pennsylvania



PennDOT Connects Municipal Resources

# 2024 MUNICIPAL OUTREACH/ PEER EXCHANGE

#### **SESSION BEING RECORDED**

This session is being recorded.

By participating in this session, you are consenting to the recording, retention, and use of this session.

Additionally, as a reminder, by asking a question verbally you are also consenting to the recording, retention, and use of your statements.

#### SESSION OBJECTIVES AND OVERVIEW

To engage participants in an exchange of ideas, empower communities through collaborative transportation planning, and help municipalities access the wide variety of PennDOT Connects Municipal Resources.

This session will highlight these primary focus areas:

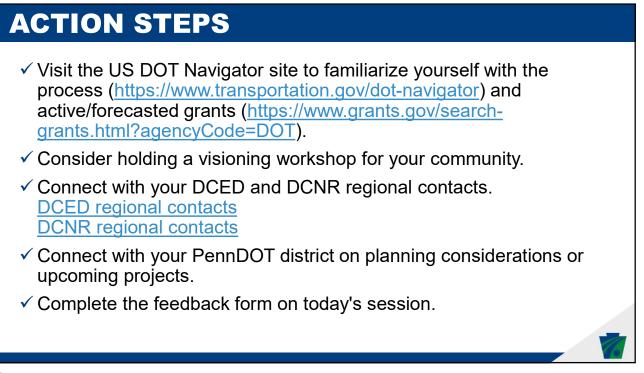
- District Connects activities
- Community visioning
- IIJA/BIL Grant updates
- Partnerships

#### **SESSION OBJECTIVES AND OVERVIEW (CONT.)**

- A. Introductions
- B. PennDOT Connects Process
- C. District Spotlight
- D. Visioning Activity
- E. PennDOT Connects Municipal Resources Overview
- F. Update IIJA/BIL Grant Opportunities and Available Support
- G. Other Resources (PA Dept. of Health, DCED, DCNR)
- H. Open Discussion from Registration Questions
- I. Program Summary and Open Forum





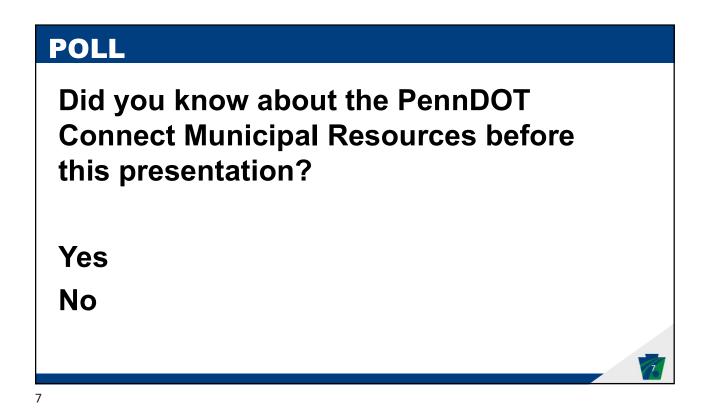


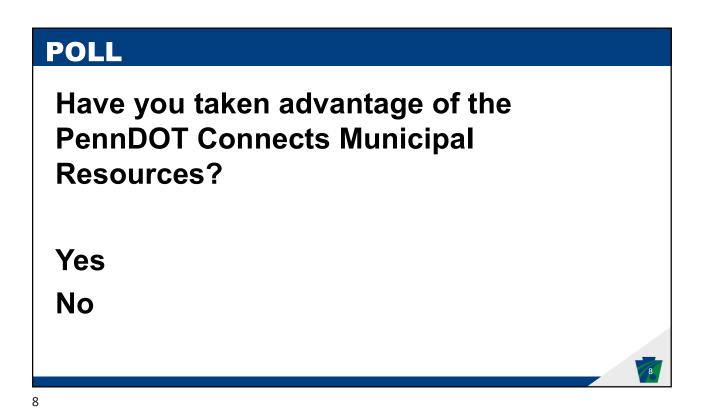
#### INTRODUCTIONS

#### **Participants and Facilitator**

Name and Organization









## WHAT IS PENNDOT CONNECTS?

- A holistic approach to planning to...
  - Support a community's vision.
  - Increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness.
  - Ensure the best allocation of resources.

