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## APPENDIX C: FUNDING STRATEGIES

### OVERVIEW

When considering possible funding sources for the Town of Davidson's pedestrian and bicycle projects, it is important to remember that not all construction activities or programs will be accomplished with a single funding source. It will be necessary to consider several sources of funding, that when combined, will support full project completion. Funding sources can be used for a variety of activities, including: programs, planning, design, implementation, and maintenance. This appendix outlines the most likely sources of funding from the federal, state, and local government levels as well as from the private and non-profit sectors. A summary table of funding sources is included at the end of this appendix. It should be noted that this section reflects the funding available at the time of writing. The funding amounts, fund cycles, and even the programs themselves are susceptible to change without notice.

### FEDERAL FUNDING SOURCES

Federal funding is typically directed through state agencies to local governments either in the form of grants or direct appropriations. Federal funding typically requires a local match of anywhere from five percent to fifty percent, but there are sometimes exceptions, such as the recent American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus funds, which did not require a match. The following is a list of possible Federal funding sources that could be used to support construction of pedestrian and bicycle improvements.

#### MOVING AHEAD FOR PROGRESS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY (MAP-21)

The largest source of federal funding for pedestrian and bicycle projects is the US DOT's Federal-Aid Highway Program, which Congress has reauthorized roughly every six years since the passage of the Federal-Aid Road Act of 1916. The latest act, Moving Ahead for Progress in the Twenty-First Century (MAP-21) was enacted in July 2012 as Public Law 112-141. The Act replaces the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act – a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), which was valid from August 2005 - June 2012.

MAP-21 authorizes funding for federal surface transportation programs including highways and transit for the 27 month period between July 2012 and September 2014. It is not possible to guarantee the continued availability of any listed MAP-21 programs, or to predict their future funding levels or policy guidance. Nevertheless, many of these programs have been included in some form since the passage of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) in 1991, and thus may continue to provide capital for active transportation projects and programs.

In North Carolina, federal monies are administered through the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). Most, but not all, of these programs are oriented toward transportation versus recreation, with an emphasis on reducing auto trips and providing inter-modal connections. Federal funding is intended for capital improvements and safety and education programs, and projects must relate to the surface transportation system.



U.S. Department  
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Federal Highway  
Administration





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There are a number of programs identified within MAP-21 that are applicable to pedestrian and bicycle projects. These programs are discussed below.

For more information: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/summaryinfo.cfm>

### TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES

Transportation Alternatives (TA) is a new funding source under MAP-21 that consolidates three formerly separate programs under SAFETEA-LU: Transportation Enhancements (TE), Safe Routes to School (SR2S), and the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). These funds may be used for a variety of pedestrian, bicycle, and streetscape projects including sidewalks, bikeways, multi-use paths, and rail-trails. TA funds may also be used for selected education and encouragement programming such as Safe Routes to School, despite the fact that TA does not provide a guaranteed set-aside for this activity as SAFETEA-LU did.

Average annual funds available through TA over the life of MAP-21 equal \$814 million nationally, which is based on a 2 percent set-aside of total MAP-21 allocations. Note that state DOT's may elect to transfer up to 50 percent of TA funds to other highway programs, so the amount listed on the website represents the maximum potential funding. Remaining TA funds (those monies not re-directed to other highway programs) are disbursed through a separate competitive grant program administered by NCDOT. Local governments, school districts, tribal governments, and public lands agencies are permitted to compete for these funds.

Each State Governor is given the opportunity to "opt out" of the Recreational Trails Program. However, as of the date of the writing of this plan, only Florida and Kansas have "opted out" of the RTP. For all other states, dedicated funds for recreational trails continue to be provided as a subset of TA. MAP-21 provides \$85 million nationally for the RTP.

For the complete list of eligible activities, visit: [http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation\\_enhancements/legislation/map21.cfm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/transportation_enhancements/legislation/map21.cfm)

For funding levels, visit: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/MAP21/funding.cfm>

### SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

The Surface Transportation Program (STP) provides states with flexible funds which may be used for a variety of highway, road, bridge, and transit projects. A wide variety of bicycle and pedestrian improvements are eligible, including on-street bicycle facilities, off-street trails, sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle and pedestrian signals, parking, and other ancillary facilities. Modification of sidewalks to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is also an eligible activity. Unlike most highway projects, STP-funded bicycle and pedestrian facilities may be located on local and collector roads which are not part of the Federal-aid Highway System. 50 percent of each state's STP funds are suballocated geographically by population to the MPOs; the remaining 50 percent may be spent in any area of the state.

For more information: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/stp.cfm>



## HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

MAP-21 doubles the amount of funding available through the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) relative to SAFETEA-LU. HSIP provides \$2.4 billion nationally for projects and programs that help communities achieve significant reductions in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads, bikeways, and walkways. MAP-21 preserves the Railway-Highway Crossings Program within HSIP but discontinues the High-Risk Rural roads set-aside unless safety statistics demonstrate that fatalities are increasing on these roads. Bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements, enforcement activities, traffic calming projects, and crossing treatments for non-motorized users in school zones are eligible for these funds.

For more information: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/hsip.cfm>

## CONGESTION MITIGATION/ AIR QUALITY PROGRAM

The Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) provides funding for projects and programs in air quality non-attainment and maintenance areas for ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter which reduce transportation related emissions. States with no nonattainment areas may use their CMAQ funds for any CMAQ or STP eligible project. These federal dollars can be used to build bicycle and pedestrian facilities that reduce travel by automobile. Purely recreational facilities generally are not eligible. . Communities located in attainment areas who do not receive CMAQ funding apportionments may apply for CMAQ funding to implement projects that will reduce travel by automobile.

