

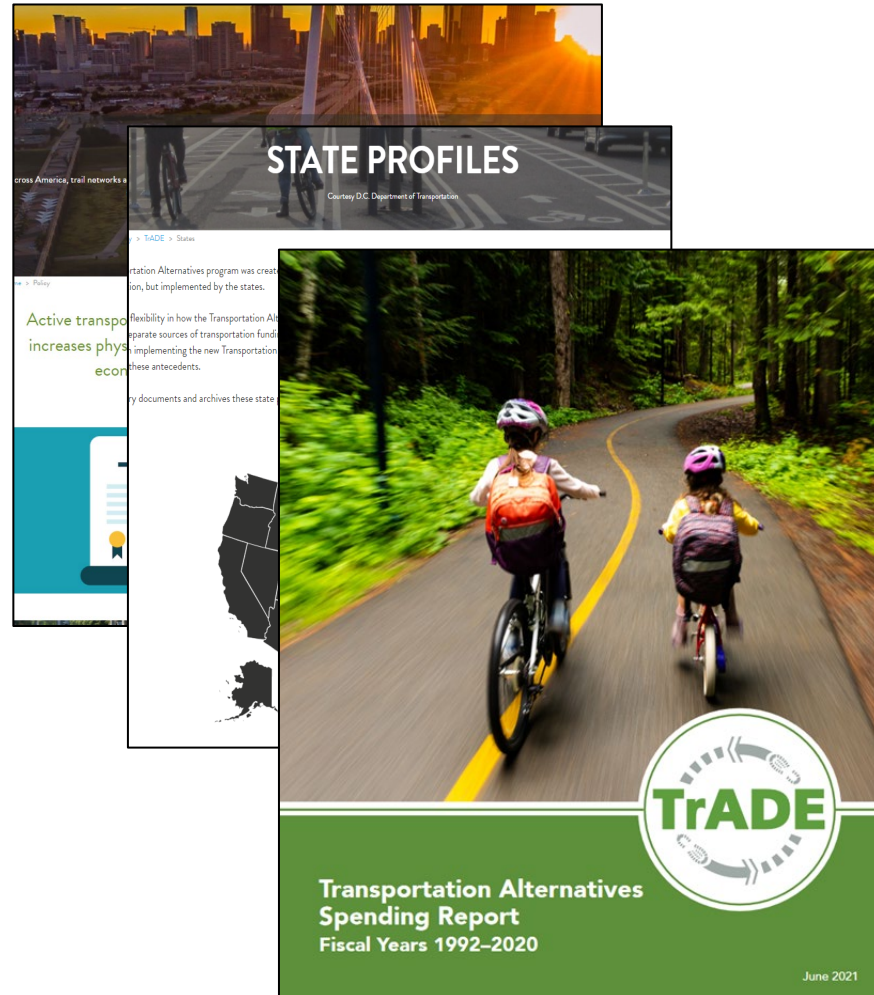
Strategies for Transportation Alternatives Funding Implementation

March 16, 2022

Railstotrails.org



Transportation Alternatives Data Exchange (TrADE)



- Learn about TA
- Read the Spending Report
- Explore state profiles
- Find project lists

railstotrails.org/spendingreport

Today's Presenters



Torsha Bhattacharya, Ph.D.

Director of Research
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy



Mike Smith

Transportation Alternatives Manager
Michigan DOT



Jenny Kramer

Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator
Kansas DOT



Mary Ellen Koontz

Manager of Trail Funding Advocacy
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Technical Support

As people across the world continue to work and learn from home, platforms like Zoom are experiencing increased usage, which can result in technical difficulties.