PennDOT and planning partners **invest in communities** by **engaging local governments** *prior* to developing project scopes and cost estimates to discuss details for each project.

## VALUE OF MUNICIPAL PARTICIPATION

- Municipalities can communicate the transportation needs of their community – such as those related to safety, mobility, and the environment – now and in the future.
  - At the beginning of the planning process (e.g., bicycle, pedestrian, transit, freight, utilities, etc.).
  - In cooperation with planning partners.
  - To identify creative solutions to sustain and expand mobility in their community.

The outcome of this partnership will deliver projects that improve economic competitiveness, access to work, and overall quality of life for residents and visitors to their community.

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#### **COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS**

- PennDOT Connects begins when a project begins
- Connects is about completing the Project Initiation Form (PIF)
- Connects is just something that the District does



PennDOT Connects Municipal Resources

# DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION





## WHAT IS VISIONING?



#### A Planning Technique:

- Emphasizes community assets and desires rather than issues and needs.
- Focuses on visualization and holding the perspective of what's possible.
- It's part of the larger activity of strategic planning
- It produces a product the vision statement.



## **EXAMPLE VISION STATEMENT**

## Vision ideas from a small PA borough association:

- A town known for small business charm and gathering places.
- A business-friendly environment and a diverse business corridor.
- A place where neighbors meet and share life together supported by a diverse local business community.



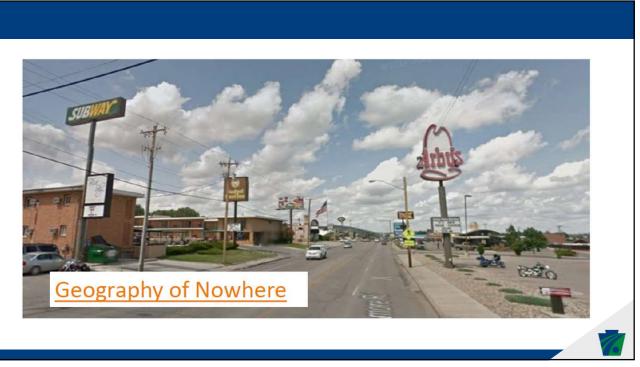
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## A SENSE OF PLACE

A unique collection of qualities and characteristics – visual, cultural, social, and environmental – that provide meaning to a location



Visioning should build excitement!



#### **VISUALIZING PUBLIC SPACE**

#### **Streets as Public Spaces**

Streets for motorized vehicles, bikes (non-motorized) and people





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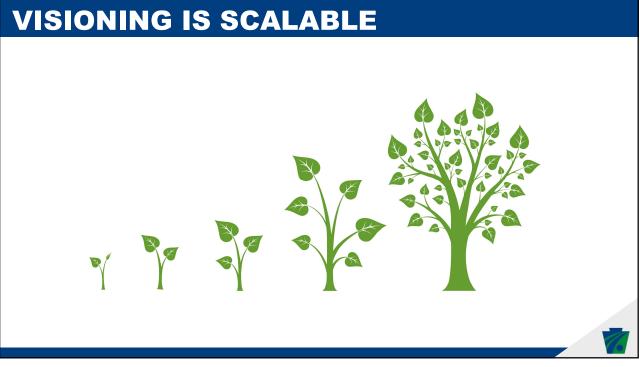




#### **VISUALIZATION TOOLS**







## **VISIONING WORKSHOP CHECKLIST**



# Select facilitators and recorders

- Prepare handouts (existing visions/goals)
- Prepare visuals to place around room (other places)
- Select questions for brainstorming and select interactive engagement activity

