

Transportation Alternatives (TA)

Eligible Local Match Options

What is Transportation Alternatives?

Transportation Alternatives was established under the new federal transportation bill referred to as the FAST (Fixing America's Surface Transportation) Act. TA is for community based projects that expand travel choices and enhance the transportation experience by integrating modes and improving the cultural, historic, and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure. TA provides for the implementation of a variety of projects, with examples of projects that include pedestrian and bicycle facilities for non-drivers, scenic turnout and overlooks, mitigation of water pollution from highway runoff, and improvements to historic transportation facilities.

Eligible applicants include counties, cities over 5,000 people, state agencies, Native American Tribes, and Regional Development Commissions. If an entity such as a township, school, or non-profit organization would like to submit a proposal, that entity must have an eligible applicant sponsor the proposal. For all projects, including Safe Routes to School projects, funded with TA funds, the federal share is the same as for the general federal-aid highway program – 80% Federal/20% State or Local match funds.

Local Match Options

Below is a list of match funding options for your agency/organization to consider when seeking a 20% match to awarded TA funds:

MnDNR Locals Trail Grant Program

- Description:
 - Provides grants to local units of government to promote relatively short trail connections between where people live and desirable locations, not to develop significant new trails. Funding for this grant program is from "In Lieu Of" lottery proceeds. This program is established in Minnesota Statutes 85.019.
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Cities, Counties and Townships
- Match Required:
 - Grants are reimbursed based up to 75% of the total eligible project costs, and recipients must provide a non-state cash match of at least 25%.
- Website:
 - http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/trails_local.html
- Contact: Dan Golner, Recreation Program Coordinator
 - Phone: 651-259-5599
 - Email: Daniel.Golner@state.mn.us



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MnDNR Regional Trail Grant Program

- Description:
 - Provides grants to local units of government to promote development of regionally significant trails outside the seven-county metropolitan area. Funding for this grant program is from “In Lieu Of” lottery proceeds. This program is established in Minnesota Statutes 85.019
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Cities, Counties and Townships
- Match Required:
 - Grants are reimbursed based up to 75% of the total eligible project costs, and recipients must provide a non-state match of at least 25%.
- Website:
 - http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/trails_regional.html
- Contact: Dan Golner, Recreation Program Coordinator
 - Phone: 651-259-5599
 - Email: Daniel.Golner@state.mn.us

MnDNR Lake Superior Coastal Program

- Description:
 - Efforts to preserve or restore resources designated in Minnesota’s Coastal Program because of their historic, recreational, ecological or aesthetic values, including ecological restoration, redevelopment of deteriorating underutilized urban waterfronts, enhancing public access to beaches and other coastal areas, land and easement purchases, low cost construction of paths, fences, parks, rehabilitation of historic buildings and structures, coastal community planning, engineering plans, education and interpretation. Projects must be located within the Lake Superior Coastal Program Boundary
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Cities, Counties, Townships, Joint Powers Boards, sanitary sewer districts, area-wide and regional agencies with the program’s coastal boundary
- Match Required:
 - 50% match required for projects on a reimbursement basis
- Website:
 - http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/water/lake_superior.html
- Contact: Amber Westerbur, Program Manager
 - Phone: 218-843-1445
 - Email: amber.westerbur@state.mn.us



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Eligible Local Match Options

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB) Culture and Tourism Grant

- Description:
 - Assists non-profits by supporting projects such as strong arts, culture heritage, and recreational activities are essential to the quality of life and economy of the IRRRB service area.
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Non-profits with projects located within the IRRRB service area. Multi-organization collaboration is welcome.
- Match Required:
 - 1:1 match per project (IRRRB reimburses 50% of invoices submitted). In-kind (materials and labor donated by a business or contractor) may constitute up to 50% of the local match.
- Website:
 - <https://mn.gov/irrrb/grant-resources/other-opportunities.jsp>
- Contact: Lee Bloomquist, IRRRB:
 - Phone: 218-274-7003
 - Email: Lee.Bloomquist @state.mn.us



Indian Reservation Roads Program (IRR)

- Description:
 - The IRR program addresses transportation needs of tribes by providing funds for planning, designing, construction, and maintenance activities for all public roads.
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Tribal Governments
- Match Required:
 - No match required
- Website:
 - <http://www.indianaffairs.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/OIS/Transportation/IRR/index.htm>
- Contact: Scott Sufficool, IRR Deputy Regional Director – Indian Services
 - Phone: 612-713-4400



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Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission – Parks & Trails Legacy Grant Program

- Description:
 - Projects are first prioritized based on criteria that will rank the park or trail's regional significance. Parks and trails with higher regional draw are then welcome to apply for specific projects related to facility development or restoration.
- Eligible Applicants:
 - Cities, Counties, and Townships
- Match Required:
 - No match needed but can increase likelihood of being funded.
- Website:
 - <http://www.gmrptcommission.org/>
- Contact: Renee Mattson, Executive Director
 - Phone: 218-310-2627
 - Email: Renee.Mattson@gmrptcommission.org



Local Funding Sources:

- Description:
 - These funding sources can include City, County, and Township Capital Improvement Programs, fund raising organizations, trail/ park dedication ordinances, Joint-Powers Boards, general obligation bonding, etc.

