

## Program Overview



### Overview

- The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a competitive grant program that uses federal transportation funds designated by Congress for specific activities that enhance the intermodal transportation system and provide safe alternative transportation options.
- TAP was created by the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21), signed into law in July 2012.
- Approximately \$23 million is available annually. Of this, approximately \$16.5 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Economic Development (OED). \$6.5 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in urban areas with populations greater than 200,000.

### Eligible Activities

MAP-21 specifies the following activities as eligible for TAP funding:

- Facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists, including traffic calming and other safety improvements
- Safe routes for non-drivers
- Conversion and use of abandoned railroad corridors for trails
- Turnouts, overlooks and viewing areas
- Historic preservation and rehabilitation of historic transportation facilities
- Inventory, control, or removal of outdoor advertising
- Vegetation management practices in transportation rights of way
- Archaeological activities
- Environmental mitigation activities
- Boulevards in the right of way of former interstates or other divided highways

### Program Requirements

- Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, villages, regional transportation authorities, transit agencies, state and federal natural resource or public land agencies, and tribal governments. MDOT may partner with a local agency to apply for funding and implement the project. Other organizations such as townships or trail groups, may work with an eligible agency to apply.
- TAP funding requires matching funds of at least 20 percent of the eligible project cost. Additional consideration is given to projects whose match exceeds the minimum required.

### How to Apply

Applications are accepted year-round.

Go online at [www.michigan.gov/tap](http://www.michigan.gov/tap) for the online application and instructions.

**It is highly recommended that you contact a grant coordinator at 517-335-1069 to discuss the proposed project before filling out a grant application.**

Grant coordinators are available to assist you by providing more information on the program, guidance on competitive projects, and how to best develop a competitive application.