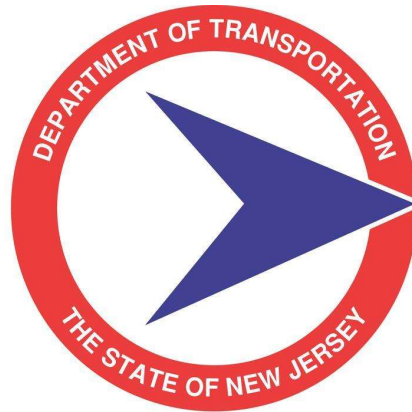


# **New Jersey Department of Transportation**

## **Division of Local Aid and Economic Development**

### **Program Description and Procedures for Bikeway Grant Program**



## Overview

The New Jersey Department of Transportation's Bikeway Grant Program provides funds to counties and municipalities to promote bicycling as an alternate mode of transportation in New Jersey. A primary objective of the Bikeway Grant Program is to support the State's goal of constructing *1,000 new miles* of dedicated bike paths. These bike paths/lanes are facilities that must be physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier either within the highway right of way or within an independent right of way. The paramount goal of this program is to fund new construction-ready bike lane/bike path projects that will provide connectivity for uses not limited to recreation. Special consideration will be given if the project is part of a bicycle network that has been adopted in the applicant's Master Plan.

In an effort to establish regionally connected bicycle networks, this program is available to every municipality and county throughout New Jersey. Although priority will be given to construction of new bike paths, the proposed construction or delineation of any new bicycle facility will be considered.

## Eligibility

Counties and municipalities are eligible for the Bikeway grant program. Bike projects must create new bike path mileage. Bike projects must place no restrictions upon hours of use by bicyclists (with the exception of dusk-to-dawn closings, as of some parks). Projects considered for funding under other State Aid and Federal Aid programs may not be considered for funding under the Bikeways program due to the limited amount of funding available for Bikeway program.

## Allowable Costs

The following project related activities are eligible for funding:

- Construction including construction inspection and material testing according to the Transportation Trust Fund Authority Act
- Preliminary and final design for municipalities eligible for Urban Aid or Depressed Rural Centers according to the Transportation Trust Fund Authority Act.

Per N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.1, a grant recipient under the local aid program shall be permitted to expend up to five percent of its aid allotment for design purposes.

## Typical Eligible Project

- **Requirement:** New bikeway mileage
- **Requirement:** Separation of bikeway from motor vehicle traffic through a barrier or an open space

- Typical forms of separation include removable or permanent bollards, raised curbs or medians, or planters.
- **Requirement:** A cross section showing the bike path and its separation from motor vehicle traffic
- Bikeway connecting to an existing local or regional bicycle system
- Bikeway improving access to public facilities.

### **Ineligible Projects & Activities**

- Right-of-way purchases associated with any project
- Operating costs associated with any project
- Planning activity costs
- The work of any local government entity's employees on any construction projects funded, in whole or in part, out of funds from the local aid program, per N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.1

### **Application Guidelines**

Application must be made through the SAGE system (System for Administering Grants Electronically). Training and instructions on how to apply are available on the NJDOT Local Aid and Economic Development web site under Doing Business or through the following link: <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/sage.shtm>

The major components of the application are the Scope of Work and the Data Sheet. The Scope of Work must include a narrative explaining how the project will meet each of the individual selection criteria described below. Applicants must include maps and are encouraged to enclose photographs in order to depict what will be achieved. Answers to questions asked in the on-line SAGE application, and supporting documentation supplied by the applicant shall form part of the basis upon which the applications are scored. Applicants should answer all questions to the best of their ability; if a question is not answered or required supporting documentation is not supplied applicant will not receive points.

A completed Resolution Agreement for each application shall be submitted through the Project Management Reporting System (PMRS): <https://www.njdotlocalaidrc.com/pmrs/>  
Users will be able to communicate with Local Aid staff through PMRS.