**PennDOT Connects Can Help!** 

#### WHERE DO YOU GET INSPIRATION?

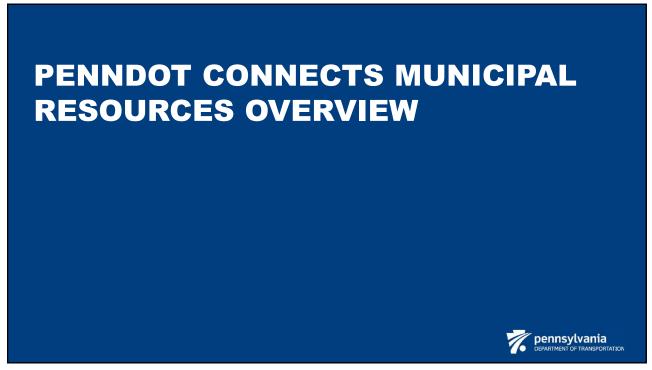
- We have access to fresh fruits and vegetables with a local farmers market.
- There is a rich variety of choices for local shopping and dining.
- We have a central park that allows for various community events, recreational and sporting activities.
- Our land use patterns promote active living.



## **VISIONING ACTIVITY**

- Picture your own community in 2030.
- List key characteristics of that future condition, considering the vision statement elements.







## **PROGRAM RESOURCES**

- On-Demand Online Training
- Transportation and Land Use Planning Assistance
- Training Courses and Workshops
- Drop-Ins (recorded)
- Newsletter/Tech Sheet
- PennDOT Connects Webpage

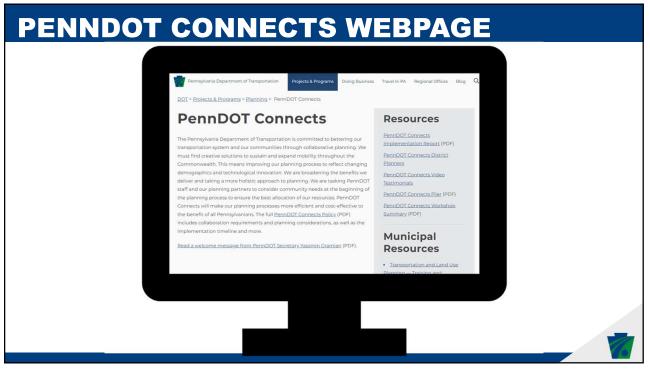


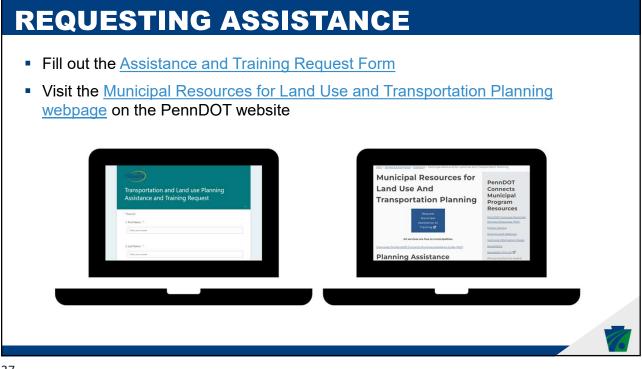
#### TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE PLANNING ASSISTANCE

- Phone/Email questions answered by planning experts
- Onsite half-day session with planning experts









#### **ASSISTANCE EXAMPLES**

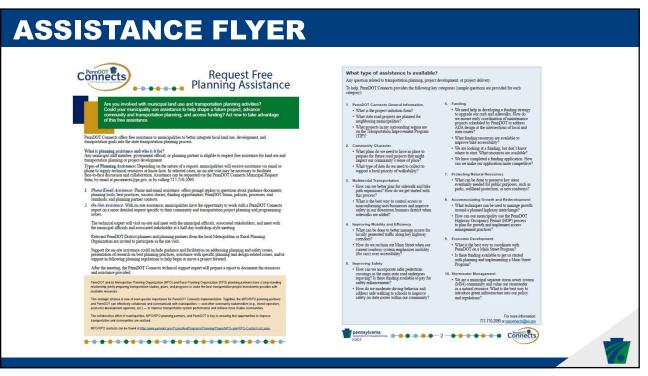
- Local Road Safety Plan
  - South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh Co.
    Shiremanstown Borough, Cumberland Co.
  - Shiremanstown Borough, Cumberla
     West Pikeland Twp., Chester Co.
  - Dover Twp., York Co.
- Road Safety Audit

