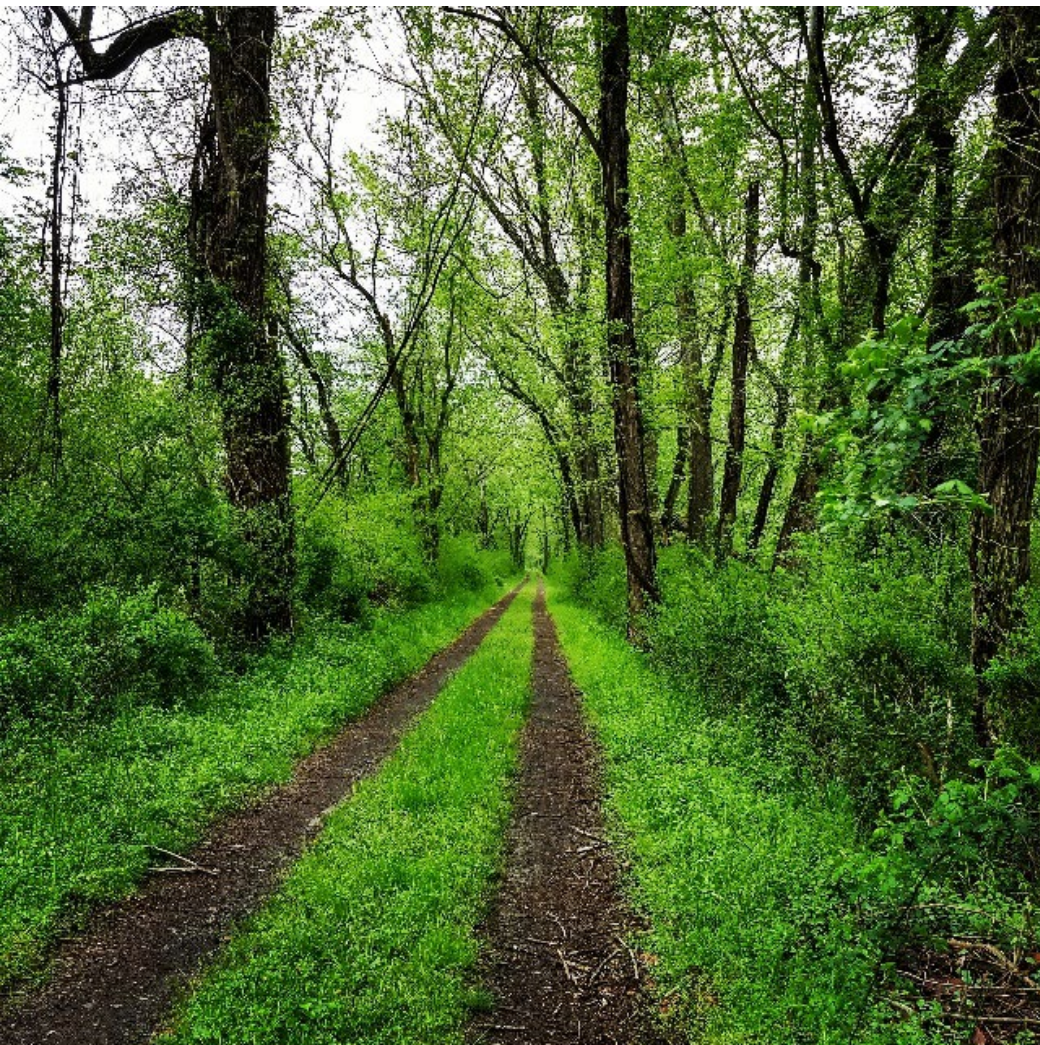


MDOT GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



SHA Grants Program Overview



Maryland State Highway Administration
Office of Planning and Preliminary Engineering
Regional and Intermodal Planning Division



Purpose of the Grants Team

- **The SHA Grants Team administers the Transportation Alternatives, Recreational Trails, Scenic Byways and Federal Lands Access Program grants, along with Federal Congressionally-Directed Spending projects.**
- Grants Team staff are liaisons and facilitate project sponsors through the federal and state regulations and milestones.



Transportation Alternatives (TA)

- This is a competitively selected reimbursable federal-aid program for active and related transportation projects.
- Transportation Alternatives funds projects that create bicycle and pedestrian facilities, restore historic transportation buildings, convert abandoned railway corridors to pedestrian trails and mitigate highway runoff.



Recreational Trails (RTP)

- This is a competitively selected reimbursable federal-aid program for recreational trail projects.
- Recreational Trails funds projects that develop and maintain land- and water-based recreational trails and trail-related facilities for motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses.
- 30% of RTP funds must be for motorized trail uses, 30% must be used for non-motorized trail uses, and 40% must be used for diverse trail uses (motorized or non-motorized or both for multiple user groups).



Federal Funding Allocation

- Transportation Alternatives funds are allocated between the major Metropolitan Planning Organizations (BRTB, MWCOG & WILMAPCO) and State-Flex funds that can be awarded to any area of the state.

- Recreational Trails funds are treated similarly to State-Flex and can be obligated to any area of the state.

	FY 2024 Appropriations
BRTB	\$4,664,856
MWCOG	\$3,764,590
WILMAPCO	\$78,417
State-Flex	\$11,618,542
Recreational Trails	\$1,112,384
Total	\$21,238,789

Funding Fundamentals

- Grant funding is 80% reimbursable with 20% required as match.
- Project sponsors may be required to provide additional match on SHA administrative and/or construction oversight costs.
- Grant funding is eligible for non-infrastructure, feasibility study, design, construction and trail maintenance projects.



