Go

Purpose: The Green Light - Go: Pennsylvania's Municipal Signal Partnership Program is a competitive state grant program designed to improve the efficiency and operation of existing traffic signals located in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Established by Act 89 of 2013 and revised by Act 101 of 2016, the program is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and is purposed to improve mobility and safety at signalized intersections.

Eligibility: Municipalities and Planning Organizations

Deadline: Next application period yet to be determined.

Local Match Requirement: Minimum 20% match/reimbursement

Website: <http://www.dot.state.pa.us/Portal%20Information/Traffic%20Signal%20Portal/FUNDGLG.html>

PA WalkWorks

Purpose: WalkWorks helps with funding to assist municipal entities with the development of active transportation plans and related polices. WalkWorks continues its aim to establish new or improved pedestrian, bicycle and transit transportation systems – activity-friendly routes – that are combined with land use and environmental design, thereby increasing connectivity to everyday destinations.

Eligibility: Municipalities and Planning Organizations

Deadline: The recent application period concluded on May 14, 2021 and the next application period is yet to be determined

Local Match Requirement: No matching funds are required for eligibility.

Website: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/WalkWorks/Pages/WalkWorks.aspx>

Act 13 Programs (Marcellus Legacy Fund)

The Marcellus Legacy Fund was created by Act 13 of 2012 to provide for the distribution of unconventional gas well impact fees to counties, municipalities, and commonwealth agencies. Pursuant to Section 2315 (a) (6) (i) of the Act, a portion of the fee revenue will be transferred to the Commonwealth Financing Authority for the statewide initiatives listed on pages 4 & 5:

Abandoned Mine Drainage (AMD) Abatement and Treatment Program

Purpose: Funding for projects that involve the reclamation of Abandoned Mine Well(s); construction of a new AMD site; remediation and repair of existing AMD project sites; operation and maintenance maintaining current AMD remediation sites; establishment of trust fund to ensure ongoing maintenance is achieved; and, monitoring of water quality to track or continue to trace non-point source load reductions resulting from AMD remediation projects.

Eligibility: Municipalities; Councils of Governments; Authorized Organizations; Institutions of Higher Education; Watershed Organizations; For-Profit Businesses

Deadline: Applications were accepted between February 1, 2021 and May 31, 2021.

Match/Funding: 15% match of the total project cost; grants do not exceed \$1,000,000

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/abandoned-mine-drainage-abatement-treatment-program-amdatp/>

Baseline Water Quality Data Program

Purpose: Funding for projects that involve practices for water sample collection and analysis to document existing groundwater quality conditions on private water supplies.

Eligibility: Municipalities; Councils of Governments; Authorized Organizations; Institutions of Higher Education; Watershed Organizations; For-Profit Businesses

Deadline: Applications were accepted between February 1, 2021 and May 31, 2021.

Match/Funding: 15% match of the total project cost; grants do not exceed \$250,000

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/baseline-water-quality-data-program/>

Flood Mitigation Program

Purpose: Funding for flood mitigation projects authorized by a flood protection authority, the Department of Environmental Protection, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service, or identified by a local government. Grants are awarded to eligible applicants for projects with a total cost of \$50,000 or more.

Eligibility: Municipalities; Councils of Governments; Authorized Organizations; Institutions of Higher Education; Watershed Organizations; For-Profit Businesses

Deadline: Applications were accepted between February 1, 2021 and May 31, 2021.

Local Match Requirement: 15% match of the total project cost; grants do not exceed \$500,000

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/flood-mitigation-program-fmp/>

Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program

Purpose: Funding for planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, parks and beautification projects. Projects can involve development, rehabilitation and improvements to public parks, recreation areas, greenways, and trails, as well as river conservation.

Eligibility: Municipalities; Councils of Governments; Authorized Organizations; Institutions of Higher Education; Watershed Organizations; For-Profit Businesses

Deadline: Applications were accepted between February 1, 2021 and May 31, 2021.

Match/Funding: 15% match of the total project cost; grants do not exceed \$250,000

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/greenways-trails-and-recreation-program-grtp/>

Orphan or Abandoned Well Plugging Program

Purpose: Funds for orphaned or abandoned well plugging projects, including the cleaning out and plugging of abandoned and orphan oil and gas wells; stray gas mitigation systems; and well venting projects.

Eligibility: Municipalities; Councils of Governments; Authorized Organizations; Institutions of Higher Education; Watershed Organizations; For-Profit Businesses

Deadline: Applications were accepted between February 1, 2021 and May 31, 2021.

Match/Funding: No match required; grants do not exceed \$1,000,000

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/orphan-abandoned-well-plugging-program-oawp/>

Sewage Facilities Program

Purpose: Funding for costs associated with the planning work required under the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act (Act 537).

Eligibility: Municipalities; Councils of Governments; Authorized Organizations; Institutions of Higher Education; Watershed Organizations; For-Profit Businesses

Deadline: Applications were accepted between February 1, 2021 and May 31, 2021.

