New Jersey Bicycle Summit
February 26, 2011

NJDOT Local Aid Funding Programs
A new mind set towards maximizing diminishing funds..
2011: What was available and what did NJDOT fund?

- Municipal Aid: $78.75 million – TTF
  ✓ 370 (667) projects funded
  ✓ 26 (96) funded projects for something OTHER than roadway resurfacing.

- Local Aid for Bicycles: $2.9 million -TTF
  ✓ 12 (95) projects funded

- Safe Streets to Transit: $1.0 million -TTF
  ✓ 6 (75) projects funded
FUNDING TYPES

- **STATE**
  - Municipal Aid
  - Local Aid for Bicycles
  - Safe Streets to Transit
  - Local Aid Infrastructure Fund

- **FEDERAL**
  - Transportation Enhancements
  - Safe Routes to School
  - National Recreational Trails
  - CMAQ
  - HSIP
  - Section 402
Municipal Aid Program

- NJDOT encourages 10% of funds for bike/ped projects.

- Towns often choose resurfacing projects over bike/ped projects.
Local Aid for Bicycles

• NJ has long been a leader in providing state funds to bicycle projects.

• Funding levels are struggling to stay afloat.

• Off-road bike paths get priority - 1,000 mile goal...

• Past Performance is critical.
Safe Streets To Transit

• This program is part of the Governor’s Pedestrian Safety Initiative.

• Focuses on improving pedestrian safety around all type of transit facilities; bus stops, train stations, light rail, etc.

• Since 2007, 25 projects were funded at $4.07 M
Local Aid Infrastructure Fund

- Local Aid Infrastructure Fund is established to address emergencies and regional needs throughout the State.

- Any county or municipality may apply at any time.

- Under this program a county or municipality may also apply for funding for pedestrian safety and bikeway projects.

- These projects are approved at the discretion of the Commissioner.
Transportation Enhancements

- This is funded through a 10 percent set aside of the Surface Transportation Program category of federal funds for projects which are transportation related.

- Funds are available for design, right of way acquisition and construction.

- TE funds are to be used only for projects with a direct transportation relationship that enhance quality of life while reaching the greatest number of people.

- Solicitation expected for 2011.
Safe Routes to School

• The program targets projects within a 2-mile radius of a K-8 school.

• Funds are available for a variety of infrastructure projects and can fund planning, design and construction.

• New pilot program proposal for the Non-Infrastructure monies.

• 104 grants were awarded since FY 05, reaching 192 K-8 Schools and 83 municipalities. (Total $14.5 million SAFETEA-LU dollars)
National Recreational Trails Program

- Provides financial assistance to states for developing and maintaining trail facilities.
- Funding represents a portion of the motor fuel excise tax collected from non-highway recreational.
- Since 1993, New Jersey has awarded more than $9 million to federal, state, county and local governments, and non-profit agencies.
- Projects are funded on an 80% federal share and 20% matching share basis
- $25,000 max grant

http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/natural/njtrails.html
TIPS

- Ensure that you have strong community support
- Develop performance metrics for your project
- Safety is a top priority for most funding program
- Ensure that your application is complete
- *Past Performance is critical*
- Ensure that all documentation is clear and concise
- Photo’s showing the project need is a big plus
CMAQ

Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program

- Support surface transportation projects that contribute to air quality improvements and provide congestion relief.

Eligible projects are:

- Constructing bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- Non-construction outreach related to safe bicycle use.
- Establishing and funding State bicycle/pedestrian coordinator positions.
- For promoting and facilitating non-motorized transportation modes through public education, safety programs, etc.
HSIP
Highway Safety Improvement Program

• HSIP emphasizes a data-driven, strategic approach to improving highway safety that focuses on results.

• States must have a Strategic Highway Safety Plan. (SHSP)

• Funds may be used for projects on any public road or publicly owned bicycle and pedestrian pathway or trail.

• Up to 10 percent of HSIP funds can be used for other safety projects including; education, enforcement and emergency medical services.
SECTION 402

• Highway Safety Funds are used to support State and community programs to reduce deaths and injuries on the highways.

• A state may use these grant funds only for highway safety purposes; at least 40 percent of these funds are to be used to address local traffic safety problems.

• This is a competitive grant program for local police departments.
Spending Federal Funds-
What you need to know!

- NEPA Document requirement – feds will not pay for this.
- Significant costs to the sponsor for PS&E documents.
- Have the staff to work through the federal process.
  - Paperwork, stay on top of timelines, get approvals.
- Remember this is a reimbursable program.
- Work closely with the District Local Aid office.
- Do not go over budget.
- Protocols, processes, reporting and documentation is different than what towns are used to.
Bicycle & Pedestrian Planning Assistance

• Title of the program is self explanatory.
• NOT a grant program. No money exchanges hands.
• Available to towns and counties.
• Types of projects include; Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plans, Traffic Calming Studies, Sidewalk deficiency studies, Rail – Trail studies.
• Significant public involvement effort.
• Recipient MUST make a good faith effort to implement the recommendations in the plan.
• Application process is through the Bike Ped Office.
THANK YOU!!

Sheree J. Davis
State Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator
sheree.davis@dot.state.nj.us
609-530-6551