More Information: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/cmaq.cfm>

## FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) METROPOLITAN PLANNING

This program provides funding for statewide and metropolitan coordinated transportation planning. Federal planning funds are first apportioned to State DOTs. State DOTs then allocate planning funding to MPOs. Eligible activities include pedestrian or bicycle planning to increase safety for non-motorized users, and to enhance the interaction and connectivity of the transportation system across and between modes.

For more information: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/mp.cfm>

## FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION ENHANCED MOBILITY OF SENIORS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

This program can be used for capital expenses that support transportation to meet the special needs of older adults and persons with disabilities, including providing access to an eligible public transportation facility when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting these needs.

For more information: [http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/MAP-21\\_Fact\\_Sheet\\_-\\_Enhanced\\_Mobility\\_of\\_Seniors\\_and\\_Individuals\\_with\\_Disabilities.pdf](http://www.fta.dot.gov/documents/MAP-21_Fact_Sheet_-_Enhanced_Mobility_of_Seniors_and_Individuals_with_Disabilities.pdf)





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### PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Founded in 2009, the Partnership for Sustainable Communities is a joint project of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). The partnership aims to “improve access to affordable housing, more transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment in communities nationwide.” The Partnership is based on five Livability Principles, one of which explicitly addresses the need for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure (“Provide more transportation choices: Develop safe, reliable, and economical transportation choices to decrease household transportation costs, reduce our nation’s dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote public health”).



The Partnership is not a formal agency with a regular annual grant program. Nevertheless, it is an important effort that has already led to some new grant opportunities (including both TIGER I and TIGER II grants). North Carolina jurisdictions should track Partnership communications and be prepared to respond proactively to announcements of new grant programs. Initiatives that speak to multiple livability goals are more likely to score well than initiatives that are narrowly limited in scope to pedestrian improvement efforts.

For more information: <http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/>

<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/partnership/>

Resource for Rural Communities: [http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/pdf/Supporting\\_Sustainable\\_Rural\\_Communities\\_FINAL.PDF](http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/pdf/Supporting_Sustainable_Rural_Communities_FINAL.PDF)

### LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) provides grants for planning and acquiring outdoor recreation areas and facilities, including trails. Funds can be used for right-of-way acquisition and construction. The program is administered by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources as a grant program for states and local governments. Maximum annual grant awards for county governments, incorporated municipalities, public authorities, and federally recognized Indian tribes are \$250,000. The local match may be provided with in-kind services or cash.



More information: [http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/lwcf\\_main.php](http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/lwcf_main.php)



## RIVERS, TRAILS, AND CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) is a National Parks Service (NPS) program providing technical assistance via direct NPS staff involvement to establish and restore greenways, rivers, trails, watersheds and open space. The RTCA program provides only for planning assistance—there are no implementation funds available. Projects are prioritized for assistance based on criteria including conserving significant community resources, fostering cooperation between agencies, serving a large number of users, encouraging public involvement in planning and implementation, and focusing on lasting accomplishments. This program may benefit trail development in North Carolina locales indirectly through technical assistance, particularly for community organizations, but is not a capital funding source.

More information: <http://www.nps.gov/ncrc/programs/rtca/> or contact the Southeast Region RTCA Program Manager Deirdre “Dee” Hewitt at (404) 507-5691

## NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM



The National Scenic Byways Discretionary Grants program provides merit-based funding for byway-related projects each year, utilizing one or more of eight specific activities for roads designated as National Scenic Byways, All-American Roads, State scenic byways, or Indian tribe scenic byways. The activities are described in 23 USC 162(c). This is a discretionary program; all projects are selected by the US Secretary of Transportation.

Eligible projects include construction along a scenic byway of a facility for pedestrians and bicyclists and improvements to a scenic byway that will enhance access to an area for the purpose of recreation. Construction includes the development of the environmental documents, design, engineering, purchase of right-of-way, land, or property, as well as supervising, inspecting, and actual construction.

More information: <http://www.bywaysonline.org/grants/>

## FEDERAL LANDS TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

The FLTP funds projects that improve access within Federal lands (including national forests, national parks, national wildlife refuges, national recreation areas, and other Federal public lands) on federally owned and maintained transportation facilities. \$300 million per fiscal year has been allocated to the program for 2013 and 2014.

More information: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/fltp.cfm>

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANTS



The Department of Energy’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG) may be used to reduce energy consumptions and fossil fuel emissions and for improvements in energy efficiency. Section 7 of the funding announcement states that these grants provide opportunities for the development and implementation of transportation programs to conserve energy used in transportation including development of infrastructure such as bike lanes and pathways and pedestrian walkways. Although the current grant period has passed, more opportunities may arise in the future.

More information: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/wip/eecbg.html>





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## STATE FUNDING SOURCES

The funding sources covered in this section were updated in the Fall of 2013 and reviewed for accuracy by NCDOT Division 8 staff as well as staff from the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation. However, at the time of development of this plan, the Strategic Transportation Investment initiative was being reviewed by the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee. Therefore, the status of future funding sources is subject to change. The availability of these funding resources should be confirmed during the implementation of a project.

### NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NCDOT) STATE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

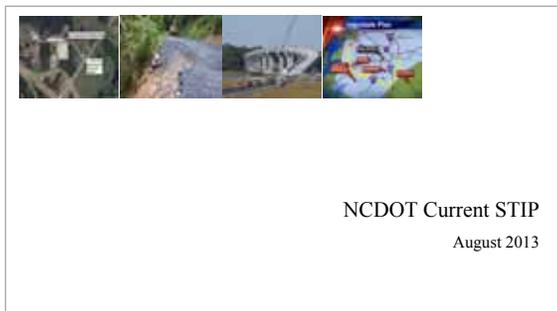
The NCDOT's State Transportation Improvement Program is based on the Strategic Transportation Investments bill, signed into law in 2013. The Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) initiative introduces the Strategic Mobility Formula, a new way to fund and prioritize transportation projects to ensure they provide the maximum benefit to our state. It allows NCDOT to use its existing revenues more efficiently to fund more investments that improve North Carolina's transportation infrastructure, create jobs and help boost the economy.



The new Strategic Transportation Investments initiative is scheduled to be fully implemented by July 1, 2015. Projects funded for construction before then will proceed as scheduled under the current Equity Formula; projects slated for after that time will be ranked and programmed according to the new formula. The new Strategic Mobility Formula assigns projects for all modes into one of three categories: Statewide Mobility, Regional Impact, and Division Needs. All independent bicycle and pedestrian projects are placed in the "Division Needs" category, and are ranked on the following five criteria:

- Safety
- Access
- Demand or density
- Constructability
- Benefit/cost ratio

This ranking largely determines which projects will be included in the department's State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is a federally mandated transportation planning document that details transportation improvements prioritized by stakeholders for inclusion in the Work Program over the next ten years. The STIP is updated every two years.



The STIP contains funding information for various transportation divisions of NCDOT including: highways, aviation, public transportation, rail, bicycle and pedestrians, and the Governor's Highway Safety Program. Access to many federal funds require that projects be incorporated into the STIP. The STIP is the primary method for allocating state and federal transportation funds. However, beginning July 1, 2015, state funds cannot be used to match federally funded projects. Only Powell Bill or local funds can be used as a match for federally funded bicycle and pedestrian projects.

For more information on STI: [www.ncdot.gov/strategictransportationinvestments/](http://www.ncdot.gov/strategictransportationinvestments/)

To access the STIP: <https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/planning>.

For more about the STIP process: <http://www.ncdot.org/performance/reform/>

### INCIDENTAL PROJECTS

Bicycle and pedestrian accommodations such as bike lanes, sidewalks, intersection improvements, widened paved shoulders and bicycle and pedestrian-safe bridge design are frequently included as incidental features of highway projects.

In addition, bicycle-safe drainage grates are a standard feature of all highway construction. Most pedestrian safety accommodations built by NCDOT are included as part of scheduled highway improvement projects funded with a combination of federal and state roadway construction funds or with a local fund match.

More information: <http://www.ncdot.gov/bikeped/funding/process/>

### SPOT SAFETY PROGRAM

The Spot Safety Program is a state funded public safety investment and improvement program that provides highly effective low cost safety improvements for intersections, and sections of North Carolina's 79,000 miles of state maintained roads in all 100 counties of North Carolina. The Spot Safety Program is used to develop smaller improvement projects to address safety, potential safety, and operational issues. The program is funded with state funds and currently receives approximately \$9 million per state fiscal year. Other monetary sources (such as Small Construction or Contingency funds) can assist in funding Spot Safety projects, however, the maximum allowable contribution of Spot Safety funds per project is \$250,000.

The Spot Safety Program targets hazardous locations for expedited low cost safety improvements such as traffic signals, turn lanes, improved shoulders, intersection upgrades, positive guidance enhancements (rumble strips, improved channelization, raised pavement markers, long life highly visible pavement markings), improved warning and regulatory signing, roadside safety improvements, school safety improvements, and safety appurtenances (like guardrail and crash attenuators).

A Safety Oversight Committee (SOC) reviews and recommends Spot Safety projects to the Board of Transportation (BOT) for approval and funding. Criteria used by the SOC to select projects for recommendation to the BOT include, but are not limited to, the frequency of correctable crashes, severity of crashes, delay, congestion, number of signal warrants met, effect on pedestrians and schools, division and region priorities, and public interest.

For more information: <https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/safety/Pages/NC-Highway-Safety-Program-and-Projects.aspx>



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### PEDESTRIAN FUNDS

Each of the 14 NCDOT Highway Divisions administers \$100,000 in pedestrian funds within its jurisdiction. These funds are used for new sidewalk construction. A written request should be submitted to the Division Engineer providing technical information such as justification, location, improvements being requested, timing, etc., for thorough review.

### HIGH HAZARD ELIMINATION PROGRAM

The Hazard Elimination Program is used to develop larger improvement projects to address safety and potential safety issues. The program is funded with 90 percent federal funds and 10 percent state funds. The cost of Hazard Elimination Program projects typically ranges between \$400,000 and \$1 million. A Safety Oversight Committee (SOC) reviews and recommends Hazard Elimination projects to the Board of Transportation (BOT) for approval and funding. These projects are prioritized for funding according to a safety benefit to cost (B/C) ratio, with the safety benefit being based on crash reduction. Once approved and funded by the BOT, these projects become part of the department's State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

More information: <https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/safety/Pages/NC-Highway-Safety-Program-and-Projects.aspx>

### NCDOT CONTINGENCY FUND

The Statewide Contingency Fund is a \$10 million fund administered by the Secretary of Transportation. The Division Engineer elicits written requests from municipalities, counties, businesses, schools, citizens, legislative members and NCDOT staff. The appeals are reviewed on their merits by the Contingency and Small Urban Funds Committee, which makes recommendations for funding to the Secretary. Written requests must provide technical information such as justification, location, improvements being requested, timing, etc., for thorough review.