Match/Funding: 50% match of the total project cost; grants do not exceed \$100,000

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/sewage-facilities-program-sfp/>

Watershed Restoration and Protection Program

Purpose: Funding for watershed restoration and protection projects that involve the construction, improvement, expansion, repair, maintenance or rehabilitation of new or existing watershed protection BMPs. The overall goal of the program is to restore and maintain restored stream reaches impaired by the uncontrolled discharge of nonpoint source polluted runoff, and ultimately to remove these streams from the DEP's Impaired Waters list.

Eligibility: Municipalities; Councils of Governments; Authorized Organizations; Institutions of Higher Education; Watershed Organizations; For-Profit Businesses

Deadline: Applications were accepted between February 1, 2021 and May 31, 2021.

Match/Funding: 15% match of the total project cost; grants do not exceed \$300,000

Website: <https://dced.pa.gov/programs/watershed-restoration-protection-program-wrpp/>

DCNR Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2)

Purpose: DCNR's Bureau of Recreation and Conservation provides a single point of contact for communities and non-profit conservation agencies seeking state assistance through the C2P2 Program in support of local recreation and conservation initiatives and those that implement Pennsylvania's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. This assistance can take the form of grants, technical assistance, information exchange, and training. All of DCNR's funding sources are combined into one annual application cycle and there is a single application format and process with one set of requirements and guidelines.

Eligibility: A wide range of grant and technical assistance programs are offered through C2P2 to help communities, land conservancies, and non-profit organizations plan, acquire, and develop:

- Recreation, park and conservation facilities
- Watersheds and rivers corridors
- Greenways and trails
- Heritage areas and facilities
- Critical habitat, natural areas & open space

Deadline: Community Recreation and Conservation Planning, Land Acquisition and Conservation, Motorized and Non-Motorized Trails, Park Rehabilitation and Development, and Riparian Forest Buffers are open from January 18, 2022 to April 6, 2022.

Local Match Requirement: Generally, a 50% match by either cash or non-cash value is required

Website: <https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Communities/Grants/Pages/default.aspx>

Department of Environmental Protection (DEP): Loan, Grant, and Rebate Programs

The DEP has grants and loans, as well as rebates to assist individuals, groups, and businesses with a host of environmental issues. Due to the fact that many of DEP's programs are dependent on annual funding from the commonwealth's budget, program availability and application dates can vary widely and are historically inconsistent. Interested program applicants should use DEP's Grant and Loan Programs Center website to view available grants and loans. Some of the most utilized DEP Programs are:

- County and Municipal Recycling Financial Assistance Programs
- Small Business Ombudsman's Grants and Loans
- Growing Greener Grants
- Environmental Education Grants

Website: <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/GrantsLoansRebates/Pages/default.aspx>

DEP Driving PA Forward Program

Purpose: To help Pennsylvania meet its diesel emissions reduction goals, the Department of Environmental Protection has developed new grant and rebate programs to improve air quality in Pennsylvania and drive transformation from older, polluting diesel engines to clean technologies. The Level 2 Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Rebate Program is one of the Driving PA Forward financial incentive programs from Pennsylvania's \$118.5 million allocation from the State Mitigation Trust, which will be allocated over a 10-year period.

Eligibility: Businesses, Non-profits, State and Local governments, Transportation Organizations, MPO's/RPO's, and Federal Government agencies.

Deadline: Open as funding permits

Local Match Requirement: 40% match for government projects, 60% match for non-government projects.

Website: <https://gis.dep.pa.gov/DrivingPAForward/>

DEP Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant Program

Purpose: The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is offering competitive grant funding for clean, alternative fuel projects in Pennsylvania and investment in Pennsylvania's energy sector. The primary goals of the Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant Program (AFIG) are to improve Pennsylvania's air quality and protect Pennsylvania's environment through the use of alternative fuels that will advance economic development in the commonwealth and reduce dependence on petroleum products.

Eligibility: Schools, Municipalities, Non-Profits, Corporations

Deadline: Open as funding permits

Local Match Requirement: No Match Required, Grants may not exceed \$300,000 on Vehicle Purchase or Retrofit Projects and may not exceed \$600,000 on Alternative Fuel Refueling Infrastructure Projects or Innovative Technology Projects.

Website: <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/GrantsLoansRebates/Alternative-Fuels-Incentive-Grant/Pages/default.aspx>



2021 Calendar of Programs Anticipated Application Opening & Closing Dates*

Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
	Act 13 Programs	Act 13 Programs	Act 13 Programs	Act 13 Programs								
					PennDOT & SPC TASA							
			DCED MTF	DCED MTF	DCED MTF	DCED MTF						
PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	PennDOT PIB	
					PennDOT ARLE							
							SPC CMAQ	SPC CMAQ				
DCNR C2P2	DCNR C2P2	DCNR C2P2	DCNR C2P2									
				PennDOT MTF Application Period TBD								
			Green Light Go (No 2021 Application Period)									
			PA WalkWorks									

*Funding programs and the agencies that administer them often times will alter anticipated application periods. Contact these agencies or SPC for up-to-date application information.

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