Private Funding Sources

- Description:
 - These funding sources can include charitable foundations and company grants, small business contributions, fund raising events, Chambers of Commerce, adjacent property owner donations, etc.

| Transportation Alternatives (TA) Eligible Local Match Funding Sources | | | | | | |
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| Funding Source/Program | Description | Who can Apply? | Match Required | Website | Contact | Notes |
| MnDNR Local Trail Grant Program | Provides grants to local units of government to promote relatively short trail connections between where people live and desirable locations, not to develop significant new trails. Funding for this grant program is from "In Lieu Of" lottery proceeds. This program is established in Minnesota Statutes 85.019. | Cities, Counties and Townships | Grants are reimbursed based up to 75% of the total eligible project costs, and recipients must provide a non-state cash match of at least 25% | http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/trails_local.html | Dan Golner, Recreation Program Coordinator: * Phone: 651-259-5599 * Email: Daniel.Golner@state.mn.us | |
| MnDNR Regional Trail Grant Program | Provides grants to local units of government to promote development of regionally significant trails outside the seven-county metropolitan area. Funding for this grant program is from "In Lieu Of" lottery proceeds. This program is established in Minnesota Statutes 85.019. | Cities, Counties and Townships | Grants are reimbursed based up to 75% of the total eligible project costs, and recipients must provide a non-state cash match of at least 25% | http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/recreation/trails_regional.html | Dan Golner, Recreation Program Coordinator: * Phone: 651-259-5599 * Email: Daniel.Golner@state.mn.us | |
| Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Board (IRRRB) Culture and Tourism Grant | Assists non-profits by supporting projects such as strong arts, culture, heritage, and recreational activities are essential to the quality of life and economy of the IRRRB service area | Non-Profits with projects located within the IRRRB service area. Multi-organization collaboration is welcome. | 1:1 match per project (IRRRB reimburses 50% of invoices submitted). In-kind (materials and labor donated by a business or contractor) may constitute up to 50% of the local match | https://mn.gov/irrrb/grant-resources/other-opportunities.jsp | Lee Bloomquist, IRRRB: * Phone: 218-274-7003 * Email: Lee.Bloomquist@state.mn.us | |
| Indian Reservation Roads Program (IRR) | IRR program addresses transportation needs of tribes by providing funds for planning, designing, construction, and maintenance activities for all public roads. | Tribal Governments | No match needed | http://www.indianaffairs.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/OIS/Transportation/IRR/ind ex.htm | Scott Sufficool, IRR Deputy Regional Director - Indian Services * Phone: 612-713-4400 | |
| Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission - Parks and Trails Legacy Grant Program | Projects are first prioritized based on criteria that will rank the park or trail's regional significance. Parks and trails with higher regional draw are then welcome to apply for specific projects related to facility development or restoration. | Cities, Counties and Townships | No match needed but can increase likelihood of being funded. | http://www.gmrptcommission.org/ | Renee Mattson, Executive Director * Phone: 218-310-2627 * Email: Renee.Mattson@gmrptcommission.org | |
| Local Funding Sources | These funding sources can include City, County, and Township Capital Improvement Programs, fund raising organizations, trail/park dedication ordinances, Joint-Powers Boards, general obligation bonding, etc. | | | | | |
| Private Funding Sources | These funding sources can include charitable foundations and company grants, small business contributions, fund raising events, Chambers of Commerce, adjacent property owner donations, etc. | | | | | |
| MnDNR - Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program | Efforts to preserve or restore resources designated in Minnesota's Coastal Program because of their historic, recreational, ecological or aesthetic values, including ecological restoration, redevelopment of deteriorating underutilized urban waterfronts, enhancing public access to beaches and other coastal areas, land and easement purchases, low cost construction of paths, fences, parks, rehabilitation of historic buildings and structures, coastal community planning, engineering plans, education and interpretation. Projects must be located within the Lake Superior Coastal Program Boundary. | Cities, Counties, Townships, Joint Powers Boards, sanitary sewer districts, non-profit organizations, school districts, area-wide and regional agencies within the program's coastal boundary | 50% match required for projects on a reimbursement basis | http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/water/lake_superior.html | Amber Westerbur, Program Manager * Phone: 218-834-1445 * Email: amber.westerbur@state.mn.us | |
| Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act funding | Provides funding to over 775 rural counties and 4,400 schools located near national forests across the United States. The Act also helps pay for restoration and stewardship projects on public land and forests located on National Forest System lands in Cook, Lake, or St. Louis Counties. | | | http://www.fs.usda.gov/pts/ | Lisa Radosovich-Craig - Superior Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) Coordinator: * Phone: * Email: lradosovichcraig@fs.fed.us | May not be reauthorized for FY 2017 & FY 2018 |