

Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Application Guide

October 2025

The following guide is an overview of project and applicant information needed to complete a SEMCOG TAP Application. The actual [TAP Application](#) is available online and must be submitted in advance of the deadlines. Please visit [SEMC](#)OG's [TAP webpage](#) for more information or reach out to SEMCOG TAP Coordinators [Brian Pawlik](#) and [Ally Racisz](#) at 313-324-3426 or 313-654-1518.

1. Applicant Information

- a. What is the name of the organization applying for a TAP Grant? *
(Short Answer)
Who is lead organization for this project and application?
- b. Are you a Transit Agency? * (Yes-No)
 - Yes, we are a transit agency and are applying for Access To Transit
 - No, we are not transit agency (Not eligible for Access to Transit)
- c. Is your organization an Act-51 Agency? * (Yes-No)
Is the lead organization a city, village, county road commission?
- d. [Sponsorship agreement form](#) (Upload)
If not an Act-51 Agency, one of the aforementioned will need to sponsor the applicant and the project. Both parties should fill out this form
- e. Contact name, phone number, email * (Short Answer)
Who is the main contact for this project who can answer application questions and project correspondence?
- f. Additional contacts (Short Answer)
Please feel free to add additional contacts who may be involved with the project such as:
 - Chief Elected Official
 - Chief Administrative Official
 - Project Engineer
 - Project Manager
 - DDA Official

2. _

a. Access to Transit Projects

Note: Those section is only open to Transit Agencies. All other applicants will be directed to 2b.

- i. Which Fiscal Year are you requesting funding for?
2026, 2027, Flexible on Fiscal Year
- ii. Which FTA funding program will you be flexing to?
5310, 5307, 5311, unsure
- iii. Grant Request Amount*
This should be 80% of project elements
- iv. 20% Local Match Amount*
This should be 20% of project elements
- v. Total Budget*
Total budget equals the grant request + 20% match
- vi. Project Narrative* (Upload)
In a brief narrative, describe the proposed work and how the project: Impacts residents, road/trail users, and neighboring communities; Implements local, county, regional, state, and national plans; Expands mobility and access to core services and other destinations; Increases environmental benefits, including transportation-related stormwater runoff reduction estimates
- vii. Additional TAP eligible items being constructed (Check all that apply)
If your project includes multiple improvements, you can list all that apply, in addition to the primary project type.
 - i. None
 - ii. Green Infrastructure
 - iii. Sidewalks (new)
 - iv. Crosswalks (new)
 - v. Shared use path(s) (new)
 - vi. Separated Bike Lanes (new)
 - vii. Standard or Buffered Bike Lanes (new)
 - viii. Neighborhood Greenways
 - ix. Other Bikeways: Wide paved Shoulders, Shared Lane Markings, Advisory Bike Lanes, and/or Bike Routes
 - x. Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Related Streetscape
 - xi. Traffic Calming
 - xii. Sidewalk and/or Shared-Use Path Modernization
- viii. Project Location Map* (Upload)
A project location map is used to demonstrate how this project fits into the larger community-wide, county-wide or regional network. Please show where this project is located in your community. If this is a bicycle and or pedestrian project,

please also show the connectivity to your existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian networks and/or adjacent community networks, if applicable.

ix. Plan View Drawing* (Upload)

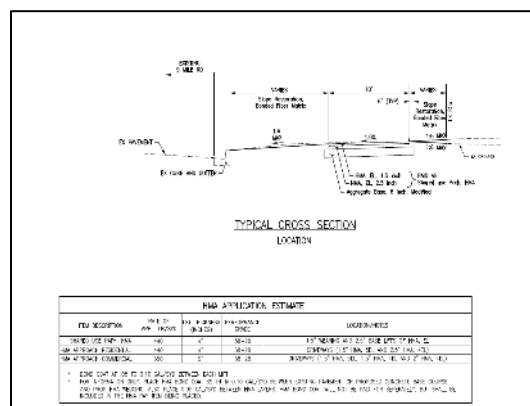
A plan view drawing is a downward looking/aerial view drawing of the project used to learn about proposed alignment, surrounding land use, and other important "constructability" and safety issues. It should show the entire project from the beginning to the end.