More information: [https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/safety/Teppl/Pages/Teppl-Topic.aspx?Topic\\_List=F19](https://connect.ncdot.gov/resources/safety/Teppl/Pages/Teppl-Topic.aspx?Topic_List=F19)

### SMALL URBAN FUNDS

Each NCDOT Highway Division administers \$2 million of funds for small-scale improvement projects in urban areas. Projects must be within 2 miles of city limits and have a maximum cost of \$250,000. Requests for small urban funds may be made by municipalities, counties, businesses, school and industrial entities. A written request should be submitted to the Division Engineer providing technical information such as justification, location, improvements being requested, timing, etc., for thorough review.



## SPOT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation (DBPT) budgets \$500,000 per year for “spot” safety improvements throughout North Carolina. Eligible improvements include drain grate replacement, bicycle loop detectors, pedestrian signals and other small-scale improvements. These funds are used for small-scale projects not substantial enough to be included in the STIP. Proposals should be submitted directly to the Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation.

## SMALL CONSTRUCTION FUNDS

Each of the 14 NCDOT Highway Divisions administers \$357,000 of small construction funds. The purpose of these funds is to finance improvements on the State System (US, NC, and SR routes) to be used for projects anywhere in the counties. These funds are used to fund a variety of transportation projects for municipalities, counties, businesses, schools, and industries throughout the state. There is a \$250,000 maximum amount per request per fiscal year. Any project with a total cost greater than \$150,000 requires a resolution or a letter of support for the project from the local jurisdiction. *The former NCDOT Statewide Discretionary Funding program has been consolidated into this funding mechanism.*

More information: <http://www.nctransportationanswers.org/ourforms/SMALLCONSTRUCTIONFORM.pdf>

## GOVERNOR’S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

The Governor’s Highway Safety Program (GHSP) funds safety improvement projects on state highways throughout North Carolina. All funding is performance-based. Substantial progress in reducing crashes, injuries and fatalities is required as a condition of continued funding. This funding source is considered to be “seed money” to get programs started. The grantee is expected to provide a portion of the project costs and is expected to continue the program after GHSP funding ends. State Highway Applicants must use the web-based grant system to submit applications.

More information: <http://www.ncdot.org/programs/ghsp/>

## BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING GRANT INITIATIVE

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative is a matching grant program administered through NCDOT that encourages municipalities to develop comprehensive bicycle plans and pedestrian plans. The Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation (DBPT) and the Transportation Planning Branch (TPB) sponsor this grant. All North Carolina municipalities are eligible and are encouraged to apply. Funding allocations are determined on a sliding scale based on population. Municipalities who currently have bicycle plans or pedestrian plans, either through this grant program or otherwise, may also apply to update their plan provided it is at least five years old.

More information: <https://connect.ncdot.gov/municipalities/PlanningGrant/Pages/default.aspx>





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### ROAD RESURFACING

When space allows the inclusion of a bicycle lane onto a road without requiring significant drainage, Right-of-Way, or grading work, NCDOT can install the improvement during road resurfacing projects. If a project is feasible, the NCDOT can inform the affected community and offer them the opportunity to contribute to the marginal cost associated with these improvements.

### EAT SMART, MOVE MORE NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Eat Smart, Move More (ESMM) NC Community Grants program provides funding to local communities to support their efforts to develop community-based interventions that encourage, promote and facilitate physical activity. The current focus of the funds is for projects addressing youth physical activity. Funds have been used to construct trails and conduct educational programs.



More information: <http://www.eatsmartmovemorenc.com/Funding/CommunityGrants.html>

### THE NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF PARKS AND RECREATION

The North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation and the State Trails Program offer funds to help citizens, organizations and agencies plan, develop and manage all types of trails ranging from greenways and trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding to river trails and off-highway vehicle trails.

More information: <http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/main.php>

### N.C. PARKS AND RECREATION TRUST FUND (PARTF)

The Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) provide dollar-for-dollar matching grants to local governments for parks and recreational projects to serve the general public. Counties, incorporated municipalities and public authorities, as defined by G.S. 159-7, are eligible applicants.

A local government can request a maximum of \$500,000 with each application. An applicant must match the grant dollar-for-dollar, 50 percent of the total cost of the project, and may contribute more than 50 percent. The appraised value of land to be donated to the applicant can be used as part of the match. The value of in-kind services, such as volunteer work, cannot be used as part of the match.

For more information: [http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/partf\\_main.php](http://www.ncparks.gov/About/grants/partf_main.php)

### NC DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT – RECREATIONAL TRAILS AND ADOPT-A-TRAIL GRANTS

The State Trails Program is a section of the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation. The program originated in 1973 with the North Carolina Trails System Act and is dedicated to helping citizens, organizations and agencies plan, develop and manage all types of trails ranging from greenways and trails for hiking, biking and horseback riding to river trails and off-highway vehicle trails. The Recreation Trails Program awards grants up to \$75,000 per project. The Adopt-A-Trail Program awards grants up to \$5,000 per project.





