

## Program Overview



*MSU to Lake Lansing  
Connector Trail in  
Meridian Township*

### Authorization

- 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 operates under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Public Law 117-58.
- Approximately \$43 million is available annually. Of this, approximately \$29 million is available through a competitive grant process administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), available to every part of Michigan, referred to as Statewide TAP. \$14 million is available through separate competitive grant processes administered by metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in urban areas with populations greater than 200,000 - Transportation Management Areas (TMA), referred to as TMA TAP.

### Statewide TAP Typically Funds

- Pedestrian safety streetscapes and traffic calming in traditional downtowns or historic districts
- Safe Routes to School infrastructure projects and non-infrastructure programs
- Pedestrian and bicyclist improvements for transit systems, such as bus stop shelters, benches, bike racks on buses, etc.
- Construction of regional trails, such as separated pathways or bike lanes between and through cities
- Local connections to regional active transportation networks
- Amenities, such as trail heads, bike racks, benches, lighting, shade trees, etc., that increase the usability of bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Preservation of historic transportation facilities, such as railroad depots, steam engines, bridges, and lighthouses

### What's most competitive?

Project ideas that originate from local citizens and businesses, with robust community engagement, and that demonstrate a high likelihood of being constructed on schedule.

*MSU to Lake Lansing  
Connector Trail in  
Meridian Township*

*Power Canal Pathway in Sault Ste. Marie*

# Michigan TAP Program Overview



*Safe Routes to School  
in Charlotte*

## Program Requirements

- Eligible applicants include Act 51 (gas tax) agencies: county road commissions, cities, villages, regional transportation authorities, and transit agencies; as well as non-Act 51 agencies: townships, counties, state departments (except MDOT), federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and tribal governments. MDOT may partner with an eligible agency to apply for funding and implement the project. Non-Act 51 agencies generally need to partner with the Act 51 agency that has jurisdiction of the project area. In partnership with an eligible applicant, schools or school districts may apply for Safe Routes to School-eligible activities.
- To apply for funding to implement Safe Routes to School-eligible activities, a school-based planning process must first take place in order to develop an action plan to make walking and biking safer for kids around a particular school. Information on the Safe Routes to School planning process is available at [www.saferoutesmichigan.org](http://www.saferoutesmichigan.org).
- TAP funding requires cash matching funds of at least 20 percent of the eligible project cost. Additional consideration is given to projects whose match exceeds the required minimum.
- Conditional Commitment construction grants for future years are given to projects, allowing grantees time to obtain right of way, design the project, and raise matching funds. Grant funds are then awarded if the applicant meets certain conditions according to schedule, including but not limited to certifying property, completing design plans to state and federal standards, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) clearance, and certifying that matching dollars are available.
- Grant funded facilities need to be operated and maintained by the grantee agency or its designee in perpetuity
- Grant projects are expected to be implemented with MDOT oversight.

## How to Apply

- There are typically three application cycles each year for Statewide TAP. Visit [www.Michigan.gov/TAP](http://www.Michigan.gov/TAP) for the schedule, online application, and instructions. To apply for TMA TAP, please contact your area MPO.
- For Statewide TAP, 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 viable projects, and how to best develop a competitive application.

*Pere Marquette Trail in Clare  
(filling the Clare Gap)*

*Safe Routes to School in Charlotte*