



Welcome to the SMART Grantee Summit

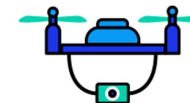
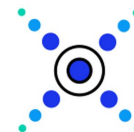
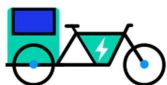
U.S. Department of Transportation Volpe Center

Cambridge, MA

July 10th and 11th, 2024



U.S. Department of Transportation



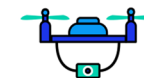
Opening Remarks



Dr. Robert Hampshire

Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Research and Technology

U.S. Department of
Transportation



Panel: Delivering Technology Projects, Lessons From The Field



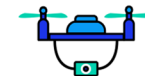
Ben Levine
Senior Advisor,
Research and
Technology



Luisa Paiewonsky
Director of
Infrastructure
Systems and
Technology, Volpe
Center



Nigel Jacob
Co-Founder,
Boston Mayor's
Office of New
Urban Mechanics





**U.S. Department
of Transportation**



USDOT Technical Assistance Resources

SMART Summit | July 10, 2024

Presentation Overview

Today we will cover...

- Introduction to Build America Bureau Programs
- USDOT Navigator Overview & Key Resources
- Overview of USDOT's Technical Assistance Resources & Programs
- Thriving Communities Program Spotlight
- Q&A

Build America Bureau's Suite of Technical Assistance Grant Programs

Innovative Finance and Asset Concessions

- 5-year program (\$100 million total)
- Help project sponsors identify underutilized assets with potential to generate economic development
- Increase capacity to utilize innovative financing and project delivery and form partnerships with private sector

Regional Infrastructure Accelerators

- \$34 million awarded to 24 recipients
- Build capacity to incubate good projects and accelerate delivery through innovative approaches
- Assistance in project planning, revenue forecasting, preliminary engineering and design, and statutory and regulatory compliance analyses
- \$10 million NOFO from FY24 appropriations coming soon

Rural and Tribal Assistance

- 5-year pilot program (\$10 million total)
- \$3.4 million awarded to 13 communities, including 7 Tribes
- Advance early project development by funding technical, legal and financial activities
- \$25 million NOFO from FY24 appropriations coming soon

Thriving Communities Program

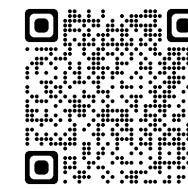
- \$25 million in FYs 2022 and in FY2023 (\$50 million total)
- Two-years of personalized technical assistance and subgranting funded by USDOT
- Support disadvantaged and lower-capacity communities across project planning and scoping, development and design, and delivery

USDOT Navigator Resources



U.S. Department
of Transportation

DOT Navigator – One Stop Shop



Search Technical Assistance Resources

At DOT, “technical assistance” includes programs, processes, and resources that provide targeted support to a community, region, organization, or other beneficiary to help them access and deploy federal funding and build local capacity to develop, design, and deliver transportation plans and projects.

View and search the table below to find existing technical assistance resources and programs funded or managed by DOT that can provide deeper levels of assistance, technical information, best practices, and training.

Keywords

▼ Advanced options

Stakeholder Type(s)

Select All

☐ Contractor

☐ Local Government

☐ Other

☐ Regional/Metro Planning Orgs (MPO)

☐ State DOT

☐ Transit Agency

☐ Tribal Government

☐ U.S. Territory

Resource Type(s)

Select All

☐ Direct Support

☐ Fact Sheet

☐ Grant

☐ Guidance Document

☐ Report

☐ Resource Center

☐ Toolkit

☐ Training

☐ Video/Webinar

Transportation Mode(s)

Select All

☐ Air (airports, aviation, drones)

☐ Bicycle

☐ Electric or Autonomous Vehicles

☐ Highway

☐ Intelligent Transportation and Data Systems

☐ Micromobility (bike share, scooters, etc.)