### **Project Selection Criteria**

Proposed bikeway projects are evaluated for selection based upon the following criteria:

- **Requirement:** Safety – Separation from motor vehicle traffic through a barrier or an open space

e.g. One way Separated Bicycle Lane 5' **minimum lane width** with 1.5' minimum separation

**OR**

Two way Separated Bicycle Lane 10' **minimum lane width** with 1.5' minimum separation

**OR**

Shared-use Bicycle Path 10' **minimum lane width**, located outside of the cartway, with 1.5' minimum separation

(Consult the [AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities-2012 Edition](#) and [NJDOT Complete Streets Design Guide](#) for any exceptions to the minimum lane width.)

- **Requirement:** New Miles – Creation of new bikeway/lane mileage
- **Requirement:** A cross section showing the bike path and its separation from motor vehicle traffic
- Connectivity - the facility connects to an existing local or regional bicycle system
- Service to Public - improved access to any facilities to public listed in the application.
- Adopted Complete Streets Resolution and evidence of an Implementation Plan
- Part of a bicycle network that has been adopted in the municipal master plan.
- Projects addressing equity criteria such as low-income earners and ethnic minorities will receive additional consideration. Projects addressing equity criteria such as those with less than a high school education, linguistic isolated individuals, individuals over the age of 64, individuals under the age of 18, and individuals with disabilities may receive additional consideration.
- Projects utilizing FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasures <https://highways.dot.gov/safety/proven-safety-countermeasures>

## Project Selection Process

All applications are reviewed and rated by members of the Bikeway Project Selection Committee, comprised of staff from the New Jersey Department of Transportation's Local Aid Regional Offices with input from the Pedestrian and Bicycle Unit. Upon evaluation of all applications, a list of recommended projects is forwarded to the commissioner of Transportation for consideration and approval. Once approved by the commissioner, all municipalities and counties are notified in writing of the disposition of their application. Project sponsors are expected to award the contract within 24 months from the date of grant notification.

## Design Guidelines

Project design must be based upon appropriate design standards. Applicants must use the "[AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities-2012 Edition](#)" and "[NJDOT Bicycle Compatible Roadways and Bikeways Planning and Design Guidelines](#)". The

Department of Transportation requires the use of New Jersey-licensed professionals in the planning and design of the projects. Qualified historic architects or archaeologists should assess projects involving historic resources.

All municipalities and counties that accept federal or state funded grants from the NJDOT are required to comply with the provisions of title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) and with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to the fullest extent possible. ADA guidance can be found on the NJDOT website at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/documents/ADA-FHWA.pdf>

### **Program Administration**

The Bikeway Grant Program will be governed by the rules and provisions contained in N.J.A.C. 16:20B. The rules establish guidelines and procedures to be followed by counties and municipalities when administering contracts. In addition, the rules provide the requirements for preparing plans and specifications, contracts administration, contract completion and payment, state participation in cost as well as audit requirements. Detailed information on these requirements can be found in the State Aid Handbook.

The State Aid Handbook is available on the New Jersey Department of Transportation Division of Local Aid and Economic Development web site and can be accessed through the following link:

<https://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/stateaid.shtm>

### **Contact Persons:**

For questions concerning all aspects of the program, please contact the appropriate District Manager listed below:

#### **District 1**

200 Stierli Court  
Mount Arlington, NJ 07856  
Phone: (973) 810-9120  
Fax: (973) 601-0049  
Morris, Passaic, Sussex and Warren  
Sussex and Warren

#### **District 2**

153 Halsey Street - 5th floor  
Newark, NJ 07102  
Phone: (862) 350-5730  
Fax: (973) 648-4547  
Bergen, Essex, Hudson, and  
Union

#### **District 3**

1035 Parkway Avenue  
P.O. Box 600  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
Phone: (609) 963-2020  
Fax (609) 530-8044  
Hunterdon, Middlesex, Mercer,  
Monmouth, Ocean and Somerset

#### **District 4**

1 Executive Campus  
Route 70 West, 3rd Floor  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002  
Phone: (856) 414-8414  
Fax (856) 486-6771  
Atlantic, Burlington,  
Camden, Cape May,  
Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem