

Strengthen Transportation Funding Opportunities

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Municipal transportation planning is an important tool for local governments to use for their future economic growth, goals, and investments. It is also a tool to support transportation funding opportunities. During planning conversations with stakeholders, it is important to keep the state's long range transportation goals in the discussions.

When municipal, regional, and the commonwealth's goals align municipal funding applications become stronger.

The guidance listed in this tech sheet supports local governments working to strengthen their transportation funding opportunities.

Introduction

Strengthen your municipality's funding competitiveness by aligning its local transportation planning with the Pennsylvania long range transportation plan's goals and objectives. Many transportation program funding applications consider the project's connection to the regional and state transportation planning and if the goals and objectives align with the commonwealth's overall plan.

The six goals and their objectives below from the Pennsylvania 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan should be considered and discussed with stakeholders as applicable to help foster the state-regional-local synergy efforts for transportation planning.

1. Safety

- Enhance safety and security for both motorized and non-motorized modes throughout Pennsylvania's transportation system.
- Continue to promote behavioral change through existing educational initiatives with partners and stakeholders in order to promote safe habits for users of all modes.
- Reduce the rate and frequency of fatal and serious injury crashes for all modes of travel.
- Expand the collection of safety data and explore funding sources for safety and data analysis for use in system-wide planning, programming, and project development and project delivery.
- Strengthen security across transportation modes in collaboration with public and private stakeholders.

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2. Mobility

- Strengthen transportation mobility to meet the increasingly dynamic needs of Pennsylvania residents, businesses, and visitors.
- Improve system efficiency and reliability.
- Provide and prioritize multimodal transportation choices to meet user needs, expand mobility options, and increase multimodal system capacity and connectivity.
- Improve public transportation awareness, access, and services throughout Pennsylvania.
- Implement transportation and land-use standards and tools that result in complementary development.
- Adapt to changing travel demands, including those associated with e-commerce and post-COVID-19 pandemic changes.

3. Equity

- Improve transportation access and equity throughout Pennsylvania.
- Evaluate transportation equity issues across Pennsylvania.
- Develop measurable goals and metrics for equitable transportation in collaboration with key stakeholder groups.

- Establish equity and access strategies in partnership with stakeholder organizations and groups that correspond to the identified measurable goals.
- Improve equity and accessibility through ADA improvements and modal choice.
- Develop education, awareness, and training initiatives that strengthen transportation professionals' knowledge and skills to effectively address equity issues.

4. Resilience

- Strengthen Pennsylvania transportation's resilience to climate change and other risks and reduce transportation's environmental impacts.
- Employ resiliency measures/actions to ensure long-term system stability.
- Evaluate projects for expected climate change impacts and re-evaluate projects with focus on resiliency.

5. Performance

- Improve the condition and performance of transportation assets.
- Leverage technology and operations enhancements to improve transportation system efficiency.
- Continue to integrate enhanced asset management approaches and methods into the planning and programming project selection decision-making process.
- Enhance the availability and quality of real-time travel information, especially in emergency and inclement weather events and for construction/work zones.
- Expand and/or build upon existing technical assistance and education to local communities and regional planning partners.
- Improve environmental stewardship during and before project construction.
- Develop a wider range of public transportation performance measures including value-based, quality-of-life measures.

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6. Resources

- Structure transportation funding and finance approaches that allocate sufficient resources for system safety, maintenance, preservation, and improvement.
- Advance a funding strategy including new mechanisms to ensure resource levels sufficient to meet transportation system needs. Ensure all modes of transportation are considered when allocating resources and prioritizing projects.
- Adapt to and manage accelerating change (e.g., mainstreaming innovation, institutional adjustments, people skills, and knowledge management).
- Streamline planning and public involvement processes.
- Improve planning and analytical tools to adapt to changes impacting transportation.



By linking local planning and projects with regional/ state long range transportation plans, municipalities can maximize consistency and also become more competitive for various funding opportunities.

To learn more about transportation funding opportunities, contact your Metropolitan or Regional Planning Organization (MPO and RPO).



Additional long range transportation resources:

- Long range transportation plan can be found [here](#).
- Metropolitan or Regional Planning Organization (MPO and RPO) contacts can be found [here](#).