

Kickstart Your 2025 Projects: How to Secure Federal Funding for Biking, Walking and Safe Routes to School

January 15, 2025



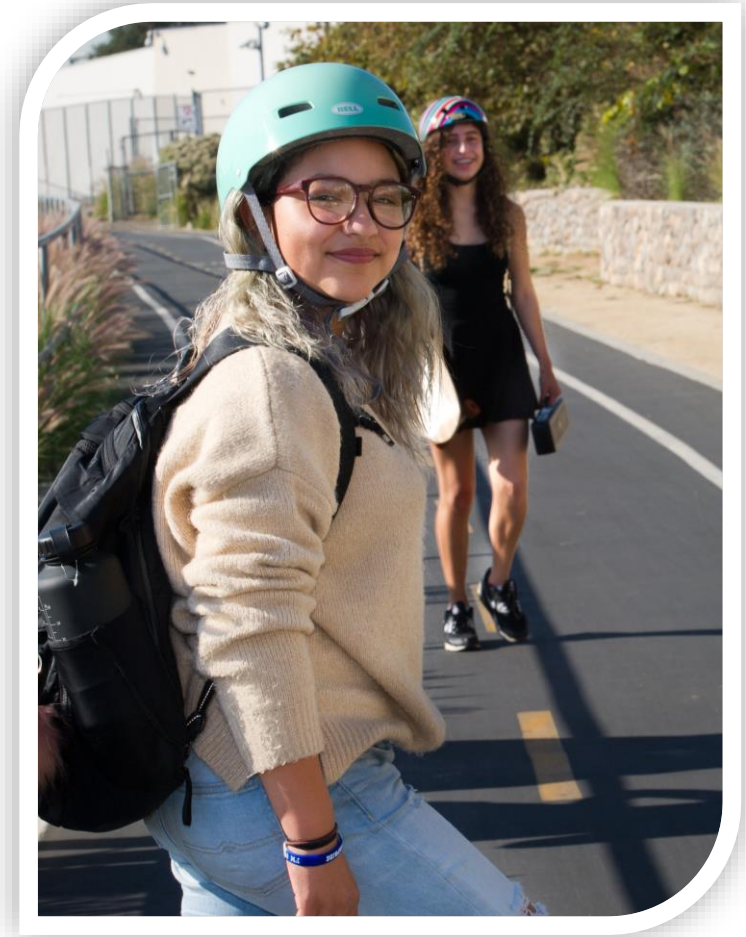
Welcome!



- Name
- Location
- Connection to Safe Routes
- Has your community ever applied for federal funding to support biking or walking?
 - If so, which funding programs?

About Safe Routes Partnership

The mission of the Safe Routes Partnership is to advance safe walking and rolling to and from schools and in everyday life, improving the health and well-being of people of all races, income levels, and abilities, and building healthy, thriving communities for everyone.



Webinar Logistics

- Q & A Box for your questions
- Chat Box for comments and resources
- Recording and slides will be available
- Quick post-survey in Zoom



Today's Presenters

Vanessa Cascio

Program and Policy Manager
Safe Routes Partnership
Washington, D.C.

Joe Banks

PennDOT Consultant Project Manager
Office of PA Project Implementation
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Mark Hood

Senior Engineer
PennDOT Local Technical Assistance Program



Today's Goals

- **LEARN** about federal funding available to all communities
- **GAIN INSIGHT** on how to successfully get your projects off the ground from agency experts
- **IDENTIFY** key resources and short-term steps to position your community for funding
 - *New opportunity* for communities in Greater Philadelphia



Federal Funding Opportunities

Formula Programs

- Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)*

* Also referred to as
Transportation Alternatives Set-
Aside (TASA)

Discretionary Programs

- Safe Streets and Roads for All
- RAISE
- Reconnecting Communities
- ...and more!





Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)

Funding awarded by the US Department of Transportation for communities across the country to develop and implement plans to achieve zero roadway traffic deaths

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)



- ***NEW*** source of funding created in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law with the express purpose of preventing roadway injuries and fatalities
- Includes focus on people walking and bicycling
- \$5 billion+ over five years
- **Planning Grants (40 percent)**
 - Action Plan Development
 - *Supplemental Planning*
 - *Demonstration Projects*
- **Implementation Grants (60 percent)**

Three Years of SS4A

- Over \$2.9B awarded to over 1,600 communities
- 77% of the nation's population covered
- Not just for big cities! Rural communities account for half of recipients
 - 816 communities under 50,000 people
- Manageable for first time recipients of federal funding
 - About 50% of recipients were new direct recipients of US DOT funds



https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2024-11/SS4A-Fact-Sheet_FY-2024.pdf

SS4A Funding

- Application is as easy as a federal grant opportunity gets
- Allows for in-kind match (or cash match)
- **Anticipated NOFO: End of March 2025**
- Will be around for 2 more years in current form, subject to changes with new Administration



Is this a funding unicorn?

*As a discretionary grant, it is administered by USDOT and thus subject to change with a new presidential administration



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Comprehensive Safety Action Plans are the Core of SS4A



This is the first step for SS4A. If your community (or a higher level jurisdiction covering your community) does not have a comprehensive safety action plan, this is the opportunity available.

Comprehensive safety action plans by other names:

- Vision Zero Plan
- Tribal Transportation Safety Plan
- Local Road Safety Plan
- County or MPO Safety Plan

*Must be community-wide; multi-modal; identify projects and strategies; have been published/updated since 2019



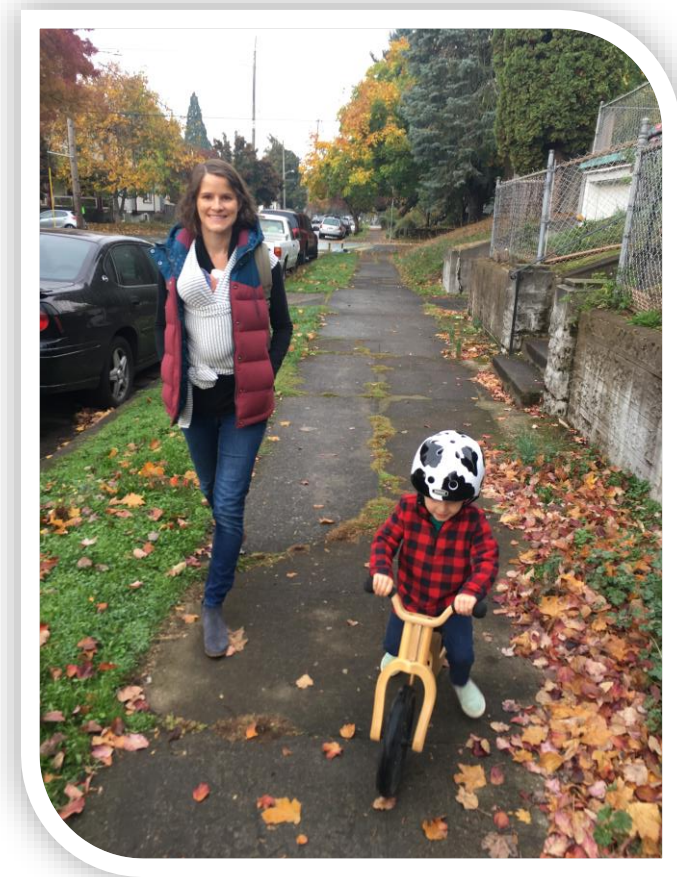
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<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/ss4a/grant-type-selection-assistance>

Planning Grant: Develop a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

8 Components of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan

- Commitment to Zero Traffic Deaths
- Planning Committee
- Safety Analysis
- Engagement and Collaboration
- Equity Considerations
- Policy and Process Changes
- Strategy and Project Selections
- Progress and Transparency