## POWELL BILL FUNDS

Annually, State street-aid (Powell Bill) allocations are made to incorporated municipalities which establish their eligibility and qualify as provided by G.S. 136-41.1 through 136-41.4. Powell Bill funds shall be expended only for the purposes of maintaining, repairing, constructing, reconstructing or widening of local streets that are the responsibility of the municipalities or for planning, construction, and maintenance of bikeways or sidewalks along public streets and highways. Beginning July 1, 2015 under the Strategic Transportation Investments initiative, Powell Bill funds may no longer be used to provide a match for federal transportation funds such as Transportation Alternatives.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are available to local municipal or county governments that qualify for projects to enhance the viability of communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income. State CDBG funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to the state of North Carolina. Some urban counties and cities in North Carolina receive CDBG funding directly from HUD. Each year, CDBG provides funding to local governments for hundreds of critically-needed community improvement projects throughout the state. These community improvement projects are administered by the Division of Community Assistance and the Commerce Finance Center under eight grant categories. Two categories might be of support to pedestrian and bicycle projects in 'entitlement communities': Infrastructure and Community Revitalization.

## CLEAN WATER MANAGEMENT TRUST FUND (CWMTF)



This fund was established in 1996 and has become one of the largest sources of money in North Carolina for land and water protection, eligible for application by a state agency, local government, or non-profit. At the end of each year, a minimum of \$30 million is placed in the CWMTF. The revenue of this fund is allocated as grants to local governments, state agencies and conservation non-profits to help finance projects that specifically address water pollution problems. Funds may be used for planning and land acquisition to establish a network of riparian buffers and greenways for environmental, educational, and recreational benefits.

For more information: <http://www.cwmtf.net/#appmain.htm>

## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM (MANAGED BY NCDOT, DBPT)

The NCDOT Safe Routes to School Program is a federally funded program that was initiated by the passing of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 2005, which establishes a national SRTS program to distribute funding and institutional support to implement SRTS programs in states and communities across the country. SRTS programs facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of schools. The Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation at NCDOT is charged with disseminating SRTS funding.





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The state of North Carolina was allocated \$15 million in Safe Routes to School funding for fiscal years 2005 through 2009 for infrastructure or non-infrastructure projects. In 2009, more than \$3.6 million went to 22 municipalities and local agencies for infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects. All proposed projects must relate to increasing walking or biking to and from an elementary or middle school. An example of a non-infrastructure project is an education or encouragement program to improve rates of walking and biking to school. An example of an infrastructure project is construction of sidewalks around a school. Infrastructure improvements under this program must be made within 2 miles of an elementary or middle school. The state requires the completion of a competitive application to apply for funding.

For more information: <https://connect.ncdot.gov/projects/BikePed/Pages/Safe-Routes-To-School.aspx>

<http://www.ncdot.gov/download/programs/srts/SRTS.pdf>

Or contact DBPT/NCDOT at (919) 807-0774.



## URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY GRANT

The North Carolina Division of Forest Resources Urban and Community Forestry grant can provide funding for a variety of projects that will help toward planning and establishing street trees as well as trees for urban open space. The goal is to improve public understanding of the benefits of preserving existing tree cover in communities and assist local governments with projects which will lead to a more effective and efficient management of urban and community forests. Grant requests should range between \$1,000 and \$15,000 and must be matched equally with non-federal funds. Grant funds may be awarded to any unit of local or state government, public educational institutions, approved non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations and other tax-exempt organizations. First-time municipal applicant and municipalities seeking Tree City USA status are given priority for funding.



For more about Tree City USA status, including application instructions, visit: [http://ncforestservice.gov/Urban/urban\\_grant\\_overview.htm](http://ncforestservice.gov/Urban/urban_grant_overview.htm)



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING SOURCES

Municipalities often plan for the funding of pedestrian and bicycle facilities or improvements through development of Capital Improvement Programs (CIP). In Raleigh, for example, the greenways system has been developed over many years through a dedicated source of annual funding that has ranged from \$100,000 to \$500,000, administered through the Recreation and Parks Department. CIPs should include all types of capital improvements (water, sewer, buildings, streets, etc.) versus programs for single purposes. This allows municipal decision-makers to balance all capital needs. Typical capital funding mechanisms include the following: capital reserve fund, capital protection ordinances, municipal service district, tax increment financing, taxes, fees, and bonds. Each category is described below. A variety of possible funding options available to North Carolina jurisdictions for implementing pedestrian and bicycle projects are described below. However, many will require specific local action as a means of establishing a program, if not already in place.

### CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Municipalities have statutory authority to create capital reserve funds for any capital purpose, including pedestrian facilities. The reserve fund must be created through ordinance or resolution that states the purpose of the fund, the duration of the fund, the approximate amount of the fund, and the source of revenue for the fund. Sources of revenue can include general fund allocations, fund balance allocations, grants and donations for the specified use.

### CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCES

Municipalities can pass Capital Project Ordinances that are project specific. The ordinance identifies and makes appropriations for the project.

### LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (LID)

Local Improvement Districts (LIDs) are most often used by cities to construct localized projects such as streets, sidewalks or bikeways. Through the LID process, the costs of local improvements are generally spread out among a group of property owners within a specified area. The cost can be allocated based on property frontage or other methods such as traffic trip generation.

### MUNICIPAL SERVICE DISTRICT

Municipalities have statutory authority to establish municipal service districts, to levy a property tax in the district additional to the town-wide property tax, and to use the proceeds to provide services in the district. Downtown revitalization projects are one of the eligible uses of service districts, and can include projects such as street, sidewalk, or bikeway improvements within the downtown taxing district.





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### TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

Project Development Financing bonds, also known as Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is a relatively new tool in North Carolina, allowing localities to use future gains in taxes to finance the current improvements that will create those gains. When a public project (e.g., sidewalk improvements) is constructed, surrounding property values generally increase and encourage surrounding development or redevelopment. The increased tax revenues are then dedicated to finance the debt created by the original public improvement project. Streets, streetscapes, and sidewalk improvements are specifically authorized for TIF funding in North Carolina. Tax Increment Financing typically occurs within designated development financing districts that meet certain economic criteria that are approved by a local governing body. TIF funds are generally spent inside the boundaries of the TIF district, but they can also be spent outside the district if necessary to encourage development within it.