   Lancaster Twp., Lancaster Co.
- Active Transportation Plan
   South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh Co.
- Benefit Cost Analysis
   North Central Planning
- Main Street Safety Assessment
   Shiremanstown Borough, Cumberland Co.
- Traffic Calming Policy
   South Whitehall Twp., Lehigh Co.
- Local Share Account Statewide Grant App.
   West Pikeland Twp., Chester Co.
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   West Pikeland Twp., Chester Co.

- Multimodal Grant Application Review
   Jonestown Borough, Lebanon Co.
- Walking Audit
  - Borough of Hummelstown, Dauphin Co.
- GIS
  - City of Hazleton, Luzerne Co.
  - Shohola Twp., Pike Co.
    Delaware Twp., Pike Co.
  - Delaware Twp., Pike Co.
     Palmyra Twp., Pike Co.
  - Paimyra Twp., Pike Co.
    Womelsdorf Borough, Berks Co.



Dover Twp. working on their Local Road Safety plan





#### PENNDOT CONNECTS GRANT ASSISTANCE

#### PennDOT Connects Municipal Assistance:

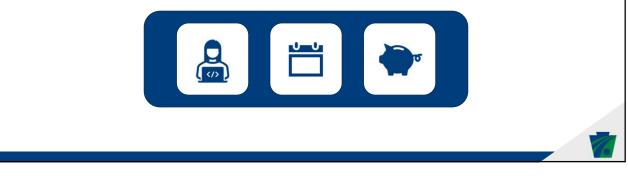
- *The Guide for Developing IIJA/BIL Grant Proposals* provides a step-by-step approach to preparing for and pursuing federal grants.
- PennDOT Connects Assistance complements services provided by MPOs/RPOs.



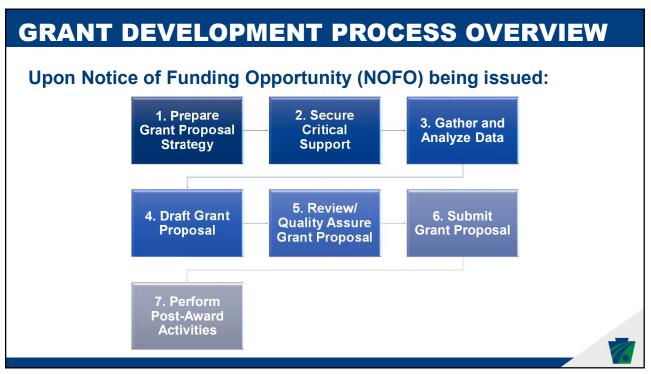


## EXAMPLES OF AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE

- Provide registration help in Grants.gov and SAM for federal grants or different PA portals.
- Prepare a grant outlook for identified projects.
- Align potential funding sources with desired projects.







# AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE FOR STEP 1 1. Prepare Grant Proposal Strategy Align project objectives to grant program goals. Develop high-level outline of project (a "sell sheet"). Provide NOFO summaries and submission checklists. Align project objectives to relevant local and regional planning documents.

