

Overview

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Transportation Planning Grants are intended to strengthen the economy, promote equity, and protect the environment. The results of these grants should lead to the programming and implementation of transportation improvement projects. The Sustainable Communities and Adaptation Planning grants are State-funded, primarily through Senate Bill 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. The Strategic Partnerships grants are federally-funded through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

For Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19, Caltrans will award approximately **\$40.8 million** for the following Transportation Planning Grants:

- Sustainable Communities (\$29.5 mil)
- Strategic Partnerships (\$4.3 mil.)
- Adaptation Planning (\$7 mil.)

NOTE: These grants are for transportation related planning, not for development of environmental documents, construction, or other ineligible activities identified in the grant application guides.

Key Dates

Application Release:

January 5, 2018

Applications Due via Email:

February 23, 2018 at 5:00 PM

Sustainable Communities & Strategic Partnerships Submissions:

Regional.Planning.Grants@dot.ca.gov

Adaptation Planning Submissions:

Adaptation.Planning.Grants@dot.ca.gov

Hard copies will not be accepted.

Grant Announcements:

May 2018

For more information, including eligible applicants, grant application guides, and required application templates, please visit our website at:

www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/grants.html

Caltrans Provides a Safe, Sustainable, Integrated and Efficient Transportation System to Enhance California's Economy and Livability.



Fiscal Year 2018-19 Transportation Planning Grants

***Application Deadline:
February 23, 2018 at 5:00 PM***

Caltrans Division of
Transportation Planning

Sustainable Communities



Sustainable Communities grants are intended to encourage local and regional multimodal transportation and land use planning that furthers the region's Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, where applicable. Successful projects will also contribute to the State's greenhouse gas reduction targets, employ the goals and best practices cited in the 2017 RTP Guidelines, and address the needs of disadvantaged communities.

Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) will receive **\$12.5 million** in formula funds and an estimated **\$17 million** in competitive grants is available for the FY 2018-19 grant cycle. The program requires a **11.47 % local match**. Grants are available in amounts ranging from a minimum of **\$100,000 (\$50,000 for disadvantaged communities)** to a maximum of **\$1,000,000 (MPOs may only apply with sub-applicants for the competitive grants)**.

Example Project Types (See the Grant Application Guide for an expanded list):

- Studies that advance a community's effort to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gases
- Studies that assist transportation agencies in creating sustainable communities
- Planning for autonomous vehicles
- Complete streets or Safe routes to school plans
- Long range transportation plans for tribal governments
- Land use planning activities in coordination with a transportation project

- Studies that promote greater access between affordable housing and job centers
- Health and transportation studies, including health equity transportation studies and other plans that incorporate health
- Transit planning studies
- Studies that address environmental justice issues in a transportation-related context

Strategic Partnerships

Strategic Partnerships grants are intended to identify and address statewide, interregional, or regional transportation deficiencies on the State highway system in partnership with Caltrans. New for FY 2018-19 is a transit component that will fund planning projects that address multimodal transportation deficiencies with a focus on transit. Successful Strategic Partnerships will strengthen government-to-governments relationships and result in programmed improvements.

A total of **\$4.3 million** in competitive grants is available for the FY 2018-19 grant cycle. The FHWA funds (**\$1.5 million**) focus on the State highway system and require a **20% local match**. The FTA Section 5304 funds (**\$2.8 million**) focus on transit and require an **11.47% local match**. The minimum grant amount is **\$100,000** and the maximum is **\$500,000**.

Example Project Types (See the Grant Application Guide for an expanded list):

- Corridor studies and corridor preservation studies
- Planning for sustainable freight
- Statewide or interregional research or modeling tools
- Transportation demand management plans
- System investment prioritization plans
- Transit technical planning studies to optimize transit system performance

Adaptation Planning



Climate change impacts – including increased wildfires, droughts, landslides, rising sea levels, floods, severe storms, heat waves, and impacts to wildlife – are occurring already and will only become more frequent and severe. Climate change adaptation planning anticipates and prepares for climate change impacts to reduce the damage from climate change and extreme weather events. This funding is intended to support planning actions at the local and regional levels that advance climate change adaptation efforts on the transportation system.

An estimated **\$7 million** in competitive grants is available for the FY 2018-19 grant cycle. The final grant cycle in FY 2019-20 will provide an additional \$6 million. The program requires an **11.47% local match**. Grants are available in amounts ranging from a minimum of **\$100,000** to a maximum of **\$1,000,000**.

Applicants who have adaptation planning efforts underway as well as those who have not yet started adaptation work are encouraged to apply.

Example Project Types (See the Grant Application Guide for an expanded list):

- Climate vulnerability assessments
- Extreme weather event evacuation planning
- Resilience planning
- Transportation infrastructure adaptation plans
- Natural and green adaptation infrastructure planning
- Integration of transportation adaptation planning considerations into existing plans