Example of one page of a Plan view Sketch

x. Cross Section (*Upload*)

A cross section is a vertical cut-away view of your project. SEMCOG is looking for the typical cross section, so we can ensure there is enough room in the Right-of-Way (ROW) for everything proposed and the features have the correct widths.



Example of a typical cross section

xi. Will this project be coordinated with any other infrastructure? * (Yes-No)

Examples include other road work, water/sewer projects, etc.

- xii. If the project will be coordinated with another infrastructure project, please provide more information on that project. * *(Long answer, 1000 character answer)*
- xiii. Has this project been included in any local/regional plans? * *(Yes-No)*
It is encouraged to mention if a project has undergone any extra preliminary planning, such as mention in a plan, public engagement, implemented a planning assistance grant, road safety audit, etc. as this can increase competitiveness.
- xiv. If the project is mentioned in a local/regional plan, please provide more information. * *(Long answer, 1000 character answer)*
- xv. Photos, renderings, etc. *(Upload)*
SEMCOG highly encourages photographs of existing conditions and renderings of proposed treatments, if applicable. Please combine all photos into one document and provide descriptions for each photo.



Example of a Photo/Rendering

b. Project Information

- i. Have you had a Pre-Application Meeting with SEMCOG staff specifically about this project? * (Yes-No)

SEMCOG encourages each applicant to have one or more pre-application meetings for each TAP application to help maximize application eligibility, competitiveness, and expediency, while also minimizing applicant resources

- ii. Project Name * (Short Answer)

Please use a name that is short but descriptive of the work being performed (e.g. Woodward CycleTracks, Fort Street Sidewalks).

- iii. Project Community or Communities * (Short Answer)

Please list the name of the community or communities where the project is located. If multiple communities, please list the lead community first.

- iv. Project Type* (Select One)

Choose the project type that represents the largest share of the participating project cost or the most common.

1. Safe Streets Now
2. Green Infrastructure
3. Sidewalks (new)
4. Crosswalks (new)
5. Shared use path (new)
6. Separated Bike Lanes (new)
7. Standard or Buffered Bike Lanes (new)
8. Neighborhood Greenways
9. Other Bikeways: Wide paved Shoulders, Shared Lane Markings, Advisory Bike Lanes, and/or Bike Routes
10. Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Related Streetscape
11. Shared-Use Path Modernization
12. Traffic Calming
13. Other (Please Specify)

- v. Please Specify Other Project Type

- c. Additional TAP eligible items being constructed. * (Check all that apply)

If your project includes multiple improvements, you can list all that apply, in addition to the primary project type.

- i. None
- ii. Green Infrastructure
- iii. Sidewalks (new)
- iv. Crosswalks (new)
- v. Shared use path(s) (new)
- vi. Separated Bike Lanes (new)

- vii. *Standard or Buffered Bike Lanes (new)*
- viii. *Neighborhood Greenways*
- ix. *Other Bikeways: Wide paved Shoulders, Shared Lane Markings, Advisory Bike Lanes, and/or Bike Routes*
- x. *Bicycle/Pedestrian Safety Related Streetscape*
- xi. *Traffic Calming*
- xii. *Sidewalk and/or Shared-Use Path Modernization*

d. **Project Limits*** *(Long answer, 1000 Character limit)*

Short description of where the project is located, including the road(s) or corridor(s) affected and the starting and endpoints. Use the nearest cross streets.

e. **Project Work Description*** *(Long answer, 1000 Character limit)*

Please specify what is proposed to be built within the project area with as much precision as possible. The plan view drawing and cross section will help supplement this description.

f. **Map your Project*** *(map window)*

Draw a polygon around the road corridor or area most affected by your project.

3. Required Documents

a. **Project Narrative*** *(Upload)*

In a brief narrative, describe the proposed work and how the project:

- *Impacts residents, road/trail users, and neighboring communities;*
- *Implements local, county, regional, state, and national plans;*
- *Expands mobility and access to core services and other destinations;*
- *Increases environmental benefits, including transportation-related stormwater runoff reduction estimates*

b. **Project Location Map*** *(Upload)*

A project location map is used to demonstrate how this project fits into the larger community-wide, county-wide or regional network. Please show where this project is located in your community. If this is a bicycle and or pedestrian project, please also show the connectivity to your existing and planned bicycle and pedestrian networks and/or adjacent communities' network, if applicable.

c. **Plan View Drawing*** *(Upload)*

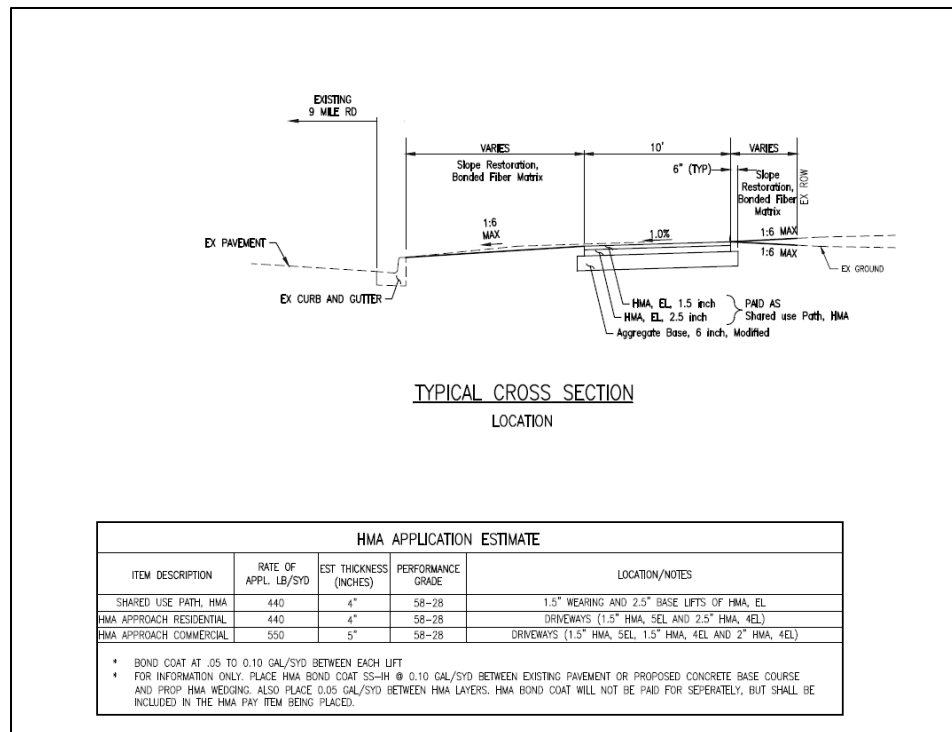
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Example of one page of a Plan view Sketch

d. Cross Section* (Upload)

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Example of a typical cross section

e. Total Participation Budget* (short answer)

How much does the project cost for all participating items

SEMCOG Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
Application Guide, October 2025

- f. Does the project include any non-participating work? * (Yes-No)
This is work you plan to include in the project but is not eligible for TAP funding. Examples include road resurfacing, kayak launches, picnic tables, and public art.
- g. Details of non-participating work. (Long answer, 1000 Character limit)
Please list the type of non-participating work being performed as part of this project. Examples include road resurfacing, kayak launches, picnic tables, and public art.
- h. Detailed Engineering Construction Cost Estimate * (Upload)
A detailed engineer's construction cost estimate using the Michigan Engineer's Resource Library (MERL) software. Be sure to list each pay item, the quantity, unit price and total line item cost. This is how we can ensure items are participating and that the estimate is accurate. Your TAP grant will be based on this estimate and there is no guarantee of additional funding should your estimate be lower than final estimate and contractor bids.

Line	Pay Item	Description	Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Total
Category: 0001 Category 1						
0001	1100001	Mobilization, Max \$138,000.00	1.000	LSUM	\$138,000.00	\$138,000.00
0002	2020002	Tree, Rem, 19 inch to 36 inch	27.000	Ea	\$250.00	\$6,750.00
0003	2040020	Curb and Gutter, Rem	645.000	Ft	\$20.00	\$12,900.00
0004	2040050	Pavt, Rem	638.000	Syd	\$10.00	\$6,380.00
0005	2040055	Sidewalk, Rem	2,485.000	Syd	\$72.00	\$178,776.00
0006	2040060	Structures, Rem	1.000	LSUM	\$750.00	\$750.00
0007	2047050	__Recycle Receptacle, Salv and Reinstall	1.000	Ea	\$200.00	\$200.00
0008	2047050	__Relocate Bus Shelter	1.000	Ea	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
0009	2047050	__Bench, Salv and Reinstall	2.000	Ea	\$200.00	\$400.00
0010	2047050	__Litter Receptacle, Salv and Reinstall	2.000	Ea	\$200.00	\$400.00
0011	2047051	__Tree Trimming	1.000	LSUM	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
0012	3020020	Aggregate Base, 6 inch	6,572.000	Syd	\$15.00	\$98,580.00
0013	4030005	Dr Structure Cover, Adj, Case 1	3.000	Ea	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00
0014	4030005	Dr Structure Cover, Type Q	1.000	Ea	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
0015	7060200	Mechanically Stabilized Earth Wall, Precast, Full	300.000	Sft	\$25.00	\$7,500.00
0016	7060201	Mechanically Stabilized Earth Wall, Precast, Install	300.000	Sft	\$25.00	\$7,500.00
0017	8010001	Driveway, Reinl Conc, 6 inch	372.000	Syd	\$50.00	\$18,600.00
0018	8020037	Curb and Gutter, Conc, Del F3	353.000	Ft	\$35.00	\$12,355.00
0019	8020050	Driveway Opening, Conc, Del M	228.000	Ft	\$38.00	\$8,664.00
0020	8030010	Detectable Warning Surface	200.000	Ft	\$55.00	\$11,000.00
0021	8030030	Curb Ramp Opening, Conc	220.000	Ft	\$20.00	\$4,400.00
0022	8032001	Curb Ramp, Conc, 4 inch	3,056.000	Sft	\$8.50	\$26,316.00

Line	Pay Item	Description	Quantity	Units	Unit Price	Total
0023	8060030	Shared use Path, Grading	4,650.000	Ft	\$45.00	\$209,250.00
0024	8060040	Shared use Path, HMA	1,450.000	Ton	\$275.00	\$398,750.00
0025	8100402	Sign, Type III, Erect, Salv	12.000	Ea	\$60.00	\$720.00
0026	8102003	Sign, Type III, Rem, Salv	12.000	Ea	\$10.00	\$120.00
0027	8110111	Pavt Mkg, Polyurea, 12 inch, White	678.000	Ft	\$5.00	\$3,390.00
0028	8120083	Conc Barrier, Temp, Relocated	20.000	Ft	\$5.00	\$100.00
0029	8120170	Minor Traf Devices	1.000	LSUM	\$69,000.00	\$69,000.00
0030	8162001	Slope Restoration, Non-Freeway, Type A	3,100.000	Syd	\$8.00	\$24,800.00
0031	8182328	Hh, Adj	4.000	Ea	\$2,000.00	\$8,000.00
0032	8187050	__Flag Pole, Salv and Reinstall	1.000	Ea	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
0033	8190276	Light Std Arm, Install Salv	9.000	Ea	\$2,000.00	\$18,000.00
0034	8190306	Light Std Shaft, Rem and Salv	9.000	Ea	\$2,000.00	\$18,000.00
0035	8200101	Pedestal, Alum, Salv	1.000	Ea	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
0036	8207050	__Pushbutton and Sign, Salv and Reinstall	3.000	Ea	\$2,000.00	\$6,000.00
0037	8207050	__Relocate Guy Wire	1.000	Ea	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
0038	8207050	__Traffic Control Pole, Salv and Reinstall	2.000	Ea	\$25,000.00	\$50,000.00
0039	8230096	Hydrant, Relocate, Case 2	2.000	Ea	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00
0040	8507050	__Relocate Gas Utility Locator	4.000	Ea	\$100.00	\$400.00
Category 0001 Total:						\$1,368,501.00
Estimate Total:						\$1,368,501.00

Example of a Detailed Engineering Estimate

- i. Grant Request (* short answer)
The maximum amount is 80% of the total participating project costs.
- j. Match Amount* (short answer)
The minimum amount is 20% of the total participating project costs.

k. **Match Sources*** (Long answer, 1000 character answer)

Please identify the source(s) of your match and their corresponding amount which adds up to the total match needed for the project. Sources are important to ensure they are legally allowed to match federal funding.

l. Will this project be coordinated with any other infrastructure project? (Yes-No)
Examples include other road work, water/sewer projects, etc.

m. If the project will be coordinated with another infrastructure project, please provide more information on that project. (Long answer, 1000 character answer)

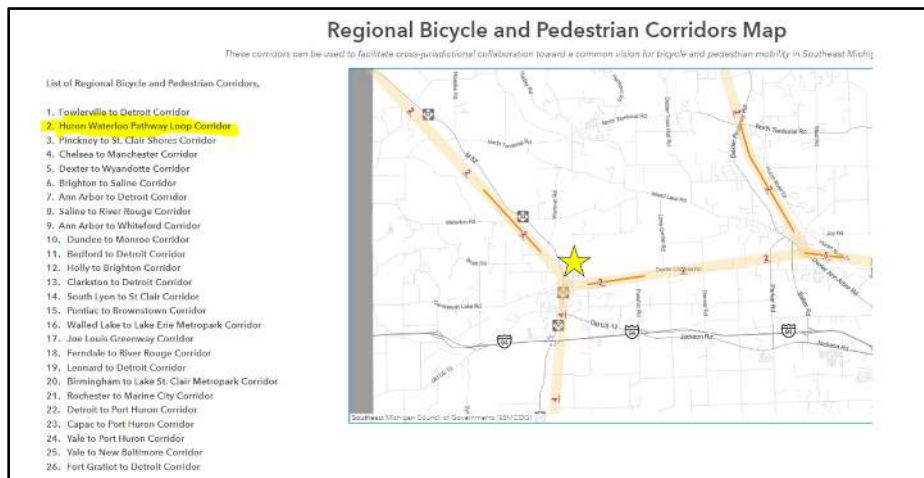
4. Project Selection Criteria *

a. Select the “Selection Criteria” your project implements: (Check all that apply)

- i. Addresses a gap and/or provide connections to identified [Regional Corridors](#)
- ii. Enhances existing Regional Corridors to increase safety, accessibility, use, and/or comfort
- iii. Enhances walking and biking in an identified [Equity Emphasis Area](#)
- iv. Enhances walking and biking in regional [Demand Areas](#), especially in areas identified as gaps in access to walking or biking infrastructure
- v. [Improves safety](#) and mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists to access public spaces, downtowns, core services, and quality of life amenities
- vi. [Integrates Green Infrastructure](#) to improve water quality along roadways, especially in regional Equity Emphasis and Demand areas

b. Proof of Competitiveness (Upload)

Please upload documents showing how your project meets our competitiveness criteria, such as your project being located on or connected to a regional corridor, with a demand or equity area, or on the high injury network.



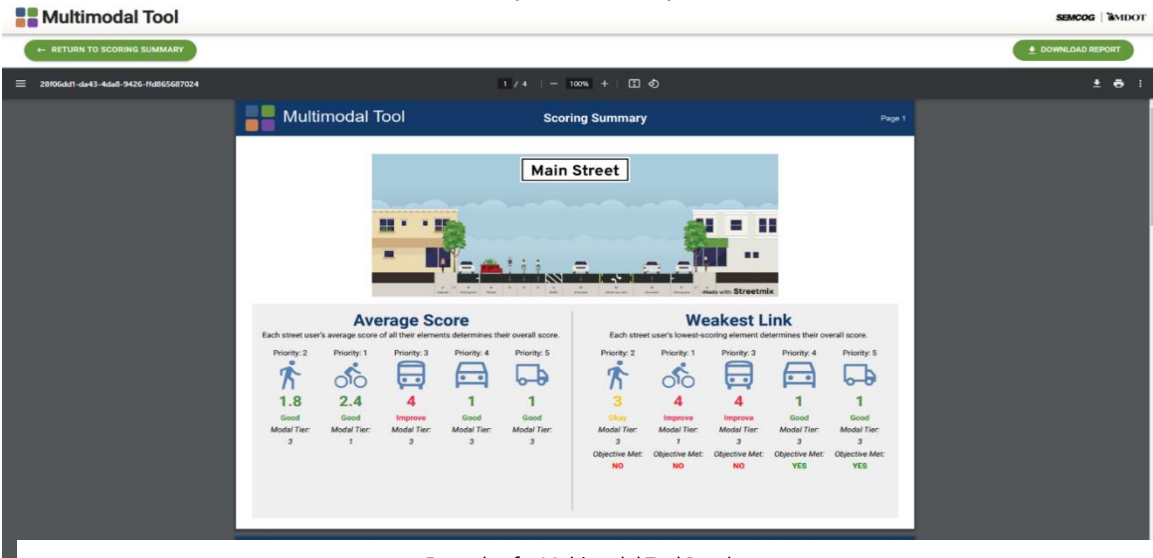
Example of Proof of Competitiveness

5. Optional but Encouraged

a. Multi-Modal Tool Results *(Upload)*

SEMCOG highly encourages applicants to use its [Multimodal Tool](#) to demonstrate how the proposed improvements will impact roadway users. Be sure to show a before and after score.

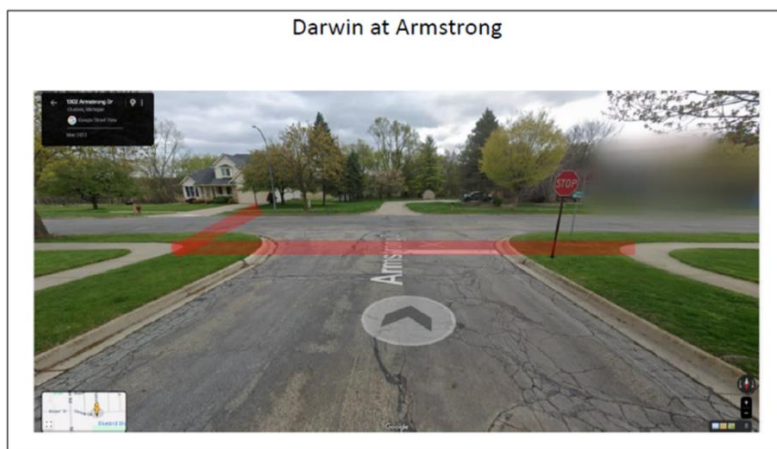
Reach out to SEMCOG staff if you need help with this.



