



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

OFFICE OF
SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

October 14, 2008

Dear Planning Partners and District Executives:

Smart Transportation is about building partnerships and coordinating land use and transportation decisions. To advance the practice of using Smart Transportation principles in planning and developing projects, PennDOT offers the Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative (PCTI).

To support PCTI, the Department carved out \$60 million over the first two-year period of the 2009 Transportation Improvement Program. Since this program utilizes federal and state transportation funds, all projects must meet the applicable state and federal guidelines, eligibility, and regulations. Project sponsors should note that this is not a grant program.

The Department is now reaching out to you to help solicit and develop applications for projects. Each eligible project may receive up to \$5 million for construction or \$300,000 for planning activities. Projects will be selected based on the degree to which the project supports Smart Transportation principles and the ability to implement local land use actions in support of the transportation investment.

As I discussed at the Planning Partners' meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 2008, in Canonsburg, enclosed are an updated fact sheet and the Smart Transportation application.

Applicants will request funding via the enclosed application. The applicants should submit their completed applications to Mr. Nolan Ritchie via email at nritch@state.pa.us in the Center for Program Development and Management, PennDOT. I ask that each Planning Partner and District provide a point-of-contact for their organization to Mr. Ritchie by COB Friday, October 17, 2008. Mr. Ritchie will forward all relevant applications that are received from the sponsors to the designated point-of-contact. If you or the applicants have any questions, please contact Mr. Ritchie via email or by phone at (717) 787-2913.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James D. Ritzman".

James D. Ritzman, P.E.
Deputy Secretary for Planning

Enclosures

Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative Implementing Smart Transportation Projects on the Ground

Fundamentally, smart transportation is linking land use and transportation to create better communities. This linkage requires strong partnerships between the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, MPOs/RPOs, and local municipalities. To provide an incentive for projects that promote collaborative decision-making, advance integrated land use and transportation decisions, and to incentivize regional and multi-municipal cooperation throughout the Commonwealth, PennDOT has developed the Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative (PCTI).

Program Funding

\$60 Million of federal/state transportation funds will be made available for these incentivized projects //over the first two years of the 2009 Transportation Improvement Program. Projects may receive up to \$5 million for these projects. (No more than \$300,000 for planning activities).

NOTE: This is not a grant program. State and federal guidelines, eligibility, and regulations apply.

Applicants will request funds through PennDOT's Center for Program Development and Management. The application should be sent to nritchie@state.pa.us. Applications will be forwarded to the appropriate PennDOT District Office as well as the associated MPO/RPO upon receipt. The Department may contact applicants for further information prior to making a decision on project funding. Initial applications will be accepted no later than December 15, 2008.

Projects will be selected based on the degree to which the project supports Smart Transportation principles and the ability to implement local land use actions in support of the transportation investment. The Department will attempt to award a mix of projects that demonstrates a range of smart transportation principles.

Potential Project Activities

- Projects which support local economic or community development projects and that encourage walkable, multimodal, mixed use developments or corridors, or incorporate brownfield or greyfield redevelopment opportunities.
- Enhancing and utilizing the existing transportation network infrastructure capacity to reduce the demand on the region's transportation network,
- Improving regional connectivity (For example, more integrated use of arterials and secondary roads to relieve congestion on state highways, multimodal circulation improvements, sidewalks, paths),
- Roadside improvements (i.e., transit and bicycle amenities, streetscape improvements, parking), and
- Improvements to support transit oriented, brownfield and greyfield developments

Additional information regarding Smart Transportation can be found at www.smart-transportation.com



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative
Smart Transportation Project Application**

www.smart-transportation.com

Sponsor: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

County(s): _____

Name of Project: _____

Location: _____

Description: _____

Total Project Cost: \$_____

Amount Requested: \$_____

If amounts differ, briefly explain why: _____

The amount being requested is for: **Planning Activities** or **Construction**

If the funds will be used for **Planning Activities**, please indicate by what date you will start: _____

If the funds will be used for **Construction**, please indicate when the project will be let: _____

Which principle(s) of Smart Transportation does the project incorporate? (Check all that apply).

- Emphasizes cost effective solutions that are scaled to the size of the problem.
- Emphasizes context sensitive design elements.
- Project has a high value/price ratio.
- Enhances local network.
- Level of Service optimizes the function of the roadway with the surrounding land use.
- Emphasizes safety.
- Emphasizes intermodal connections.
- Leverages/preserves existing investments.
- Improves quality of living by promoting town centers and decentralizing sprawl.
- Develops partnerships with local governments that promote strong land use plans.

Describe how the project supports the identified Smart Transportation Principles, engages project stakeholders, and will implement local land use actions (two page maximum).

Please submit completed applications to: nritchie@state.pa.us

If you have questions please contact Nolan Ritchie at: 717.787.2913 or nritchie@state.pa.us