

FY 2027
Pennsylvania Program Guidelines



Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
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The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) is the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Greater Philadelphia region, established by an Interstate Compact between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey. Members include Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties, plus the City of Chester, in Pennsylvania; and Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Mercer counties, plus the cities of Camden and Trenton, in New Jersey.

DVRPC serves strictly as an advisory agency. Any planning or design concepts as prepared by DVRPC are conceptual and may require engineering design and feasibility analysis. Actual authority for carrying out any planning proposals rest solely with the governing bodies of the states, local governments or authorities that have the primary responsibility to own, manage or maintain any transportation facility.

DVRPC is funded through a variety of funding sources including federal grants from the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Pennsylvania and New Jersey departments of transportation, as well as by DVRPC's state and local member governments. The authors, however, are solely responsible for the findings and conclusions herein, which may not represent the official views or policies of the funding agencies.

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DVRPC's website, www.dvrpc.org, may be translated into multiple languages. Publications and other public documents can be made available in alternative languages and formats, if requested. DVRPC's public meetings are always held in ADA-accessible facilities, and held in transit-accessible locations whenever possible. DVRPC will work to accommodate all reasonable requests for translation, interpretation, accommodations or other auxiliary services and encourages that requests be made at least seven days prior to a public meeting. Requests can be made by contacting the Commission's ADA and Title VI Compliance Officer Shoshana Akins via email at public_affairs@dvrpc.org, calling 215-592-1800, or while registering for an upcoming meeting.

Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice by DVRPC under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint. Any such complaint must be in writing and filed with DVRPC's ADA and Title VI Compliance Officer Shoshana Akins and/or the appropriate state or federal agency within 180 days of the alleged discriminatory occurrence. Complaints that a program, service, or activity of DVRPC is not accessible to persons with disabilities should be directed to Shoshana Akins as well. For more information on DVRPC's Title VI program or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, please visit: www.dvrpc.org/GetInvolved/TitleVI, call 215-592-1800, or email public_affairs@dvrpc.org.

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What is the Transportation & Community Development Initiative?

Thank you for your interest in DVRPC's Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI). As the designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the nine-county, Greater Philadelphia region, DVRPC has the responsibility to determine the allocation of federal funds for transportation improvements in the region. These include roadway improvements, transit facilities, bicycle or pedestrian services, goods movement and freight projects, among others.

TCDI is a noncompetitive funding opportunity for local planning initiatives that have a transportation nexus, and that also advance the goals of the region's long-range plan, [Update: Connections 2050](#). To that end, TCDI focuses on linking land use, transportation, and economic development planning that:

- Enhances the transportation network;
- Fosters greater regional resilience;
- Improves overall quality of life;
- Promotes and encourages the use of transit, bike, and pedestrian transportation modes; and
- Protects the environment.

Programmatic Parameters

Please be aware that the program has been revised for the FY 2027 Pennsylvania (FY27 PA) round of TCDI. Make sure the following programmatic parameters are understood and addressed, as appropriate, before submitting a project idea for consideration.

Highlights

1. **Applicant Eligibility:** Municipal and county governments, and transit agencies located in DVRPC's five-county Pennsylvania region.
2. **Eligible Activities:** TCDI supports land use and transportation plans that advance the goals and principles outlined in DVRPC's long-range plan, [Update: Connections 2050: Plan for Greater Philadelphia](#) ([Update: Connections 2050](#)), and that have a direct nexus to the transportation system. Eligible activities may include early-stage design, feasibility studies, travel demand management plans, marketing assessments, plans and transportation-related ordinances.
3. **Ineligible Activities:** Acquisition of land or buildings, infrastructure or site preparation, preliminary and final engineering, bid/construction documentation, or general construction.
4. **Funding Amounts:** Minimum floor of \$100,000, and a soft maximum cap of \$300,000 (this is an estimated budget baseline, and actual costs by the consultant may vary slightly).
5. **Project Idea Submission:** All project ideas must be submitted online via the *FY27 PA TCDI Project Submission*, which can be accessed at www.dvrpc.org/TCDI. DVRPC will begin accepting project ideas on Friday, January 9, 2026.
6. **Deadline to Submit Project Ideas:** Friday, March 13, 2026, at 5:00 PM.
7. **Questions:** All questions must be emailed to Spencer K. Gober at sgober@dvrpc.org.