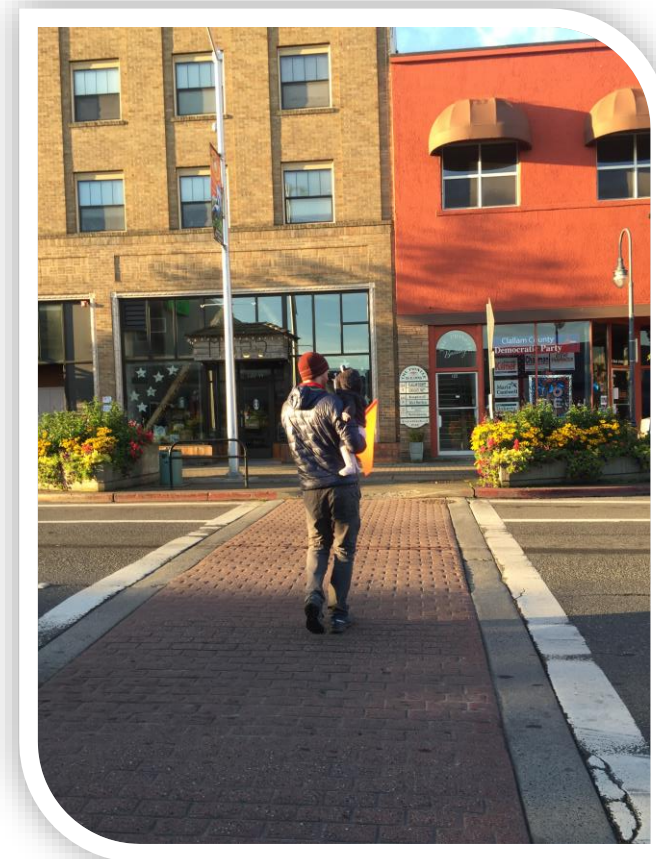


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[https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2022-06/SS4A Action Plan Components.pdf](https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2022-06/SS4A_Action_Plan_Components.pdf)

Supplemental Planning: Complete or Enhance an Action Plan

- Action plan updates
- Action plan consolidation
- Complementary safety plan development
- Road safety audits
- Follow-up data collection and safety analysis
- Focus on youth/SRTS/older adults, etc.
- Bike/ped counts
- Targeted equity assessments
- Establishing equity priority criteria
- Progress reporting
- Stakeholder engagement and collaboration
- Roadway safety planning



<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/ss4a/planning-and-demonstration-activities>



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Demonstration Projects: Test and Evaluate Strategies



- Feasibility studies
- Planters, flex posts, & other removable traffic calming improvements
- Quick builds
- MUTCD engineering studies
- bike lane treatments, high-viz crosswalk markings, signage, etc. and much more!
- Behavioral or operational activity pilot programs
- Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure
- Creative community engagement
- Safety message development and testing
- Pop-up projects
- New technology pilot programs
- Demonstration projects do not need to be removed