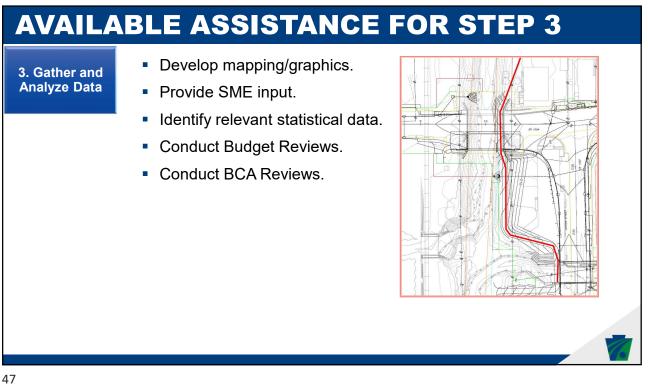
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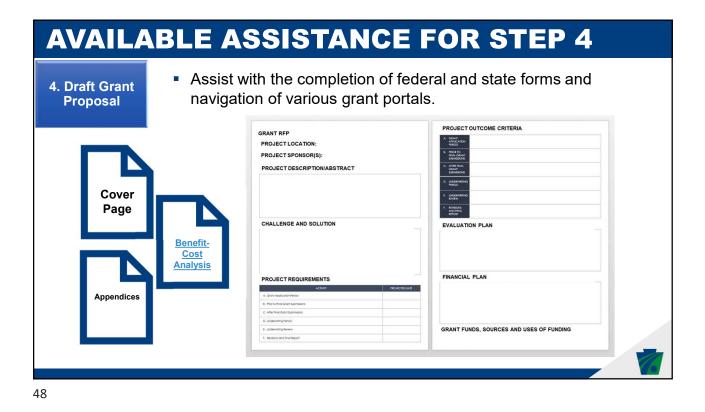
#### **AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE FOR STEP 2**

2. Secure Critical Support

- Show how the project satisfies and achieves the NOFO's criteria.
- Highlight benefits to supporters.
- Provide template Letters of Support.







## **AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE FOR STEP 5**

5. Review/ Quality Assure Grant Proposal

- Review project narratives, budget narratives, supplementary materials, and graphics.
- Review draft grant packages.
- Conduct application completeness checks.

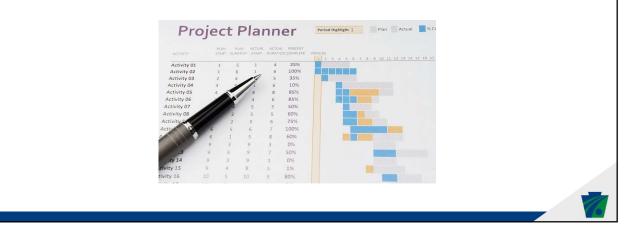


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#### **AVAILABLE ASSISTANCE FOR STEP 6**

6. Submit Grant Proposal

- Provide summary of post-award requirements.
- Provide submission markups for resubmission, if/when desired.
- Assist with post-award project implementation planning.



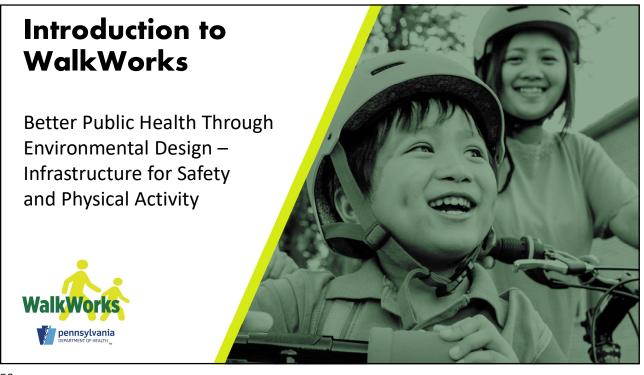
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TRANSPORTATION

## STATE AGENCIES THAT PARTNER WITH PENNDOT:







#### WHAT IS ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION?

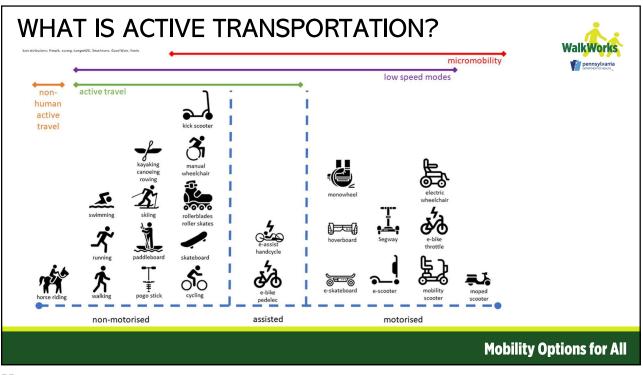




Active transportation is any self-propelled, human-powered mode of transportation, such as walking or bicycling. Use of the term "active transportation" highlights the growing recognition of the connection between public health outcomes and transportation planning.