☐ Pedestrian


☐ Ports

☐ Railway


☐ Transit






Apply

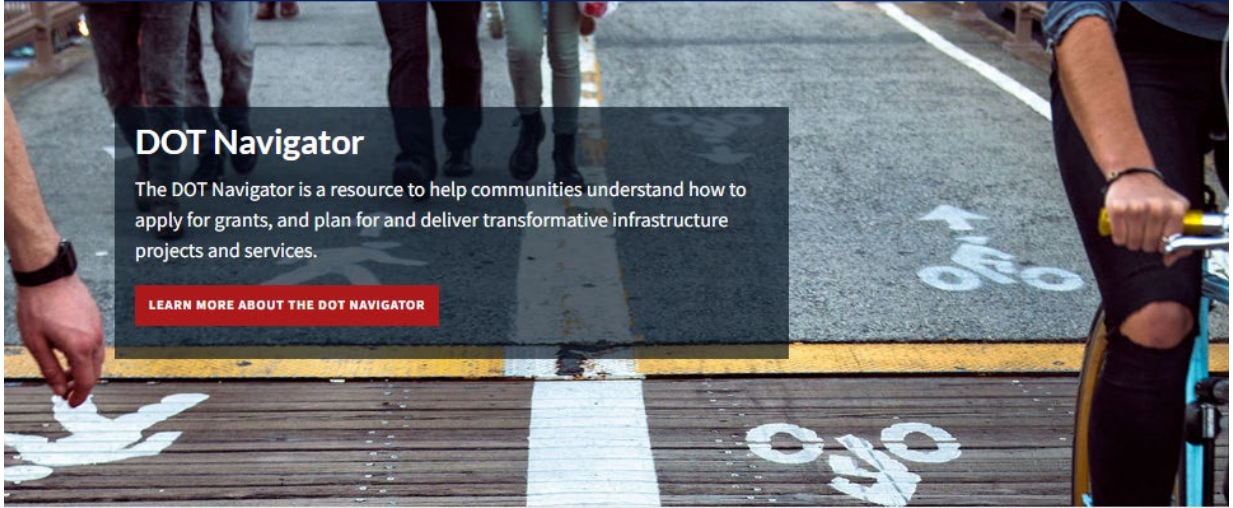
<https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator>

 U.S. Department of Transportation

ABOUT DOT ▾ PRIORITIES ▾ CONNECT ▾






DOT Navigator

The DOT Navigator is a resource to help communities understand how to apply for grants, and plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DOT NAVIGATOR](#)


Spotlight on Technical Assistance Resources

Check out the featured technical assistance resources below and view a [searchable list of technical assistance resources](#).




BIL Funding Guidance for Local and Tribal Agencies

Find BIL funding information from FHWA for local and Tribal agencies



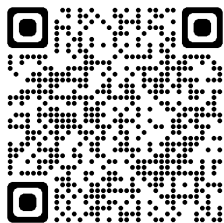
Funding Safety for All through Complete Streets Networks

Explore federal funding opportunities for your Complete Streets Network



Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Launchpad

Find information on available funding and get technical support



Discretionary Grants Dashboard

[DOT Navigator Home](#)

[Grant Application Resources](#) >

[Technical Assistance Resources](#)

[Learn About the Bipartisan
Infrastructure Law](#)

[Find Transportation Contacts
Near You](#)

[ROUTES Home](#)


Related Links

- [FHWA Tribal Funding Opportunities](#)
- [EV Funding Opportunities Strategy](#)
- [National Roadway Safety Strategy](#)
- [J40 Initiative](#)

DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard

The DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard provides communities with an overview of discretionary grant opportunities that can help meet their transportation infrastructure needs. Designed with all communities in mind, the Dashboard identifies grant programs with rural and Tribal set-asides or match waivers available. The Dashboard also includes Federal grant programs outside of DOT that may be of particular interest to rural communities. An updated Rural Grant Applicant Toolkit will soon be published to help rural communities harness the Dashboard. The Dashboard is updated weekly.

[The DOT Navigator](#) is a resource to help communities understand the best ways to apply for grants, and to plan for and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.

 [Download CSV](#)

Keywords

Eligible Activities

- Any - ▾

Eligible Applicants

- Any - ▾

Agency/Office

- Any - ▾

Transportation Type

- Any - ▾

Match Waiver

- Any - ▾

Rural Set-Aside

- Any - ▾

Tribal Set-Aside

- Any - ▾

Status

- Any - ▾

Apply

HIGHLIGHTS

- 90+ grant programs
- Covers DOT and non-DOT agencies
 - *8 DOT Agencies*
 - *10+ Non-DOT Agencies*
- Multiple search filters
 - Keyword
 - Eligible Activities
 - Eligible Entities
 - Transportation Type
 - Match Waiver
 - Status (Open/Closed)
- Customized features for rural and Tribal communities
- Save results as Excel csv file

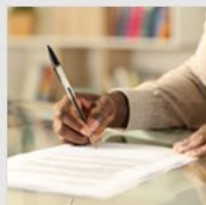




Decoding the Grant Process

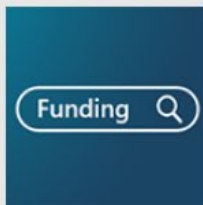
DOT Navigator: Focus on Helping to Develop Strong Discretionary Grant Applications

What Do You Want to Do?