### OTHER LOCAL FUNDING OPTIONS

- Bonds/Loans
- Taxes
- Impact fees
- Exactions
- Installment purchase financing
- In-lieu-of-fees
- Partnerships

### PRIVATE AND NON-PROFIT FUNDING SOURCES

Many communities have solicited greenway funding assistance from private foundations and other conservation-minded benefactors. Below are several examples of private funding opportunities available.

### LAND FOR TOMORROW CAMPAIGN

Land for Tomorrow is a diverse partnership of businesses, conservationists, farmers, environmental groups, health professionals and community groups committed to securing support from the public and General Assembly for protecting land, water and historic places. The campaign was successful in 2013 in asking the North Carolina General Assembly to continue to support conservation efforts in the state. The state budget bill includes about \$50 million in funds for key conservation efforts in North Carolina. Land for Tomorrow works to enable North Carolina to reach a goal of ensuring that working farms and forests; sanctuaries for wildlife; land bordering streams, parks and greenways; land that helps strengthen communities and promotes job growth; and historic downtowns and neighborhoods will be there to enhance the quality of life for generations to come.

For more information: <http://www.land4tomorrow.org/>



## THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation was established as a national philanthropy in 1972 and today it is the largest U.S. foundation devoted to improving the health and health care of all Americans. Grant making is concentrated in four areas:

- To assure that all Americans have access to basic health care at a reasonable cost
- To improve care and support for people with chronic health conditions
- To promote healthy communities and lifestyles
- To reduce the personal, social and economic harm caused by substance abuse: tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs

For more specific information about what types of projects are funded and how to apply, visit [www.rwjf.org/applications/](http://www.rwjf.org/applications/)



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

## NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The North Carolina Community Foundation, established in 1988, is a statewide foundation seeking gifts from individuals, corporations, and other foundations to build endowments and ensure financial security for nonprofit organizations and institutions throughout the state. Based in Raleigh, North Carolina, the foundation also manages a number of community affiliates throughout North Carolina, that make grants in the areas of human services, education, health, arts, religion, civic affairs, and the conservation and preservation of historical, cultural, and environmental resources. The foundation also manages various scholarship programs statewide.

For more information: <http://nccommunityfoundation.org/>

NORTH CAROLINA  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION





## THE TOWN OF DAVIDSON, NORTH CAROLINA

### CAROLINA THREAD TRAIL

The Carolina Thread Trail is a regional trail funding initiative that aims to connect 15 counties and 2.3 million people in south-central North Carolina. The initiative is led by the Catawba Lands Conservancy and a collection of local partners who help to fund trail projects throughout the region. There are currently 117 miles of trail in place. The Town of Davidson should consider partnering with the Carolina Thread Trail to connect local greenway projects to the surrounding region and for funding assistance with planning, design, land acquisition efforts.



**CAROLINA  
THREAD  
TRAIL**

*Weaving  
Communities  
Together*

### WALMART STATE GIVING PROGRAM

The Walmart Foundation financially supports projects that create opportunities for better living. Grants are awarded for projects that support and promote education, workforce development/economic opportunity, health and wellness, and environmental sustainability. Both programmatic and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding. State Giving Program grants start at \$25,000, and there is no maximum award amount. The program accepts grant applications on an annual, state by state basis January 2nd through March 2nd.

Online resource: <http://foundation.walmart.com/apply-for-grants/state-giving>

### THE RITE AID FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Rite Aid Foundation is a foundation that supports projects that promote health and wellness in the communities that Rite Aid serves. Award amounts vary and grants are awarded on a one year basis to communities in which Rite Aid operates. A wide array of activities are eligible for funding, including infrastructural and programmatic projects.

Online resource: <https://www.riteaid.com/about-us/rite-aid-foundation>

### Z. SMITH REYNOLDS FOUNDATION

This Winston-Salem-based Foundation has been assisting the environmental projects of local governments and non-profits in North Carolina for many years. They have two grant cycles per year and generally do not fund land acquisition. However, they may be able to offer support in other areas of open space and greenways development.

For more information: [www.zsr.org](http://www.zsr.org)



### BANK OF AMERICA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, INC.

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation is one of the largest in the nation. The primary grants program is called Neighborhood Excellence, which seeks to identify critical issues in local communities. Another program that applies to greenways is the Community Development Programs, and specifically the Program Related Investments. This program targets low and moderate income communities and serves to encourage entrepreneurial business development.

For more information: [www.bankofamerica.com/foundation](http://www.bankofamerica.com/foundation)



## DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION

Funded by Duke Energy shareholders, this non-profit organization makes charitable grants to selected non-profits or governmental subdivisions. Each annual grant must have:

- An internal Duke Energy business “sponsor”
- A clear business reason for making the contribution

The grant program has three focus areas: Environment and Energy Efficiency, Economic Development, and Community Vitality. Related to this project, the Foundation would support programs that support conservation, training and research around environmental and energy efficiency initiatives.

For more information: <http://www.duke-energy.com/community/foundation.asp>

## AMERICAN GREENWAYS EASTMAN KODAK AWARDS

The Conservation Fund’s American Greenways Program has teamed with the Eastman Kodak Corporation and the National Geographic Society to award small grants (\$250 to \$2,000) to stimulate the planning, design and development of greenways. These grants can be used for activities such as mapping, conducting ecological assessments, surveying land, holding conferences, developing brochures, producing interpretive displays, incorporating land trusts, and building trails. Grants cannot be used for academic research, institutional support, lobbying or political activities.