- 2019 Pennsylvania Active Transportation Plan

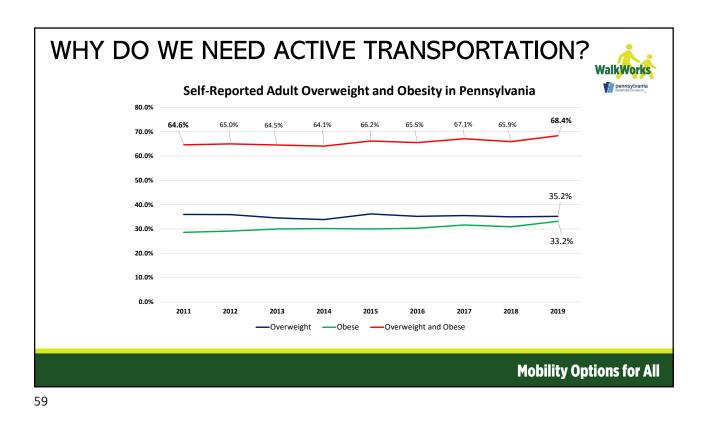
#### **Mobility Options for All**

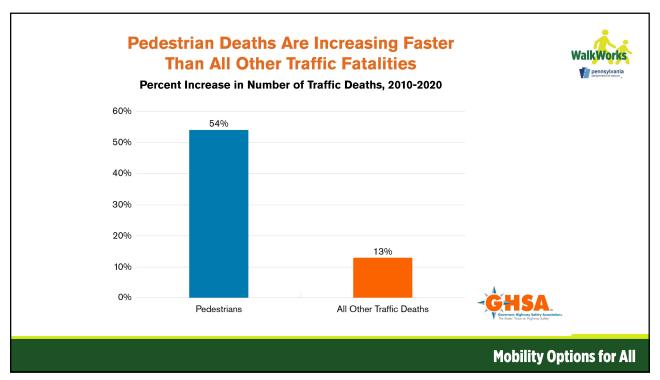


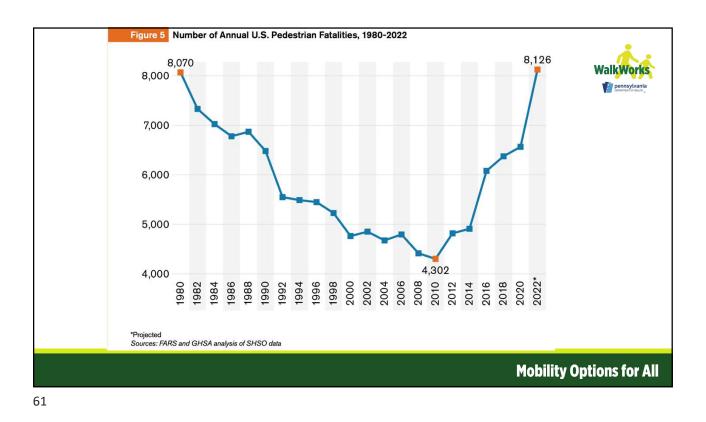














#### "THESE ROADS ARE KILLING ME!"



Wide, smooth roads without accommodations for non-car users are more dangerous for people walking and biking. In addition, such roads encourage more driving, reducing the likelihood of people getting needed, healthful physical activity.