PREPARE A SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATION

Get planning tips, checklists, and information on applying for federal grants



FIND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Search grant opportunities to meet your community's transportation needs



GET TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

Find resources to get funding and build capacity to do transportation projects



LEARN ABOUT FUNDING AND MATCH

Learn about USDOT grant funding, including match requirements and flexibilities



ACCESS DATA AND MAPPING TOOLS

Access data and mapping tools to help write a strong grant application



LEARN ABOUT THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

Get information to help access BIL funding programs

Spanish

- [Solicitud de subvenciones del USDOT](#)
- [Visión general de fondos del DOT y financiamiento](#)
- [Comprendiendo los requisitos no federales de pareo](#)
- [Herramientas federales para identificar comunidades desfavorecidas](#)
- [Financiamiento federal para transporte: Lista de cotejo de preparación de subvenciones "grants" discrecionales para posibles solicitantes durante el año fiscal 2023](#)
- [Lista de cotejo para solicitudes de subvención que alcancen una fuerza laboral de transporte sólida y un plan laboral](#)
- [Uso de Fondos del DOT para la Participación Pública](#)
- [¿Es el financiamiento federal el adecuado para mi organización?](#)

Sign Up to Get Bi-Weekly DOT Navigator Email Bulletins to Stay in the Know about new technical assistance resources, trainings and funding opportunities across a range of transportation topics!



These Resources Can Help in Writing Effective Grants

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dot-navigator/grant-application-resources>

Grant Preparation Checklist

The [Fiscal Year 2023 Discretionary Grant Preparation Checklist for Prospective Applicants](#) is intended to help local governments prepare for the year ahead and chart a strategic pathway to take advantage of historic infrastructure investments of over \$32 billion available in new fiscal year 2023 Budget Authority.

Workforce and Labor Plan Checklist

The [Grant Application Checklist for a Strong Transportation Workforce and Labor Plan](#) outlines the key components of a strong job quality and workforce plan and includes a checklist of considerations for each component.

Climate Change Application Checklist

The [Checklist for a Strong Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Resilience Grant Application](#) notes core components of a strong application for grants associated with climate change, including reducing transportation greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate resilience and adaptation.

USDOT Tip

The key to an “attractive” application is crafting an effective, compelling, and comprehensive story that demonstrates funding need, commitment, and impact.

Also explore the [Benefit-Cost Analysis Spreadsheet Template for Discretionary Grant Programs](#)

USDOT Grant Funding and Match Requirements

The following resources provide general information on U.S. Department of Transportation grant funding—including match requirements and flexibilities.

Overview of DOT Funding and Financing

What money is available? Learn about potential options—including discretionary grants, formula grants, loan financing, and public-private partnerships—in the [Overview of DOT Funding and Financing](#).



Is Federal Funding the Right Fit for My Organization?

[Is Federal Funding the Right Fit for My Organization?](#) provides an overview of general grant requirements, from applying through reporting and oversight.



Understanding Non-Federal Match Requirements

Are local funds required for projects that receive DOT funding? Find out in [Understanding Non-Federal Match Requirements](#).



Justice40 Match Flexibility

The Justice40 Initiative aims to ensure that 40 percent of the benefits of certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities. As part of the Justice40 whole-of-government initiative, some USDOT grant programs offer non-Federal match flexibility. View a list of [Justice40-covered programs with non-Federal match flexibility](#).



Use of DOT Funds for Public Involvement

Can you include public involvement activities in your grant application budget? Find out in this list of frequently asked questions about the [Use of DOT Funds for Public Involvement](#).



Use Data to Tell a Compelling Story



Disclaimer: This curated list of federal data and mapping tools is maintained on the DOT Navigator website as a secondary source and does not supersede primary materials issued by each USDOT Operating Administration. USDOT does not promote one resource over another. Accordingly, please work directly with the USDOT Operating Administration managing the BIL discretionary grant program for specific guidance.



