



For Immediate Release:

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Local Freight Impact Fund applications being accepted for \$30.1 million in FY23 grants

Program provides funds to improve local roads and bridges with heavy truck traffic

(Trenton) – The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) today announced the grant solicitation period for the Fiscal Year 2023 Local Freight Impact Fund program is open, with applications being accepted through December 12, 2022.

"An integrated transportation network that depends on safe truck routes to efficiently move goods to and from New Jersey's seaports, airports, and rail yards is critical to a vibrant state and regional economy," NJDOT Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti said. "The Local Freight Impact Fund provides aid to counties and municipalities for transportation projects that address the impacts of freight travel in local communities and on local transportation infrastructure."

The Local Freight Impact Fund (LFIF) is a competitive \$30.1 million program, which was created as part of the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) reauthorization in October 2016. The program helps New Jersey's municipalities and counties fund projects that emphasize and enhance the safe movement of large truck traffic, renew aging structures that carry large truck traffic, promote economic development, and support new transportation opportunities. Project eligibility has been expanded this year to include projects that address pedestrian safety.

Under the program, projects that fall into five categories are eligible for funding:

- <u>Pavement Preservation</u> to improve pavement conditions in support of freight travel on municipal/county transportation infrastructure.
- <u>Truck Safety and Mobility</u> to improve large truck access, routing and mobility along the municipal/county roadway system.
- <u>Bridge Preservation</u> to improve bridge ratings/conditions in support of freight travel on municipal/county transportation infrastructure.
- <u>New Construction</u> to promote new construction in support of freight travel on municipal/county transportation infrastructure.
- <u>Pedestrian Safety</u> **New this year** to improve pedestrian access to freight nodes, address pedestrian safety, and promote equity for those without the option to drive.

The grants are administered by the NJDOT Division of Local Aid and Economic Development. NJDOT staff evaluate projects using a variety of criteria including: existing conditions, overall traffic volume, percentage of large truck traffic, crash frequency, connectivity to freight nodes, among others.

For more information about the Local Freight Impact Fund program or other Local Aid programs go to www.njdotlocalaidrc.com; email DOT-LocalAID.ResourceCenter@dot.nj.gov or call 609.649.9395. For NJDOT news follow us on Twitter @NewJerseyDOT and on the NJDOT Facebook page.

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