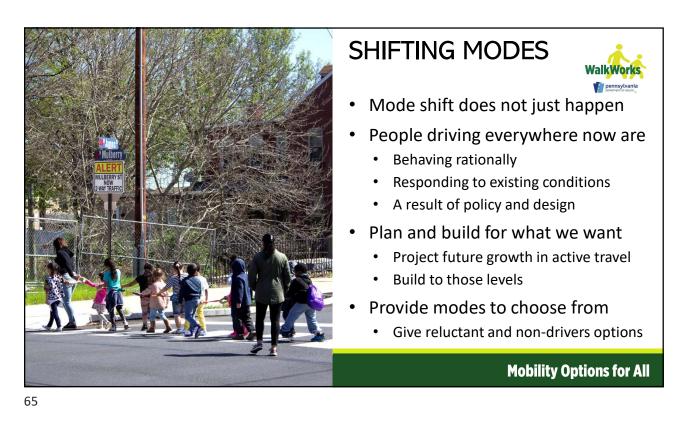
Hard on cars

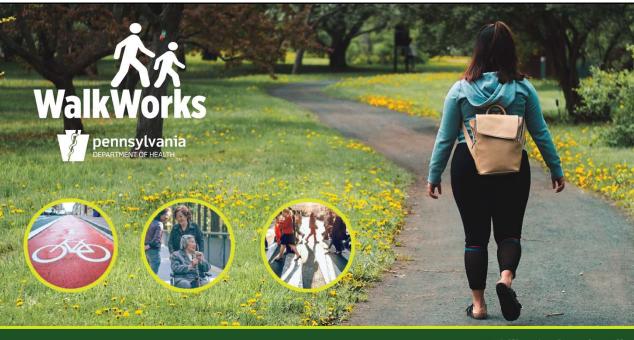


Mobility Options for All

Hard on people

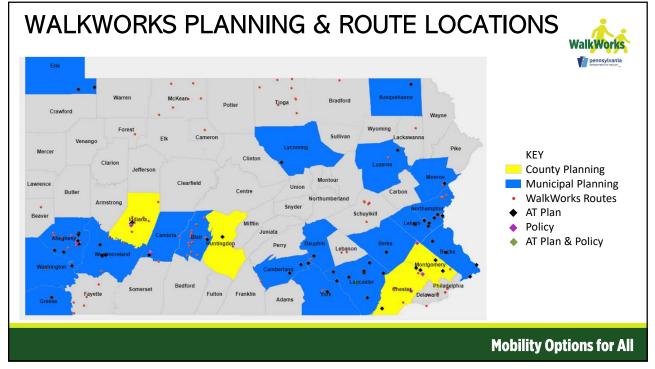






Mobility Options for All





WALKWORKS PLANNING GRANT SCHEDULE		
	Date	Action
LET'S MAKE A PLAN	January 10, 2024	Funding Opportunity announced
	February 7, 2024	Informational webinar
	March 22, 2024	Application due
	June 3, 2024	Awardees informed
	April 30, 2025	Draft AT plan submission
	June 30, 2025	AT Plan adoption
		·
Mobility Options for All		

#### CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAM SCHEDULE



Baby Steps!

Date	Action	
Before	Consider applying	
April 2024	Funding Opportunity announced	
May 2024	Applications due	
July 2024	Awardees informed	
September 2024	Attend Intro to AT Webinar	
July-Nov 2024	Site Visit from PDC or LTAP	
Sept 2024-Jan 2025	Consultant Assist on Scope & Budget	
Oct 2024-Jan 2025	Mobility Audit/Outreach Event	
March 2025	Apply for ATP Funding	

**Mobility Options for All** 









**Mobility Options for All** 

#### Resources

POLICY ACA Preventive Health Active People/Healthy Nation National Roadway Safety Strategy Complete Streets Design Approach Justice 40 Initiative Dutch Sustainable Safety

#### ORGANIZATIONS

<u>Vision Zero Network</u> <u>National Complete Streets Coalition</u> <u>Pedestrian Bicycle Info Center</u> <u>National Center for Rural Road Safety</u>

#### DESIGN GUIDES



<u>Countermeasures That Work</u> <u>Small Town & Rural Multimodal Networks</u> <u>Bikeway Selection Guide</u> <u>Designing for All Ages & Abilities</u> <u>Roadway Cross-Section Reallocation Guide</u> Art in the Right-of-Way Toolkit (MD)

FUNDING SOURCES Safe Streets and Roads for All Safe Routes to School (w/ PennDOT TASA) Statewide Local Share Account (DCED) WalkWorks