General Dataset and Mapping Tools

[General Dataset and Mapping Tools](#) provides an interactive way to explore and analyze population characteristics of a geographic area to help identify the need for a project, including to identify populations that may be covered by Title VI and Civil Rights federal requirements.



Climate Change, Air Quality, and Sustainability Analysis Tools

[Climate Change, Air Quality, and Sustainability Analysis Tools](#) provides resources for measuring transportation greenhouse gas emissions and air quality impacts, and incorporating climate adaptation and resilience features as they relate to a proposed project.



Equity and Justice40 Analysis Tools

[Equity and Justice40 Analysis Tools](#) provides resources to identify a disadvantaged community that may face transportation burdens or be impacted by climate change, pollution, environmental hazards, and other social or economic impacts to analyze how a potential project may reduce those identified inequities. These tools can also be useful for analysis needed to address Title VI and Civil Right compliance.



Safety Analysis Tools

[Safety Analysis Tools](#) provides resources to help analyze and convey safety benefits and risks, demonstrate safety needs in a community, and communicate the overall impact of a proposed project.



Specialized Data Resources

[Specialized Data Resources](#) provides information often needed to prepare a benefit-cost analysis and examine recommended monetized values, and other resources specific to intelligent transportation systems.



Transportation Analysis Tools

[Transportation Analysis Tools](#) provides resources to better understand, plan for, and convey trends around efficiencies—including connectivity, access, and frequency—across a transportation system.



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Technical Assistance Webinars

Webinars

Join a DOT Navigator webinar or watch a recording that highlights tools and resources to help grant applicants and recipients navigate USDOT funding, requirements, and technical assistance.

[JOIN A WEBINAR](#)



Past webinars:

- Environmental Review for Electric Vehicle Charging Projects
- Benefit Cost Analysis for DOT Discretionary Grant Applications
- Utilizing DOT Data and Mapping Tools for Stronger Grant Applications
- And more!

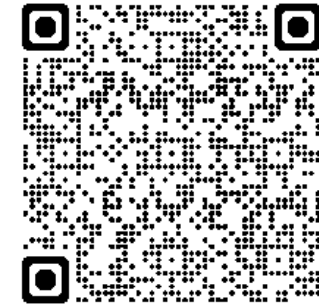
Upcoming:

- Two-part series on “Effectively Telling Your Community’s Story”
 - Part 1: July 22
 - Part 2: August 15
- Planned for Fall 2024 (dates TBD)
 - 2 CFR 200 (Uniform Act) updates



Project Readiness Checklist

1. Complete the **transportation planning process** to set your project up for success.
2. Plan for completion of **environmental review and permitting** requirements.
3. Consider your project's **civil rights compliance**, and equity considerations and outcomes.
4. Ensure you have the ability to secure the **non-federal share** according to the program's requirements identified in the NOFO.
5. Ensure your organization has sound **project management systems** and sufficient staffing.
6. Develop a clear plan for **project financing and management** of the grant.



Scan QR
code to
explore the
checklist!



We're here to help!

Can't find what you're
looking for? Need to get in
touch with someone at
USDOT?