Example of a Multimodal Tool Results

b. Photos, renderings, etc. *(Upload)*

SEMCOG highly encourages photographs of existing conditions and renderings of proposed treatments, if applicable. Please combine all photos into one document and provide descriptions for each photo.



Example of a Photo/Rendering

6. Public Outreach and Maintenance

- a. Public Outreach and stakeholder involvement. * (Long answer, 1000 character answer)
Please indicate if this project is in any publicly vetted plan documents that have been formally adopted by the community.
- b. Public Outreach Plan * (Long answer, 1000 character limit)
Please provide a high-level summary of any public outreach actions that will take place after this application has been approved for funding.
- c. Describe anticipated maintenance needs by task, frequency and annual cost. * (Long answer, 1000 character limit)
Examples include cutting grass, edging, brush and branch clearing, downed tree removal, street sweeping, snow removal, crack sealing, seal coating, lane marking renewal, and partial/full depth reconstruction. Please go out 20 years or more with your maintenance plan.
- d. Which agency will be responsible for operation and maintenance of the completed project and what funding sources will be used? * (Long answer, 1000 character limit)
SEMCOG wants to ensure the project will be properly maintained for 20 years or more (life of the project). Dedicated sources of funding are generally better than general funds which can be removed in the future.

7. Green Infrastructure (only applies to those who select it as a project type in previous questions)

- a. Green Infrastructure Effectiveness * (short answer)
Please identify the amount of stormwater diverted from transportation-related facilities in an average storm event. Estimates of runoff reductions should be determined using a methodology that shows the pre- and post-runoff conditions.
- b. Identify the proposed methodology to estimate stormwater runoff reduction. (Long answer, 1000 Character Limit)
This can include the [EPA Stormwater Calculator](#) or the [Center for Watershed Protection Watershed Treatment Model](#). Local agencies that have updated stormwater ordinances to meet more recent MS4 permit requirements may use those runoff reduction methodologies. Be sure also to include the methodology for differentiating between the entire project area stormwater vs the transportation-related infrastructure stormwater runoff reduction.

Reach out to SEMCOG staff if you need help with this.

c. Additional Information* (Upload)

Please upload any additional documentation showing the efficacy of the Green Infrastructure Project.

8. Project Schedule Questions

Important Dates

a. Which Fiscal Year are you requesting funding for? (Pick One)

Please choose this year based on [MDOT LAP's Planning Guide](#) on the [MDOT LAP webpage](#). If the project is simple, it is possible to let the project 10 months after Section 106 and NEPA documentation has been submitted. If your project is near rivers, wetlands, woods, endangered species, historic sites, etc, NEPA process could take much longer. Additionally, railroad and county and/or state road agencies may require permits which can push back your project.

- FY 2028
- FY 2029
- Flexible on FY

b. Section 106 & NEPA* (short answer)

Please estimate the date the Local agency will submit its Section 106 and NEPA Documentation ([MDOT Form 5323](#)) to MDOT LAP Environmental. This should be started 2-9 months before Grade Inspection submittal.

c. Construction Date (short answer)

d. Timeline Considerations: Potential Road Blocks

Does the project include: (Answer Yes, No, or Not Sure)

Please do your best to identify any of the following conditions that may extend the timeline of your project.

- i. County of MDOT ROW
- ii. Railroad Crossings or ROQ
- iii. New Signals on State or County Roads
- iv. Road Diet or Lane Diet
- v. ROW or Easement Acquisition
- vi. Tree Removal
- vii. Recreation Land
- viii. Proximity to Inland Lakes or Streams
- ix. Proximity to Wetlands
- x. Proximity to National/State Historical Sites
- xi. Proximity to Flood Plains
- xii. Proximity to Airports
- xiii. Proximity to Endangered Species
- xiv. Proximity to Contaminated Sites
- xv. Other

9. Submit Application

You are now done with your application.

SEMCOG staff should be contacting you with any questions and the next steps for your project.