**Mobility Options for All** 

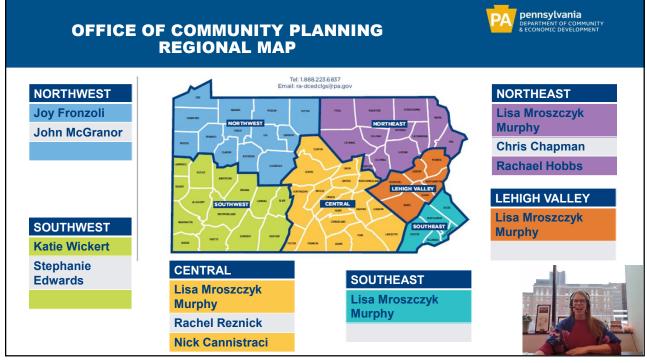
#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DCED)



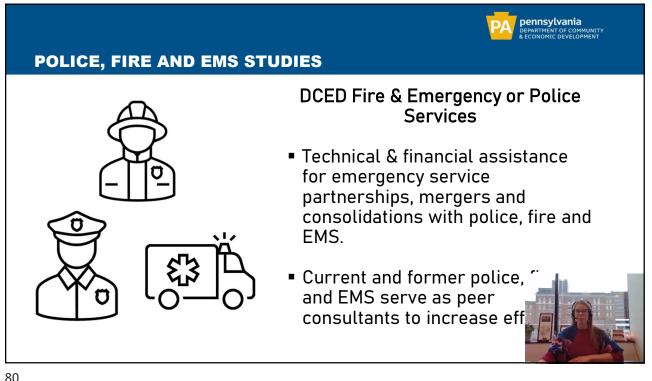


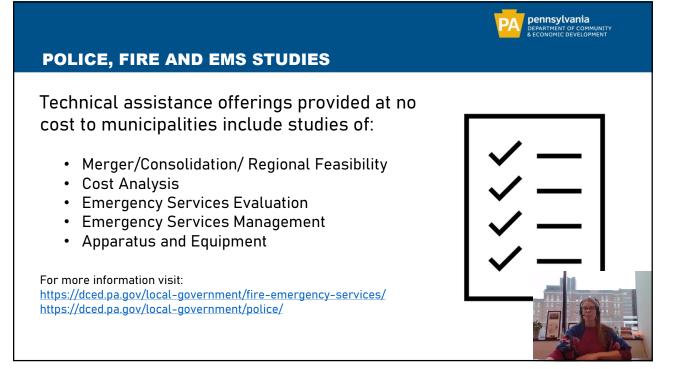
# OTHER RESOURCES: DCED – "EMERGING" OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

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## **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND FIRE/POLICE & EMS** CONTACTS

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## PROGRAM SUMMARY

- A. Welcome and Introductions
- B. District Spotlight
- C. PennDOT Connects Process
- D. Visioning Activity
- E. PennDOT Connects Municipal Resources Overview
- F. Update IIJA/BIL Grant Opportunities and Available Support
- G. Other Resources (DCED, DCNR, PA Dept. of Health)







#### **ACTION STEPS**

- ✓ Visit the US DOT Navigator site to familiarize yourself with the process (<u>https://www.transportation.gov/dot-navigator</u>) and active/forecasted grants (<u>https://www.grants.gov/searchgrants.html?agencyCode=DOT</u>).
- Consider holding a visioning workshop for your community.
- Connect with your DCED and DCNR regional contacts.
   <u>DCED regional contacts</u>
   DCNR regional contacts
- Connect with your PennDOT district on planning considerations or upcoming projects.
- ✓ Complete the feedback form on today's session.

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#### **PENNDOT CONNECTS**

#### **PennDOT Connects**

https://www.penndot.gov/ProjectAndPrograms/Planning/Pages/PennDOT-Connects.aspx

#### **Municipal Resources**

https://www.penndot.gov/ProjectAndPrograms/Planning/Pages/Land-Use-and-Transportation-Planning.aspx

Phone: 717-710-2090

Email: PAConnects@pa.gov





PennDOT Connects Municipal Resources

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