Send us an email at
USDOTAssist@dot.gov



Additional USDOT Technical Assistance Resources and Programs



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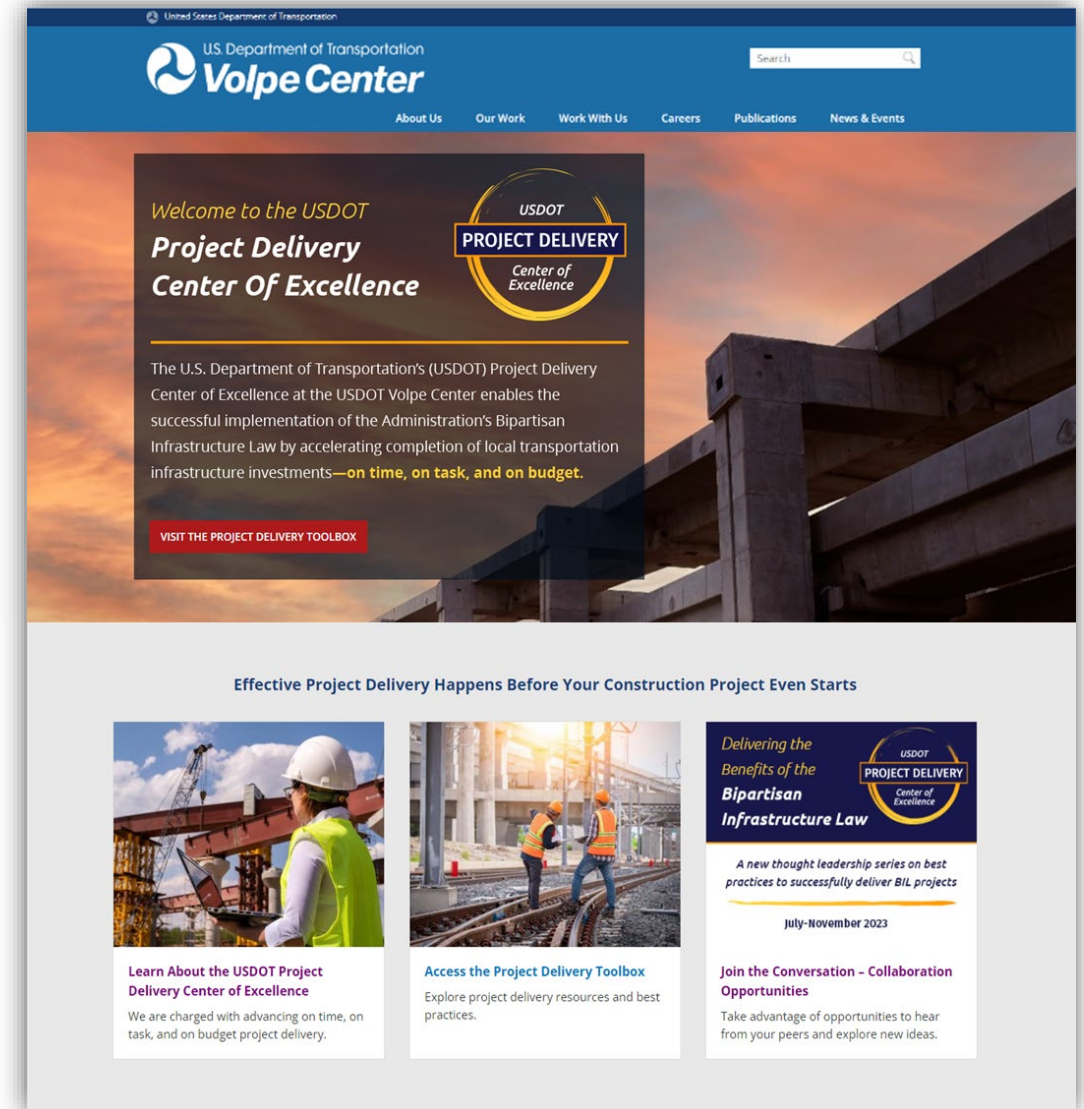
Project Delivery Center of Excellence



Effective Project Delivery
Happens Before Your
Construction Project
Even Starts

<https://www.volpe.dot.gov/project-delivery>

- ✓ Project Delivery Toolbox of resources and best practices
- ✓ Thought leadership series information
- ✓ “Helpful Links” to resources related to BIL and technical assistance
- ✓ “Stay Connected” channels for updates and feedback





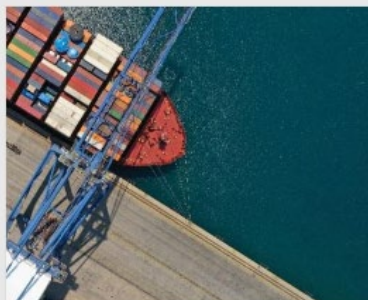
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Check out the resources in the Project Delivery Toolbox

Welcome to the Project Delivery Toolbox

USDOT
PROJECT DELIVERY
Center of
Excellence

The USDOT Project Delivery Center of Excellence's Project Delivery Toolbox is a collection of resources and best practices across USDOT to help you successfully implement your construction project —on time, on task, and on budget.



RISK MANAGEMENT

Prepare for risks to deliver your BIL-funded project on task, on time, on budget. Learn more.



CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS

Explore proven and innovative ways to administer your construction project. Learn more.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Project delivery success begins with effective, ongoing, and meaningful public engagement. Learn more.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Early consideration of your project's impact to the environment is required. Learn more.



EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

Factor equity and accessibility into planning and delivering your project. Learn more.

<https://www.volpe.dot.gov/project-delivery>



PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Delivering an effective BIL-funded project—on task, on time, on budget—requires careful project management. Learn more.



FINANCING

Access your funding and avoid obstacles to progress your project without delays. Learn more.



PRE-CONSTRUCTION CONSIDERATIONS

Your designs need to be ready to execute when your BIL funding is in. Learn more.

USDOT's ROUTES Initiative



The ROUTES Initiative is established to...

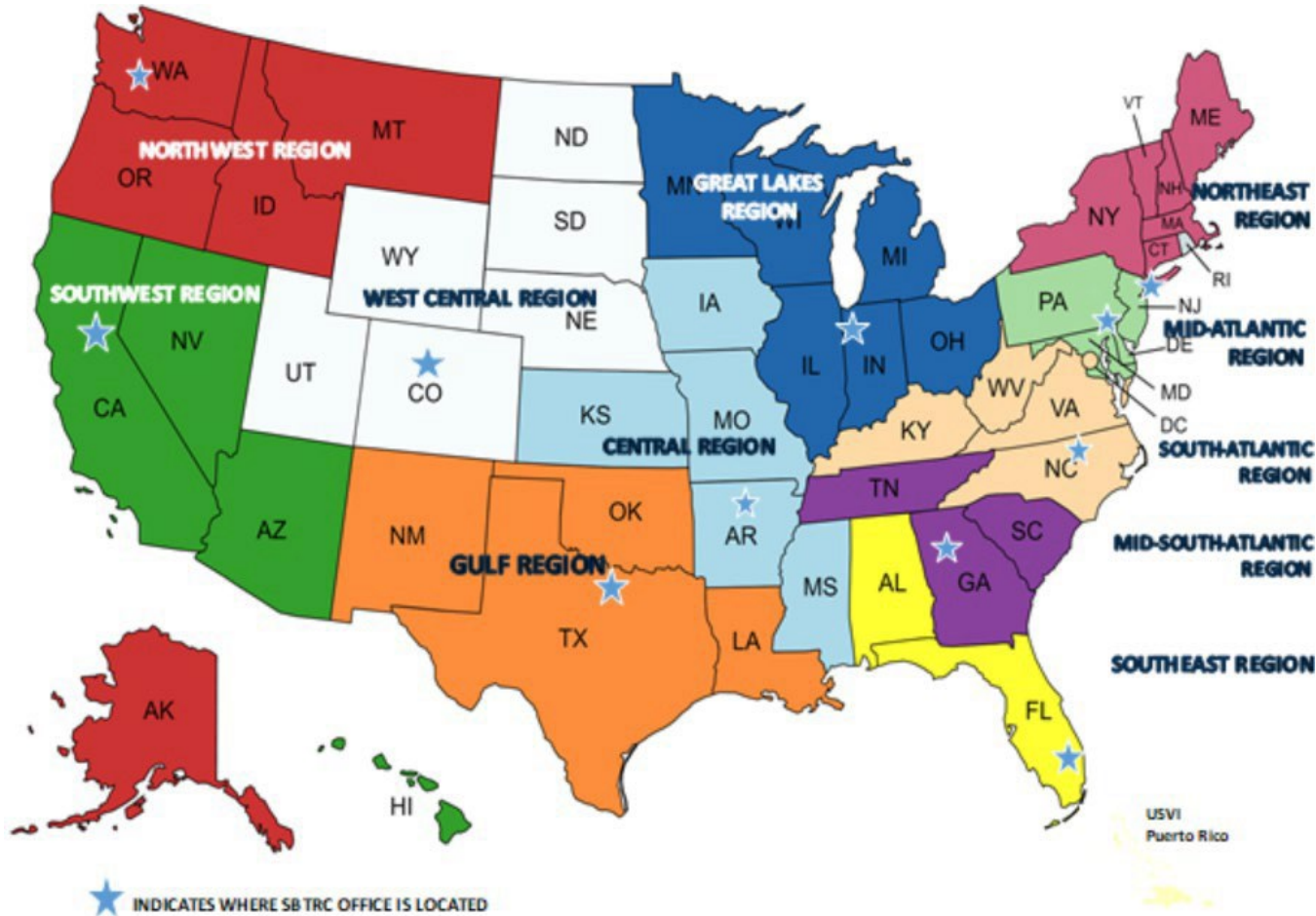
- **Engage Rural Communities** to better understand their transportation needs and work together to identify solutions.
- **Harmonize DOT Programs** to best support rural mobility using the ROUTES Council to lead Departmental activities and better align new and existing funding, financing, and technical assistance programs with the needs of rural and Tribal communities.
- **Utilize a Whole-of-Government Approach** by partnering with other federal agencies, initiatives, and regional commissions to expand the Department's presence in rural America, better promote resources, and capitalize on synergies between federal funding programs.



