

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

DIANE GUTIERREZ-SCACCETTI

Commissioner

April 25, 2023

Dear Mayor/County Commissioner/County Executive:

On behalf of Governor Phil Murphy, I am pleased to announce that applications will now be accepted for the New Jersey Department of Transportation's (NJDOT) Fiscal Year 2024 State Aid Programs. The deadline for grant application submissions is July 1st. Grant awards are expected to be announced in November.

As you may know, the Transportation Trust Fund Reauthorization Act of 2016 increased funding for Local Aid programs to counties and municipalities from \$190 million per year to \$430 million. The reason for the steep increase is that the majority of New Jersey's roadway mileage—about 90 percent—is under local government jurisdiction and is in as much need of repair as the state roadway network.

Over the past couple of years, improvements to the grant application and project delivery processes have been implemented.

- The Project Management and Reporting System (PMRS) was launched. This new system reduces paper
 consumption and adds efficiency. You will continue to submit applications through SAGE (System for
 Administering Grants Electronically), but you are now required to submit your Resolution of Support
 through the PMRS platform no later than 30 days from application submission.
- Your grant announcement and project management processes will now be through PMRS.
- A Map Maker Tool is now available to all grant applicants to standardize all map submissions.

Following federal and state guidance, equity is incorporated into all State Aid programs to promote an equitable delivery of government benefits. Additional points will be added to projects in areas where vulnerable populations exist. Current census data will be used to determine if a project meets the equity criteria. Equity information will be available on NJDOT's Local Aid Resource Center website at:

NJ DOT - Local Aid Resource Center (nidotlocalaidre.com)

A series of training classes were held to communicate the changes last year. A wide range of informational resources were developed and are now available on our Local Aid Resource Center website. Please reach out to the Local Aid Resource Center with any questions.

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The following is a brief description of each grant program:

- Municipal Aid This \$151.25 million program with an additional \$10 million in Urban Aid provides funding for local transportation projects for a total of \$161.25 million. Municipalities are encouraged to consider projects that support walking and biking safety.
- Transit Village* This program is open to the 34 municipalities that have been designated as Transit Villages by the Commissioner of Transportation and the inter-agency Transit Village Task Force. A total of \$1 million is available to fund traditional and non-traditional transportation projects that enhance walking, biking and/or transit ridership within a half mile of the transit facility. The approved Transit Village municipalities are provided in the following link:

http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/transitvillagef.shtm

- **Bikeways*** This \$1 million program is intended to fund bicycle projects which create new Bike Path Mileage. This program encourages new bikeways that are physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier, but on-road bike lanes and other bike routes and facilities are also eligible for funding. Counties and municipalities are eligible.
- Safe Streets to Transit* This program encourages counties and municipalities to construct safe and accessible pedestrian linkages to transit facilities to promote transit usage for all. A total of \$1 million is available for grant awards.

*Note: An additional \$21.8 million was provided in the FY 2023 State Budget to disperse among these programs for a total of \$24.8 million allowing the award of many more grants and more fully funded grants.

All projects funded through the Transportation Trust Fund must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). ADA guidance, program descriptions and application guidance materials can be found on the NJDOT website at: http://www.state.ni.us/transportation/business/localaid/stateaid.shtm

If you choose to apply, please be aware that Municipal Aid regulations require projects receiving this type of aid to award a construction contract with Local Aid approval within **24 months** from the date of grant notification.

I encourage you to submit applications for these Local Aid programs. Each program application will be evaluated independently, affording counties and municipalities the opportunity to receive funding in more than one category.

The enclosed map provides contact information for each Local Aid District Office. If you need assistance preparing your application, please contact your Local Aid District Office. Please keep in mind that a separate application for each project must be completed and submitted on or before **July 1st, 2023**, on-line through the Department's electronic grants administration system, known by its acronym, SAGE, at:

https://njsage.intelligrants.com/Login.aspx?APPTHEME=NJSAGE

As Commissioner of Transportation, I am committed to maintaining and improving New Jersey's local transportation infrastructure by providing financial assistance, technical expertise, and training in surmounting the application process for traditional and non-traditional local transportation initiatives. Our counties and municipalities will be well positioned to design and construct important local projects without the need to impact property taxes. Your success in building projects and spending the additional capital will mean success not only for your constituents, but for the entire state.

Thank you for your continued interest and support of NJDOT, and best wishes for success with your project applications.

Sincerely,

Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti

Commissioner

Enclosure

cc:

County/Municipal Clerk County/Municipal Engineer



Local Aid and Economic Development

Our District Offices

Main Office

1035 Parkway Avenue PO Box 600 Trenton, NJ 08625-0600 Phone: 609.963.2021 Fax: 609.530.8044

Manager: David Bruccoleri

District 1, Mount Arlington

Roxbury Corporate Center 200 Stierli Court Mount Arlington, NJ 07856 Phone: 973.810.9120 Fax: 973.601.6709

Manager: Adam Ivervolino

District 2, Newark

153 Halsey Street, 5th floor Newark, NJ 07102 Phone: 862.350.5730 Fax: 973.648.4547 Manager: Ebony Johnson

District 3, Trenton

1035 Parkway Avenue PO Box 600 Trenton, NJ 08625-0600 Phone: 609.963.2020 Fax: 609.530.8044 Manager: Deval Desai

District 4, Cherry Hill

One Executive Campus Route 70 West, 3rd Floor Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 Phone: 856.414.8414 Fax: 856.486.6771

Manager: Thomas Berryman