An informational webinar for interested eligible entities in Pennsylvania will be held on January 8, 2026, at 11:00 AM. [Registration](#) is required, and **attendance is strongly encouraged**.

FY27 Project Schedule

Outlined below is the schedule (*subject to change*) for project selection, funding, and closeout. Project ideas must be submitted by March 13, 2026. All *Project Submissions* will be reviewed for completeness by DVRPC staff. The TCDI Advisory Committee will review and prioritize eligible project ideas. All project sponsors will be notified of the Committee's decision via email no later than Friday, May 29, 2026.

January 7, 2026: FY27 PA TCDI Program Guidelines released

January 8, 2026: Program Information webinar

January 9, 2026: Online Project Submission is available

March 13, 2026: Deadline to submit project ideas

May 29, 2026: Project Sponsors notified of decision

June 1, 2026–June 30, 2028: Project collaboration (finalize detailed SOW, procurement, project management)

June 30, 2028: Project Completed

August 15, 2028: Final invoices submitted by consultant

December 31, 2028: Final deliverable, and resolution of acceptance/adoption due

Note: DVRPC reserves the right to alter the schedule.

Applicant Eligibility

Municipal and county governments, and transit agencies located in DVRPC's five-county Pennsylvania region are eligible to request TCDI funding. County governments may submit project ideas on behalf of one or more communities for individual projects, and/or for county-wide projects. Multi-municipal projects are expressly encouraged, including city-suburban collaborations. Project ideas submitted by sponsors that do not demonstrate coordination with all parties involved may not be considered.

Eligible Activities

TCDI funds support early-stage planning, design, and feasibility studies that link land use, transportation, and economic development; promote the efficiency and resilience of the transportation network; and advance the goals of *Update: Connections 2050*. TCDI funding may support ordinance changes, marketing assessments or local programs to facilitate new development or projects, or it may identify the need for specific transportation system improvements or enhancements. Activities undertaken with TCDI funds should support economic development through transportation improvements, protect and enhance the environment, improve the resilience and reliability of the transportation system, and improve the safety and overall quality of life for residents. In all cases, the proposed activities must identify ways to improve the efficiency of the regional transportation network through the identification of physical

improvements to the system or ways to increase non-automobile alternatives, or methods to reduce highway congestion. Visit the [TCDI](#) webpage for a list of past awards.

What Activities are NOT Eligible?

The following activities are not eligible for funding through TCDI:

- Acquisitions of ROW or buildings
- Bid/construction documentation
- Capital projects
- Infrastructure or site preparation
- Preliminary and final engineering
- Reimbursing project sponsor staff time and other/travel expenses

However, TCDI-funded plans or studies may lead to an engineering or capital project on the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). DVRPC retains the right to declare a class of projects ineligible as a matter of policy, if it determines that such use of funds would not be consistent with *Update: Connections 2050*.

Coordination with Partners

All municipal or transit agency sponsors must coordinate with their respective county planning commission(s)/department(s) and meet to discuss the proposed project, and in the *Project Submission* note the date(s) of the meeting(s) and participants. County governments and transit agencies submitting project ideas on behalf of municipalities must confirm support from each community within the study area.

Funding Availability

Up to \$1,400,000 is available in Pennsylvania for the FY 2027 program. There is a minimum floor amount of \$100,000 per project, and a soft maximum cap amount of \$300,000 per project. Higher amounts may be considered if the scope, scale, and/or impact of the project clearly warrant the award of additional funds.

Project Submission and Selection

Eligible entities must complete and submit the *FY27 PA TCDI: Project Submission* (Project Submission) by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 13, 2026, for a project idea to be considered for funding. A link to the Project Submission is available at www.dvrpc.org/tcdi. Questions or issues regarding the Project Submission should be emailed to Spencer Gober at sgober@dvrpc.org.