For more information: [www.conservationfund.org](http://www.conservationfund.org)

## NATIONAL TRAILS FUND

American Hiking Society created the National Trails Fund in 1998, the only privately supported national grants program providing funding to grassroots organizations working toward establishing, protecting and maintaining foot trails in America. 73 million people enjoy foot trails annually, yet many of our favorite trails need major repairs due to a \$200 million backlog of badly needed maintenance. National Trails Fund grants help give local organizations the resources they need to secure access, volunteers, tools and materials to protect America’s cherished public trails. To date, American Hiking has granted more than \$240,000 to 56 different trail projects across the U.S. for land acquisition, constituency building campaigns, and traditional trail work projects. Awards range from \$500 to \$10,000 per project.

Projects the American Hiking Society will consider include:

- Securing trail lands, including acquisition of trails and trail corridors, and the costs associated with acquiring conservation easements.
- Building and maintaining trails which will result in visible and substantial ease of access, improved hiker safety, and/or avoidance of environmental damage.
- Constituency building surrounding specific trail projects - including volunteer recruitment and support.

For more information: <http://www.americanhiking.org/national-trails-fund/>





## THE TOWN OF DAVIDSON, NORTH CAROLINA

### THE CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

The Conservation Alliance is a non-profit organization of outdoor businesses whose collective annual membership dues support grassroots citizen-action groups and their efforts to protect wild and natural areas. Grants are typically about \$35,000 each. Since its inception in 1989, The Conservation Alliance has contributed \$4,775,059 to environmental groups across the nation, saving over 34 million acres of wild lands.

The Conservation Alliance Funding Criteria:

- The Project should be focused primarily on direct citizen action to protect and enhance our natural resources for recreation.
- The Alliance does not look for mainstream education or scientific research projects, but rather for active campaigns.
- All projects should be quantifiable, with specific goals, objectives and action plans and should include a measure for evaluating success.
- The project should have a good chance for closure or significant measurable results over a fairly short term (one to two years).
- Funding emphasis may not be on general operating expenses or staff payroll.

More information: <http://www.conservationalliance.com/grants>

### NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (NFWF)

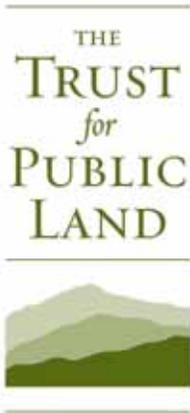
The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is a private, nonprofit, tax-exempt organization chartered by Congress in 1984. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation sustains, restores, and enhances the Nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Through leadership conservation investments with public and private partners, the Foundation is dedicated to achieving maximum conservation impact by developing and applying best practices and innovative methods for measurable outcomes.

The Foundation awards matching grants under its Keystone Initiatives to achieve measurable outcomes in the conservation of fish, wildlife, plants and the habitats on which they depend. Awards are made on a competitive basis to eligible grant recipients, including federal, tribal, state, and local governments, educational institutions, and non-profit conservation organizations. Project proposals are received on a year-round, revolving basis with two decision cycles per year. Grants generally range from \$50,000-\$300,000 and typically require a minimum 2:1 non-federal match.

Funding priorities include bird, fish, marine/coastal, and wildlife and habitat conservation. Other projects that are considered include controlling invasive species, enhancing delivery of ecosystem services in agricultural systems, minimizing the impact on wildlife of emerging energy sources, and developing future conservation leaders and professionals.

For more information: <http://www.nfwf.org/pages/grants/home.aspx>





### THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Land conservation is central to the mission of the Trust for Public Land (TPL). Founded in 1972, the Trust for Public Land is the only national nonprofit working exclusively to protect land for human enjoyment and well-being. TPL helps conserve land for recreation and spiritual nourishment and to improve the health and quality of life of American communities.

More information: <http://www.tpl.org>

### BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF NORTH CAROLINA FOUNDATION (BCBS)

Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) focuses on programs that use an outcome approach to improve the health and well-being of residents. The Health of Vulnerable Populations grants program focuses on improving health outcomes for at-risk populations. The Healthy Active Communities grant concentrates on increased physical activity and healthy eating habits. Eligible grant applicants must be located in North Carolina, be able to provide recent tax forms and, depending on the size of the nonprofit, provide an audit.

For more information: <http://www.bcbsncfoundation.org/>

### ALLIANCE FOR BIKING & WALKING: ADVOCACY ADVANCE GRANTS



Bicycle and pedestrian advocacy organizations play the most important role in improving and increasing biking and walking in local communities, states, and provinces. Advocacy Advance Grants enable state and local bicycle and pedestrian advocacy organizations to develop, transform, and provide innovative strategies in their communities. Thanks to remarkable support from SRAM, Planet Bike, and Bikes Belong, the Alliance for Biking & Walking has awarded more than \$500,000 in direct grants, technical assistance and scholarships to advocacy organizations across North America since the Advocacy Advance Grant program's inception. In 2009 and 2010, these one-year grants were awarded twice annually to startup organizations and innovative campaigns to dramatically increase biking and walking. Through the Advocacy Advance Partnership with the League of American Bicyclists, the Alliance also provided necessary technical assistance, coaching, and training to supplement the grants.

