

SPC Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Program Candidate Project Application

Project Name: _____ MPMS # _____

This is an interactive application form. Please fill it out completely and review your entries carefully. After completing the form, save it to your computer, and include it with your application package submission as described in the Application Instructions. All fields are required.

1. Applicant Contact Information:

Contact Person: _____ Title: _____

Project Sponsor: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Fax: _____

Project Administration: _____

Other Participating Agencies: _____

Agency with Maintenance Responsibility: _____

Project Sponsor's PennDOT Business Partner number: _____

- 2. Project Purpose and Need:** Provide a brief description of the candidate project or program. Include attachments as needed. (If additional space is needed, use and attach as many "Additional Information" forms as needed)

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3. Relevant Studies and Plans:

Are there any project specific studies or plans that have been completed? Yes___ No___

If yes, please attach the study or a summary.

4. Project Location:

Municipality: _____ County: _____

If the project involves multiple municipalities or counties, leave the Municipality and County fields blank and describe all involved municipalities and/or counties in the project location/coverage area box below. If the project is mappable, a map showing the project location and the termini is required. Please attach an appropriate map, so that SPC staff can accurately locate the project.

Describe the project location and/or coverage area:

5. Participating Agencies:

1. Describe the role of the sponsor in implementing the project:

2. If other agencies are participating in the project, conformation of their involvement is required.
List the names and phone numbers for the point of contact for each participating agency:

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6. Project Prescreening:

Projects not meeting the prescreening criteria will not be further considered.

a. Check each of the FAST Act Performance Goals that are applicable to the project:

___ Safety – To achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads

___ Infrastructure Condition – To maintain the highway infrastructure asset system in a state of good repair

___ Congestion Reduction – To achieve a significant reduction in congestion on the National Highway System

___ System Reliability – To improve the efficiency of the surface transportation system

___ Freight Movement and Economic Vitality – To improve the national freight network, strengthen the ability of rural communities to access national and international trade markets, and support regional economic development

___ Environmental Sustainability – To enhance the performance of the transportation system while protecting and enhancing the natural environment

___ Reduce Project Delivery Delays – To reduce project costs, promote jobs and the economy, and expedite the movement of people and goods by accelerating project completion through delays in the project development and delivery process, including reducing regulatory burdens and improving agencies' work practices.

Explain how the FAST Act Performance Goals that are marked with a check above are applicable to the project

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- b. Is the project consistent with SPC's current long range plan (*SmartMoves for a Changing Region*)? Yes___ No___

**As defined in the TA Program Guidance document, the project consistency indicators for *SmartMoves*, below, will also be used as a scoring category for project evaluation

Check each that the project will help to advance the Plan.

Vision:

___ A world-class, safe and well maintained, integrated transportation system that provides mobility for all, enables resilient communities, and supports a globally competitive economy.

Strategies:

___ Integrate multiple forms of public/ private transportation to provide increased mobility equitably for all users including those in underserved rural areas and disadvantaged populations.

___ Fund additional transportation infrastructure through private sector partnerships, user fees, value capture, and other appropriate mechanisms; broaden revenue tools available to local governments to fund infrastructure projects.

___ Employ holistic planning for mobility and accessibility when developing and prioritizing projects. Make transportation improvements fit community context and enhance local quality of life.

___ Promote institutional investment in older communities, repurposing versus demolition, and ensure that affordable housing is retained utilizing best practice models in the region for land use, vacant properties, and environmental strategies.

___ Support and encourage transportation projects and programs that will contribute to attainment or maintenance of the national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for ozone, carbon monoxide (CO), and particulate matter (PM).

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____ Embrace and expand emerging infrastructure innovations and technologies including planning, design, materials, and construction processes for a more adaptable and resilient built environment.

____ Invest in strategies that adapt to and decelerate the impacts of climate change. This includes investment in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery, as well as, creating awareness about climate change, its projected impacts, and regional strategies.