<https://www.transportation.gov/rural>



Small Business Transportation Resource Centers (SBTRC)



- **11 regional centers create a network** to provide services to the Continental US, US Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico
- Deliver a **comprehensive package of business training & technical assistance and disseminates info** to increase the ability of small business transportation enterprises to compete and obtain transportation related contracts
- **Provide USDOT programming:** Bonding Education Program, Access to Capital, and Women and Girls in Transportation Initiative
- Engage with **transportation-related contracts and BIL-funded projects** by fostering key relationships with prime contractors and stakeholders

<https://www.transportation.gov/osdbu/SBTRCs>

Meaningful Public Involvement

- USDOT Published Guide in 2022, and updated in 2023
- Includes a **set of promising practices** to help practitioners across *all modes* of transportation incorporate meaningful public involvement into each stage of the transportation decision-making process and project lifecycle.
- Helps USDOT funding recipients meet the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, planning regulations, and other existing requirements.
- Bi-monthly **virtual trainings being offered throughout 2024**, download the guide and sign up for trainings at <https://www.transportation.gov/public-involvement>



Thriving Communities Program Community Spotlights



U.S. Department
of Transportation

What is the Thriving Communities Program (TCP)?

- TCP acknowledges that not all communities have the resources to access federal funding opportunities to advance transportation infrastructure, and often these are the communities who need it the most
- The Thriving Communities Program:
 - funds Capacity Builders to provide technical assistance, planning, and capacity building to individual communities based on their unique needs, goals, and challenges; and
 - directs Capacity Builder support to communities to build the tools, skills, and resources they need to identify and apply for federal funding opportunities and successfully implement transformative projects
- TCP was established via the FY22 and FY23 Congressional appropriations (not via BIL)



**THRIVING
COMMUNITIES**
PROGRAM



Thriving Communities Program Technical Assistance Support Underway in 176 Communities