For more information, visit [www.peoplepoweredmovement.org](http://www.peoplepoweredmovement.org)

### BIKES BELONG GRANTS



The Bikes Belong Grant program funds important and influential projects that leverage federal funding and build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S. These projects include greenways and rail trails accessible by pedestrians and bicyclists. Applicants can request a maximum amount of \$10,000 for their project, and priorities are given to areas that have not received Bikes Belong funding in the past three years. Community Partnership Grants are a new Bikes Belong opportunity. These grants are designed to foster and support partnerships between city or county governments, non-profit organizations, and local businesses to improve the environment for bicycling in the community. Grants will primarily fund the construction or expansion of facilities such as bike lanes, trails, and paths. The lead organization must be a non-profit organization with IRS 501(c)3 designation or a city or county government office.

More information: <http://www.bikesbelong.org/grants/>





## THE TOWN OF DAVIDSON, NORTH CAROLINA

### LOCAL TRAIL SPONSORS

A sponsorship program for trail amenities allows smaller donations to be received from both individuals and businesses. Cash donations could be placed into a trust fund to be accessed for certain construction or acquisition projects associated with the greenways and open space system. Some recognition of the donors is appropriate and can be accomplished through the placement of a plaque, the naming of a trail segment, and/or special recognition at an opening ceremony. Types of gifts other than cash could include donations of services, equipment, labor, or reduced costs for supplies.

### CORPORATE DONATIONS

Corporate donations are often received in the form of liquid investments (i.e. cash, stock, bonds) and in the form of land. Municipalities typically create funds to facilitate and simplify a transaction from a corporation's donation to the given municipality. Donations are mainly received when a widely supported capital improvement program is implemented.

### PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

Private individual donations can come in the form of liquid investments (i.e. cash, stock, bonds) or land. Municipalities typically create funds to facilitate and simplify a transaction from an individual's donation to the given municipality. Donations are mainly received when a widely supported capital improvement program is implemented.

### FUNDRAISING / CAMPAIGN DRIVES

Organizations and individuals can participate in a fundraiser or a campaign drive. It is essential to market the purpose of a fundraiser to rally support and financial backing. Often times fundraising satisfies the need for public awareness, public education, and financial support.

### VOLUNTEER WORK

It is expected that many citizens will be excited about the development of a greenway corridor. Individual volunteers from the community can be brought together with groups of volunteers from church groups, civic groups, scout troops and environmental groups to work on greenway development on special community workdays. Volunteers can also be used for fund-raising, maintenance, and programming needs.



FUNDING SOURCE SUMMARY TABLE

POTENTIAL USES

Funding Source	Planning	Programming	Design/ Construction
<b>FEDERAL FUNDING</b>			
Transportation Alternatives	x	x	x
Surface Transportation Program			x
Highway Safety Improvement Program		x	x
Congestion Mitigation/ Air Quality		x	x
FTA Metropolitan Planning Program	x		
FTA Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities			
Partnership for Sustainable Communities	x	x	x
Land and Water Conservation Fund	x		x
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program	x		
National Scenic Byways Discretionary Grant Program			x
Federal Lands Transportation Program			x
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants	x		x
<b>STATE FUNDING</b>			
NCDOT State Transportation Improvement Program			x
Incidental Projects			x
Spot Safety Program (anywhere is eligible, but more likely in dense areas)			x
Pedestrian Funds			x
High Hazard Elimination Program (anywhere is eligible, but more likely in dense areas)			x
NCDOT Contingency Fund			x
Small Urban Funds			x
Spot Improvement Program			x
Small Construction Funds			x
Governor's Highway Safety Program			x
Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant Initiative	x	x	
Road Resurfacing			x
Eat Smart, Move More North Carolina Community Grants		x	x
The North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation			x





POTENTIAL USES

Funding Source	Planning	Programming	Design/ Construction
The North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF)			x
Adopt-A-Trail Program			x
Powell Bill Funds			x
Community Development Block Grant	x	x	x
Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF)	x	x	x
Safe Routes to School Program	x	x	x
Urban and Community Forestry Grant	x		x

LOCAL FUNDING

Capital Reserve Fund			x
Capital Project Ordinances			x
Local Improvement District (LID)			x
Municipal Service District			x
Tax Increment Financing			x
Installment Purchase Financing			x
Sales Tax	x		x
Property Tax	x		x
Excise Tax			x
Occupancy Tax			x
Fees			x
Stormwater Utility Fees			x
Streetscape Utility Fees			x
Impact Fees			x
Exactions			x
In-Lieu-Of Fees			x
Bonds and Loans			x
Revenue Bonds			x
General Obligation Bonds (cities, counties and service districts)			x
Special Assessment Bonds			x
State Revolving Fund Loans			x



POTENTIAL USES

Funding Source	Planning	Programming	Design/ Construction
<b>PRIVATE/ NON-PROFIT FUNDING</b>			
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	x	x	
North Carolina Community Foundation	x	x	
Carolina Thread Trail	x		x
Walmart State Giving Program	x	x	x
The Rite Aid Foundation Grant		x	x
Z Smith Reynolds Foundation			x
Bank of America Charitable Foundation Inc	x	x	
Duke Energy Foundation		x	
The Trust for Public Land	x	x	
American Greenways Eastman Kodak Awards	x	x	x
National Trails Fund		x	x
The Conservation Alliance	x	x	
Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation		x	x
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	x	x	x
Bikes Belong Grant			x
Alliance for Biking and Walking Advocacy Grants			x
Local Trail Sponsors			x
Corporate Donations	x	x	x
Private Individual Donations	x	x	x
Fundraising/ Campaign Drives	x	x	x
Volunteer Work	x	x	x