____ Improve infrastructure efficiency through technology implementation in project development, design, construction, operation, and maintenance.

____ Conservation of the region’s natural resource assets and key tracts of land enhances environmental quality, natural land connectivity, habitat corridors, and agricultural lands preservation, and provides recreational opportunities for residents and tourists.

Explain how the project will help to advance the Plan’s Vision, Policies, and Performance Measures that are marked with a check above.

Is the project consistent with SPC member comprehensive plans? Yes___ No___

Is the project consistent with your municipal comprehensive plan? Yes___ No___

Please describe how the project is consistent with county and municipal comprehensive plans:

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7. TA Project Category:

Select the project category that best applies to the project.

PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA

8. Connections to Existing Facilities or Network Expansion:

Will the project connect two or more existing facilities (fill a gap), extend an existing facility, or create a new, independent facility?

9. Access to Public Transportation Facilities:

Does the project provide connections to, and/or enhancements to the transit facilities themselves?

10. Provides Access to Local Activity Centers:

Will the project provide enhanced multimodal access to activity centers in and around the project area?

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11. Community Improvements:

Does the project provide enhancements to the community (aside from bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure)?

12. Natural Environment:

Does the project have an environmental component or is the project solely focused on environmental mitigation and or vegetation management?

13. Environmental Justice and Title VI:

Does the project provide benefits to identified low income and/or minority communities or other identified Title VI Communities? Please refer to [SPC EJ Web Map Application](#).

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14. SPC Active Transportation Plan (ATP) Consistency:

Identify and describe how your project advances the goals of the SPC ATP. [Click here](#) to access the Active Transportation Plan on the SPC website.

Bonus Point: If your project falls within one of the ATP's Trail Network Connection Opportunity Areas (page 63 of the ATP - linked above). Please list

15. Safety Improvements:

Describe any safety improvements that are being proposed as a part of the project.

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16. Deliverability/Project Readiness:

Describe steps taken to advance deliverability/project readiness to date. Include descriptions and supporting documentation of completed or underway activities such as environmental documentation, design, right-of-way acquisition and utility coordination.

Have you met or collaborated with SPC staff, PennDOT or your County Planning Agency to discuss your project and its readiness for construction funding? Yes___ No___

Is the project located in an area the sponsor has both site control of and will own and maintain the infrastructure? Yes___ No___

Is utility relocation or railroad coordination involved with this project? Yes___ No___

If Right of Way (ROW) acquisition is required for this project, the ROW has (check one):

___been identified and secured

___been identified, and negotiations to secure ROW are being conducted according to the approved federal process

___only been identified

___unsure if ROW is required

___ROW acquisition is not required for this project

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If environmental clearance is required for this project, the categorical exclusion documents (check one):

☐ are completed and approved

☐ are in draft form awaiting approval

☐ have been prepared but have not yet been submitted to the regulatory agencies

☐ have not yet been developed / unknown at this time

☐ are not required for this project type

Does this project require permits? (check one)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Unsure

If yes, please list required permits: _____

17. Experience in Delivering a Federal-Aid Project:

Describe any experience you may have in successfully delivering a project utilizing federal-aid funding, following the PennDOT project delivery process.

Does the sponsor have adequate staffing to perform the duties of successfully delivering a federally funded project? Yes ☐ No ☐

Please explain:

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Has the sponsor consulted with their respective planning partners? (please check all that apply)

☐ Local Government

☐ Transit Agencies

☐ County

☐ Other (please list):

☐ PennDOT

Does the project have the support of communities where it will be located or implemented? Is there opposition to the project? Please explain:

PennDOT Connects: Project sponsors will be required to meet with SPC staff to fulfill the requirements of the PennDOT Connects initiative. Other meeting participants will be dependent on the project sponsor, the proposed project, and its location. SPC will work with individual sponsors to determine a meeting time, location, and a list of participants.