Non-Infrastructure, Feasibility Study and Design Projects Requirements

Non-Infrastructure Funding

i.e. road safety audit, vulnerable road user assessments, education and/or outreach efforts

- Sponsors must submit a complete scope of work, cost estimate and study area (if applicable).

Feasibility Study Funding

- Sponsors must submit a complete scope of work, cost estimate and project map of the desired project location.

Design Funding (design complete to 100%)

- Sponsors must submit concept level drawings demonstrating alignment of project, limits of disturbance, right-of-way impacts and community outreach for the project. Planning level cost and materials estimates are also required.

Construction and Trail Maintenance Requirements

Construction Funding

- Sponsors must submit 30% preliminary design plans to be considered for construction funding.
- Include a detailed cost estimate, limits of disturbance, right-of-way impacts and community outreach for the project.

Trail Maintenance Funding

- Sponsors must submit a complete scope of work, cost estimate and project map of the desired project.
- A Trail Maintenance Plan is preferred but not required.



Transportation Alternatives

Eligible Project Categories

1. On- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities
2. Infrastructure-related projects and systems that provide safe and accessible routes for non-drivers
3. Conversion of use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails
4. Construction of turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas
5. Inventory, control and removal of outdoor advertising
6. Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities

Transportation Alternatives Eligible Project Categories

Continued

7. Archaeological activities relating to impacts from implementation of transportation projects
8. Vegetation management practices in transportation rights-of-way to improve roadway safety
9. Environment mitigation activities for transportation construction, stormwater and habitat connectivity
10. Vulnerable road user safety assessments
11. Safe Routes to School projects
12. Recreational Trails Projects



Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Eligibility

Historically, SRTS was considered a separate program and project type, however, IIJA codified SRTS resulting in it being an eligible category under Transportation Alternatives.

Additional SRTS Updates:

- Project activities must take place within approximately two miles of a school.
- Schools now include primary, middle, and/or high schools (Kindergarten thru 12th grade)

Non-infrastructure, feasibility studies, design, and construction project types are permitted for SRTS projects.



Recreational Trails Eligible Project Subcategories

1. Maintenance and restoration of existing recreational trails
2. Development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities including wayfinding and other signage
3. Lease and purchase of recreational trail construction and maintenance equipment
4. Construction of new recreational trails (with restrictions for new trails on Federal lands) including trail reroutes
5. Acquisition of easements and property for recreational trails or recreational trail corridors

Recreational Trails Eligible Project Subcategories

Continued

6. Assessment of trail conditions for accessibility and maintenance
7. Development and dissemination of publications and operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection related to the use of recreational trails
8. Installation of new trail structure(s) including boardwalks and bridges
9. Rehabilitation of trail structure(s) including boardwalks and bridges



Previous Project Examples:



Queen Anne's County - Cross County Connector Trail in Grasonville

**Anne Arundel County -
Woodland Gardens Trail Restoration,
London Town Foundation**



Somerset County - MD RT 413, Phase 1



**Worcester County -
Furnace Loop Trail,
Pocomoke State Forest,
Maryland Department of
Natural Resources**



Who Can Apply:

- Local governments
- Regional transportation authorities
- Transit agencies
- Natural resource and public land agencies
- School districts and local education agencies
- Tribal governments
- Any other local and governmental entity with oversight of transportation or recreational trails (other than a metropolitan planning organizations or a state agency).
- 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations



Grants Program Online Application Process

- Single application can be used for both TA and RTP project types.
- Application is designed to help determine the funding source a project best fits.


last revised 02/02/24 at 1:03 pm

Transportation Alternative and Recreational Use FY25 Grant Application


Administered by State Highway Administration, these competitively selected federal grant funds are for transportation alternative and recreational use projects. All project requests are for 80% reimbursable funds and include a 20% match. These projects should be transportation-related community projects that strengthen the intermodal transportation system and/or support recreational trails and amenities within the state of Maryland.

...

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Open from Apr 01, 2023 at 12:00 am EDT to May 15, 2024 at 05:00 pm EDT
Submission Window



2 - 4 hour
Completion Time

Apply or Register

Ready to apply?



Online Application
Complete the form

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Welcome to

Maryland State

Log in

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[Log in](#)

[Don't have an account? Sign up](#)
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<https://onestop.md.gov/>



Grants Program Online Application Process

- Application window is from April 1 until May 15
 - Completeness Check – If you submit your application between April 1 and April 15 the Grants Team will perform a completeness check and will coordinate with you during this window with any updates that may be required.
- Each application must include:
 - detailed project scope providing starting and ending points,
 - detailed budget,
 - project map with limit of disturbances,
 - right-of-way impacts,
 - environmental impacts, and
 - project schedule.



Grants Program Project Process



Additional Transportation Alternatives and Recreational Trails Resources

1

Transportation Alternatives Website

<https://roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/index.aspx?PageId=144>

2

Recreational Trails Website

<https://roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=98>

3

Guidance for Local Public Agencies and Sub-Recipients of Federal Funds

<https://roads.maryland.gov/mdotsha/pages/Index.aspx?PageId=855>

4

Federal Grants Resources

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

SHA Grant Program Takeaways

- Applications window is from April 1 until May 15
- Plan ahead, know your project narrative, market the story, build support and ensure you have all the project documents prepared for the grant application.





Thank You!