Steps for Applying for SS4A

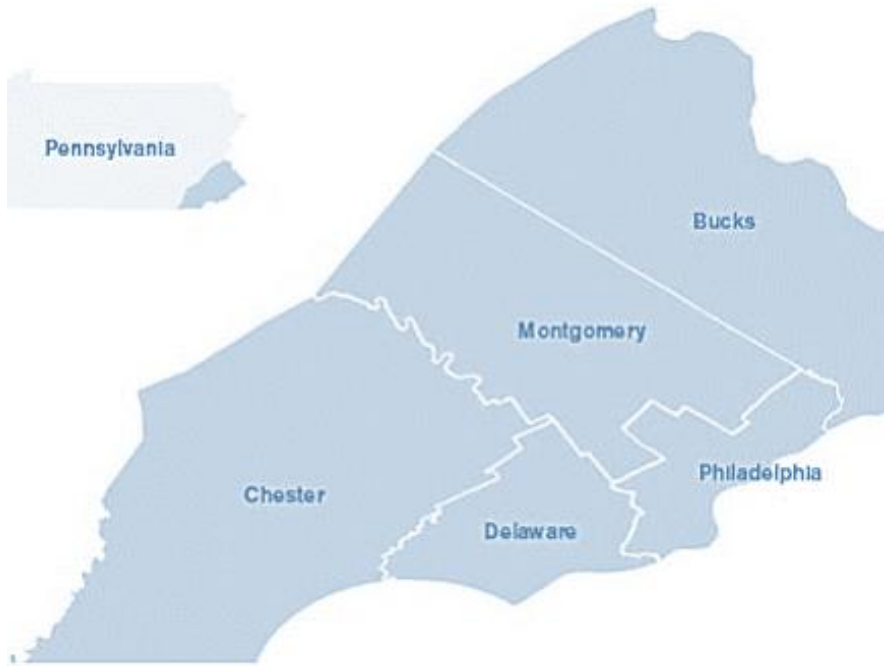
- [Determine whether your community has been awarded](#)
 - Coordinate with existing awardees
- **NOFO expected by March 30, 2025**
- Secure eligible applicant
 - Local government and political subdivisions of state, incl. transit agencies
 - Tribal governments
 - MPOs
 - Universities
 - Public health agencies (not state level)
- Apply for planning grant; use **checklist**
- Consider partners to support implementing planning/demonstration grant
 - Nonprofits
 - Community-based organizations
 - Consultants
- Funding range: \$100,000 to \$10 million for planning, supplemental, and demonstration grants
- [Subscribe for updates](#)

Apply for SS4A this
Spring 2025!



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Technical Assistance for Greater Philadelphia



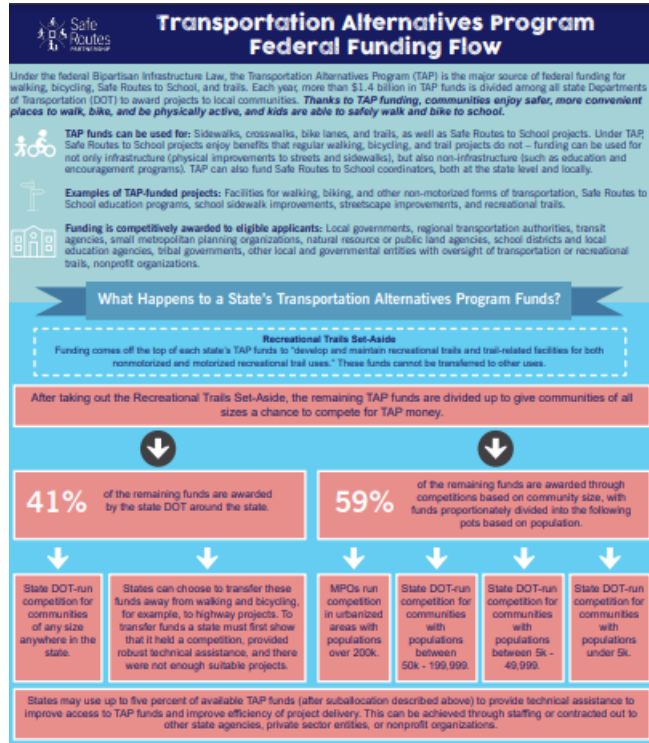
- *Free* coaching and application support for walking, biking, and Safe Routes to School!
- 8 communities in Greater Philadelphia
- 50 hours of tailored support per community
- Rolling applications until **February 14, 2025**
- [Program Details and Application](#)

Interested in 1:1 grant support?
[Schedule a call](#) with our team



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Keep Up-to-Date on Federal Funding



<https://saferoutespartnership.org/resources/fact-sheet/federal-funding-infographics>

- Safe Routes Partnership [federal policy blog](#)
- Safe Routes Partnership [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) landing page
- [State-by-state TAP fact sheets](#) with funding amounts and competition dates
- Transportation Alternatives [State Implementation Tracking](#)
- Biannual [state report cards](#) on walking, bicycling, and Safe Routes to School
- Get help from Safe Routes Partnership vanessa@saferoutespartnership.org

Thank you!

Vanessa Cascio

Policy and Program Manager

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www.saferoutespartnership.org



Safe Routes to School Listserv
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