



Michigan Department of Transportation

Transportation Enhancement Program

Program Background

- The Transportation Enhancement (TE) program was established with passage of the federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991, reauthorized in 1998 in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), and again in 2005 under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU).
- The TE program is a 10 percent set-aside of Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds.
- The TE set-aside from Michigan's STP allocation is about \$20-\$25 million annually.
- The TE program is administered by the Office of Economic Development (OED) of the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

Eligible Activities

SAFETEA-LU specifies the following 12 activities as eligible for TE program funding:

Nonmotorized Transportation

- Provision of facilities for pedestrians and bicycles
- Preservation of abandoned railway corridors (Including the conversion and use thereof for pedestrian or bicycle trails)
- Provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists

Transportation Aesthetics

- Landscaping and other scenic beautification
- Acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites, including historic battlefields
- Inventory, control and removal of outdoor advertising
- Scenic or historic highway programs (including the provision of tourist and welcome center facilities)

Historic Preservation

- Historic preservation
- Archaeological planning and research
- Establishment of transportation museums
- Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures, or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals)

Water Quality & Wildlife

- Environmental mitigation to address water pollution due to highway runoff or reduce vehicle-caused wildlife mortality while maintaining habitat continuity

Program Requirements

- Eligible applicants include county road commissions, cities, villages, transit agencies, MDOT, Native American tribes, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and metropolitan planning organizations. Other organizations may *sponsor* applications.
- TE funding requires matching funds of at least 20% of project cost.
- Proposed TE projects must have a relationship to surface transportation.

How to Apply

- Visit the webpage, www.michigan.gov/tea for the online application and instructions, or call OED at (517) 335-1069 for information. Applications may be submitted at any time.