Project Submission

The Project Submission contains 18 questions across a total of four sections:

1. General Information
2. Project Idea

3. Funding
4. Prerequisites and Administrative Understanding

All 18 questions must be answered for the Project Submission to be deemed complete. Incomplete submissions may not be considered for funding. However, project selection will primarily be based on responses to Section Two, *Project Idea*, as well as the geographic distribution of funding, funding availability, and the anticipated overall project benefits and impacts more generally.

Questions in Section Two: Project Idea

- In general, what type of project do you have in mind? *Examples might include, but are not limited to, a trail feasibility study, transit-oriented development plan, housing needs assessment, hazard mitigation plan, etc.*
- Where is the project located? *Describe the project area and be as specific as possible. Include details about the physical condition and list the exact census tracts that fall within the project geography.*
- What is the problem that needs to be solved? *Provide a concise yet detailed explanation of the problem. Include measurable data that help demonstrate the extent of the problem.*

Project Selection

DVRPC will review and screen all Project Submissions for completeness and eligibility, before they are provided to the TCDI Advisory Committee for consideration. The TCDI Advisory Committee is made up of county, state, and transit agency representatives, as well as DVRPC staff.

All eligible project ideas will be considered by the Pennsylvania TCDI Advisory Committee, and selected based on each project's alignment with and ability to advance regional priorities as outlined in the [long-range plan](#) (LRP) and/or [congestion management plan](#) (CMP), as applicable. For all project ideas selected for funding by the Advisory Committee, DVRPC will coordinate with those project sponsors to develop a scope of work. This will better enable the DVRPC-administered consultant procurement process, as outlined below.

Administrative Requirements

Finalizing the Scope of Work and Budget

If a project is chosen for an award, DVRPC staff will work directly with the project sponsor to further refine the project idea and develop a more robust scope of work that aligns with the final project budget. Please note that the number of public meetings required for each project will depend on the final scope of work for that project, but two project status meetings between DVRPC staff, the project sponsor, and the consultant will be required over the life of the project for all projects.

Procurement and Contracting

For all TCDI-funded projects, DVRPC staff will administer the TCDI consultant procurement process in accordance with the *Uniform Guidance 2 C.F.R. § 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*. All questions regarding TCDI funding and procurement administration should be addressed to Spencer K. Gober at sgober@dvrpc.org and Jason Crouch at jcrouch@dvrpc.org.

DVRPC requires all consultants to be prequalified to compete to work on TCDI-funded projects. Only consultants who have met DVRPC's prequalification requirements are eligible to work on TCDI projects. A list of prequalified firms is updated quarterly and available at www.dvrpc.org/business.

The project sponsor will approve the final scope of work for DVRPC to use in the consultant procurement process administered through www.opengov.com.

The project sponsor, through an evaluation committee process, will select a consultant pursuant to the scoring and ranking of all technical proposals received, and will serve as the appointed project manager.

DVRPC will contract directly with the competitively selected consultant on behalf of the project sponsor. The contract will be based upon the final TCDI-funded scope of work and the consultant's detailed budget, which must be approved by DVRPC Finance prior to contract execution. If DVRPC determines that the project sponsor is unable to fulfill its project manager responsibilities, DVRPC reserves the right, at its discretion, to take over the role of project manager.

Invoicing and Project Status Meetings

The FY27 PA TCDI program will fund the reimbursement of eligible costs incurred between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2028. DVRPC will not process any invoices until the contract has been fully executed. Invoices will be submitted by the consultant directly to DVRPC staff for review and approval.

The project sponsor and its competitively selected consultant are required to attend two project status meetings with DVRPC staff during the contract timeframe. Meetings will be facilitated and scheduled by DVRPC.

DVRPC staff will review all final recommendations to ensure that they are in compliance with the LRP and/or CMP, as applicable.

Project Close-out

All TCDI project deliverables must be finalized and costs incurred by June 30, 2028. All plans and studies funded through TCDI are required to be accepted by the project sponsor's applicable governing body thereafter. Proof of adoption or acceptance by the governing body is required through a board resolution. Both the final deliverable and the resolution of acceptance must be submitted no later than December 31, 2028.

(DVRPC reserves the right to modify any of the information presented in this document.)