Communities of Practice

Complete Neighborhoods

Main Streets


Networked Communities

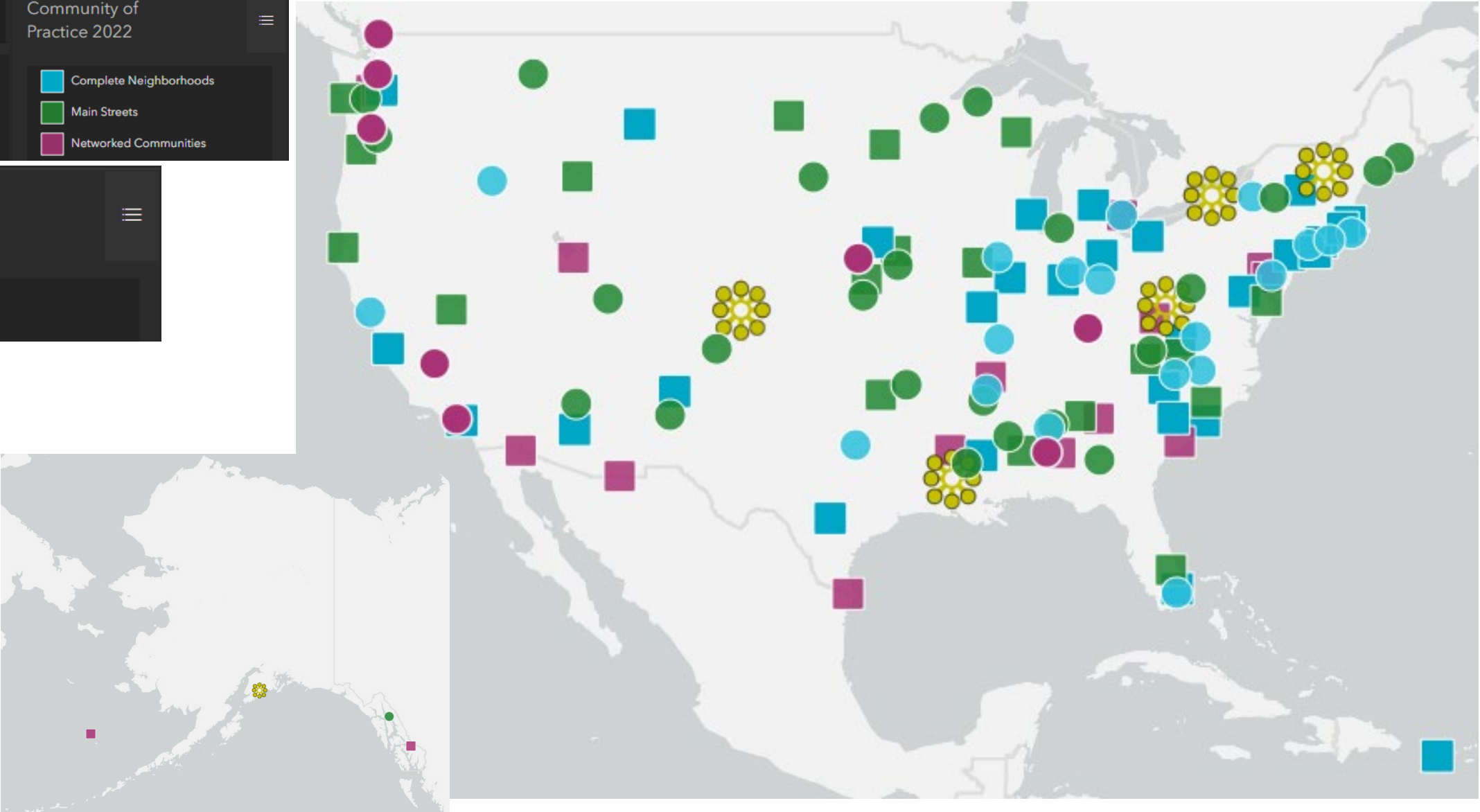
Complete Neighborhoods

Main Streets

Networked Communities

TCP Regional Capacity Builder





TCP Community Spotlight

Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe of Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation, Washington

- **Challenges:** flooding, erosion of Tribal lands, housing shortage
- **Activities under the TCP:**
 - Development of a Master Plan to align the grants and technical assistance the Tribe has received (including \$6 million from HUD and \$24 million from DOT)
 - Bringing together federal agency partners to continue interagency coordination efforts and to leverage additional support and resources



*View of the Shoalwater Bay Tokeland Community.
Photo credit: USDOT.*

TCP Community Spotlight

Detroit, MI (focus on Southwest Detroit)



Key Freight Generators Map

- Top Freight Generators
- Southwest Study Area
- City of Detroit Boundary

Southwest Detroit Study Area. Image credit: The Ray.

- **Challenges:** freight truck traffic causes negative health and safety impacts and deteriorated right-of-way infrastructure not designed for heavy vehicles.
- **Activities under the TCP:**
 - Transportation planning to improve efficiency and mitigate community impact of rail and freight movement in Southwest Detroit (visioning and development of comprehensive plan)
 - Facilitate collaboration between stakeholders to ensure a cohesive and coordinated approach to infrastructure development



TCP Community Spotlight

City of York, AL

- **Challenges:** rail crossings cause traffic delays and safety issues; high traffic volume
- **Activities under the TCP:**
 - Development of a community-driven strategy for downtown redevelopment that incorporates current projects and future initiatives to align efforts with mobility and safety improvements



Tour of York with Mayor Lake, federal partners, and Thriving Communities Program Capacity Builders. Photo credit: USDOT.



Thank you!

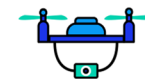
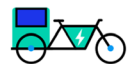


Email us: USDOTAssist@dot.gov



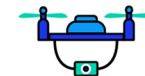
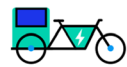
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SMART Team Introductions



Office Hours

- Grants management
- SMART Program management
- Data Management Plans and Data Sharing
- Technical Subject Matter Experts (SMEs)
- USDOT Technical Assistance (TA)



LUNCH