☐ The Sponsor agrees to meet the PennDOT Connects requirements.

Project Sponsors and their authorized governing body, or in few cases their executive leadership, are required to submit a resolution and/or letter authorizing the submission of a TA application and the desire to seek funding through the TA Program. The resolution shall also include: the names of all members who approved the resolution; the date on which the resolution was passed; signature by the Secretary/Chairperson/Executive; and, be printed on the organization's letterhead. Approved resolutions may be included with the Final Application submission, however SPC understands that authorized governing bodies may meet at irregularly scheduled times. To assist sponsors in meeting this requirement, **the resolution must be submitted by the expected approval of the 2023-2026 TIP, in June 2022.**

☐ The Sponsor agrees to provide official notification from a governing body or executive leadership, as stated above, in order to meet the requirements of the TA Program. Applications that fail to meet this requirement will not receive consideration for funding in this round of the SPC TA Program.

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18. Project Budget and Schedule:

The SPC TA Program will only fund the Construction Phase of the project (including construction inspection). All pre-construction phases and costs are the responsibility of the applicant. Please complete the funding information below for **ALL** project phases. **Applicants must also attach an itemized project construction cost estimate as referenced in the Budget Section of the TA Guidance.** PennDOT has a cost estimating guidance document ([Pub. 352](#))

TA Project Budget and Proposed Schedule

Phase	Start Date	End Date	Local Share	Federal (TA) Share	Cost by Phase
Preliminary Engineering					
Final Design					
Right-of-Way					
Utility					
Construction					
Construction Inspection (15%)					
Contingency (10%)					
TOTAL:					

19. Sources of Local Funding Share:

Please show the source of the **committed** local funds being used for the pre-construction phases of the project (on the next page). Documentation verifying sources and committed amounts must be included with the candidate's application.

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19. Sources of Local Funding Share (cont):

Committed Local Funding Sources			
Funding Source	Amount	Project Phase	Status of Phase

20. Additional Information:

Please provide any additional information you feel is relevant to the project. If you need additional space, use and attach as many 'Additional Information' forms as needed.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

By checking the boxes below, as the Applicant, I and all other agencies participating in the project, understand and accept that:

☐ The TA Program is a reimbursement program, not a grant program; no funds will be provided up front.

☐ Expenses prior to authorization of spending by PennDOT will NOT be reimbursed through this program.

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___ We (project sponsor) are responsible for advancing this project, not PennDOT or SPC.

However, both PennDOT and SPC are available to assist in this process.

___ All of the individuals and entities listed on the application are aware that they are being included in the project and agree to their assigned roles.

___ We have read and are familiar with [PennDOT Publication 740](#), which describes the requirements for implementing local projects using federal funding.

___ We will comply with all Federal Aid Highway requirements. Failure to comply with any and all of these requirements may result in the disapproval or termination of a previously approved project; and if the project is already underway, we will be obligated to refund all funding dispersed on the project to date.

___ We agree to enter into an agreement prepared by PennDOT that, among other things, sets forth the terms and conditions governing the performance of the project, disbursement of funding, and our financial obligations as a sponsor and provide for maintenance of the completed project improvements.

___ We understand that the non-federal funds identified in the project budget must be secured before federal funding can be obligated for the project. Further, the entities identified in the project budget as sources of non-federal funds are aware that they must commit those funds to the project, and have agreed to do so, before federal funding agreements are executed.

___ We understand that project status reports will be required to track the progress of the project, and we agree to provide to SPC staff complete and timely project status reports.

___ We certify that the affirmations contained in the application are true and correct to the best of our knowledge, information, and belief; and that this verification is subject to the penalties of 18 PA. C.S. §4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

___ We agree that this project will be ready for construction by September 30, 2026.

Project sponsors who are unable to meet this agreement will forfeit Transportation Alternatives Funds and may be subject to reimbursing all federal funds utilized on the project.

Responsible Party: _____ Date: _____