Here's how to troubleshoot:

1. Log out and back into the webinar
2. Listen by phone: +1 646-558-8656 & Webinar ID: 84078518116
3. Browse Zoom Customer Support topics & contact Customer Support: <https://support.zoom.us>

Transportation Alternatives 101

Top funding source for trails

BIL: TA +70% over 5 years

- Up to 5% can be used for technical assistance
- New limits on transfers

Opportunity to focus on connectivity & equity

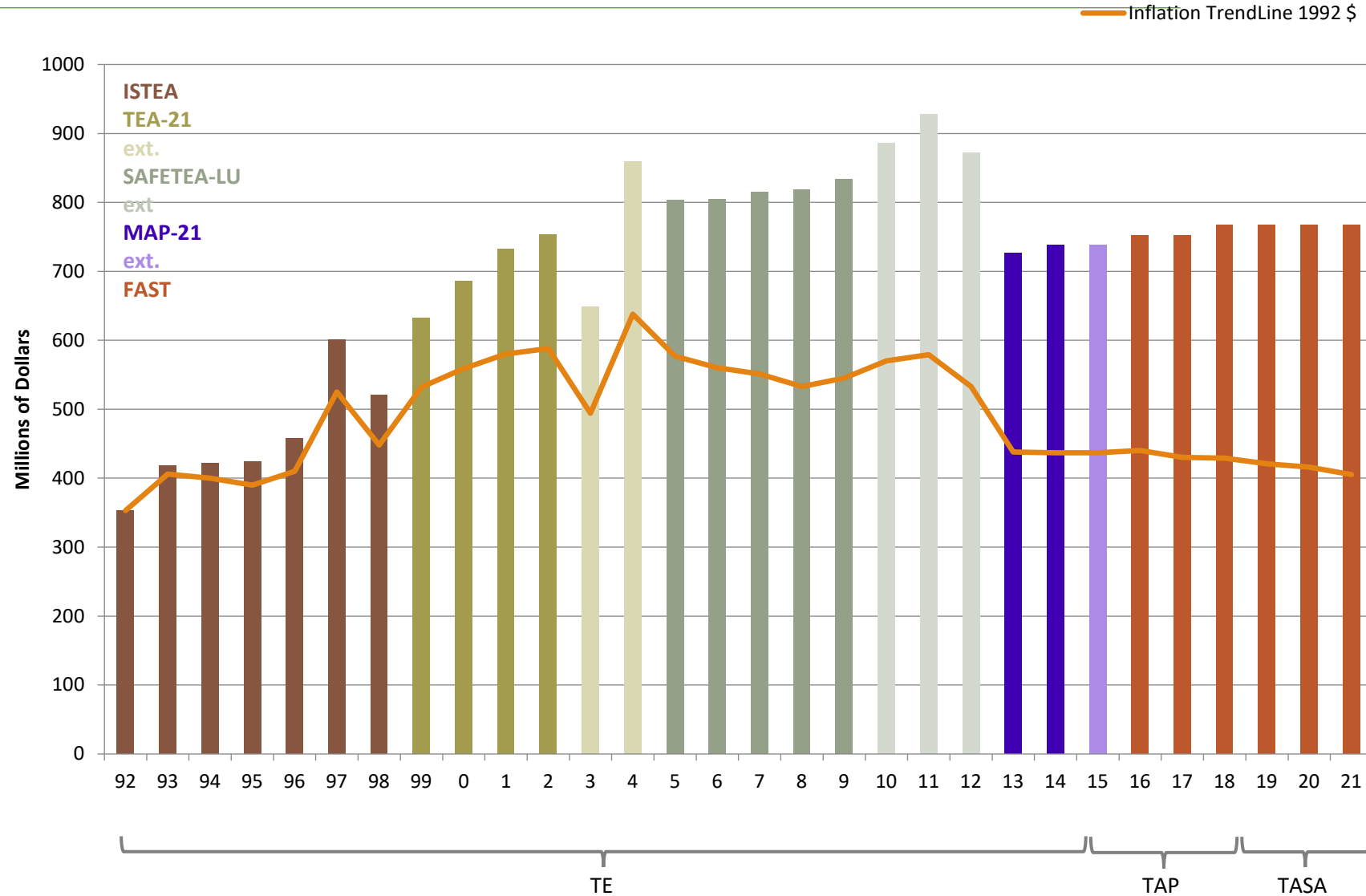


Analysis of TA Funding

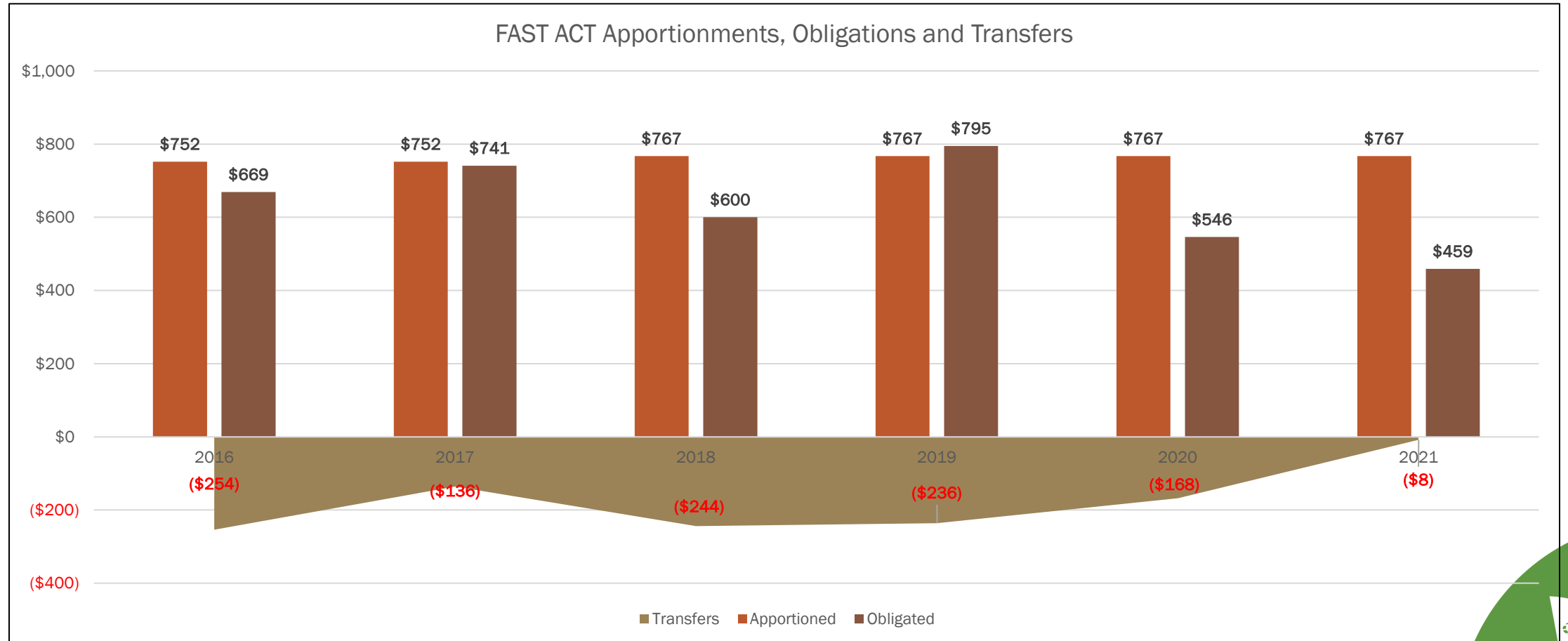
2021 and Beyond

Dr. Torsha Bhattacharya

TA Funding 1992-Present

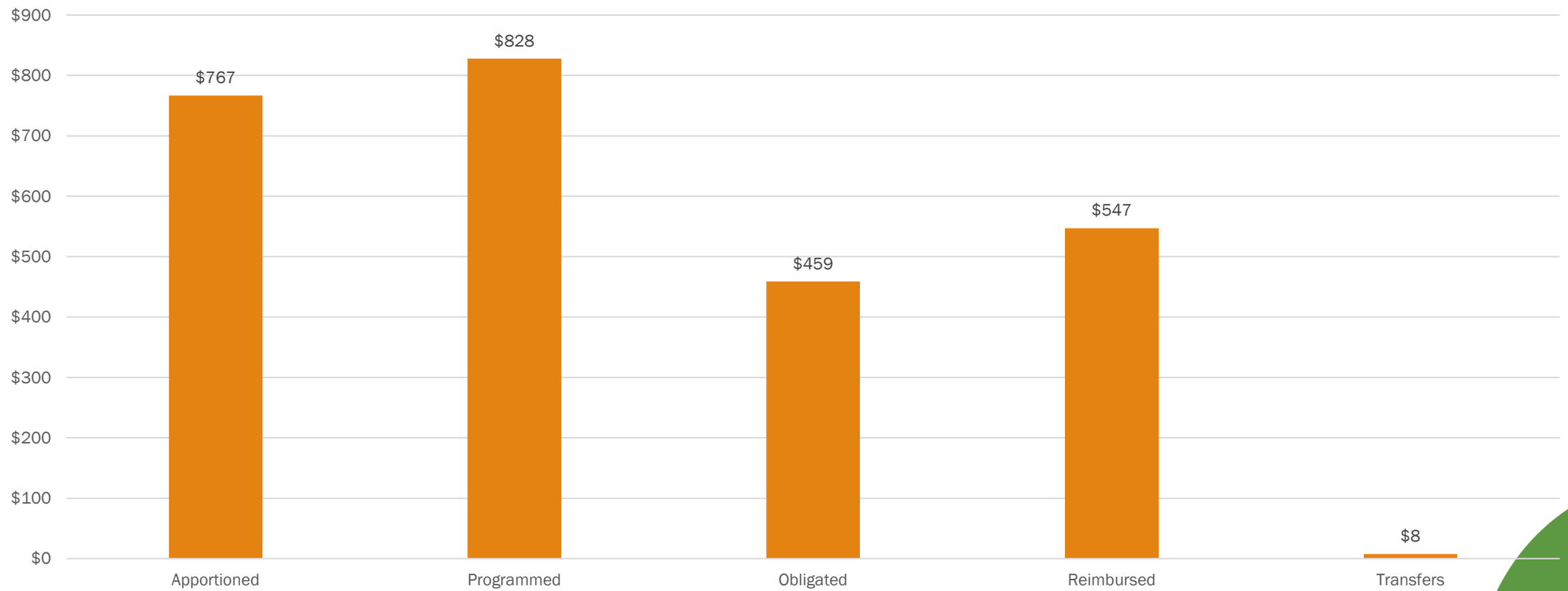


FAST Act Funding Levels 2016-2021

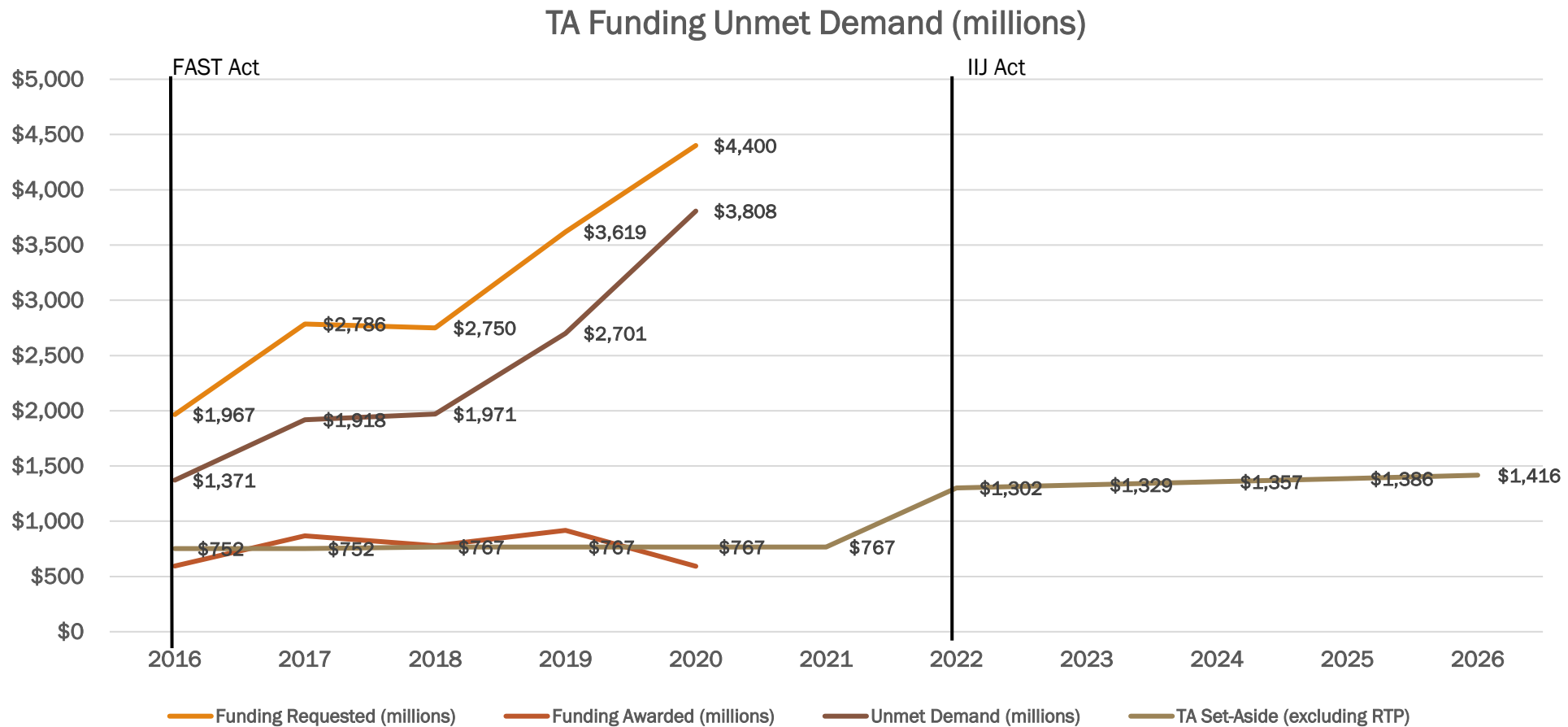


2021 TA Funding

2021 TrA DE Data (millions)

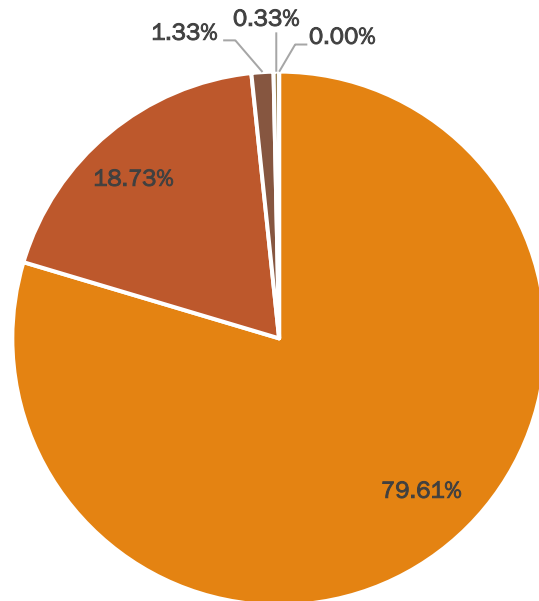


Unmet Demand 2016-2020



Analyzing Funded Project Categories

Categories of projects funded 2020



- Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities
- Recreational Trails
- Historic Preservation
- Environmental and Wildlife
- Other



Bike/Ped Facilities, Programs, & Safe Routes

Rail-Trails

Streetscaping / Pedestrian Beautification

Landscaping / Beautification / Vegetation Management

Historic Preservation & Rehabilitation

Scenic Highways, Turnouts, & Overlooks

Environmental Mitigation

Safe Routes to School Infrastructure

Safe Routes to School Non-Infrastructure

Questions?

Torsha Bhattacharya, PhD
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Kansas Transportation Alternatives Program

Jenny Kramer

Bike/Ped Coordinator and TA Manager

March 16, 2022





Call For Projects

Federal funds are available to assist communities with Active Transportation Projects.

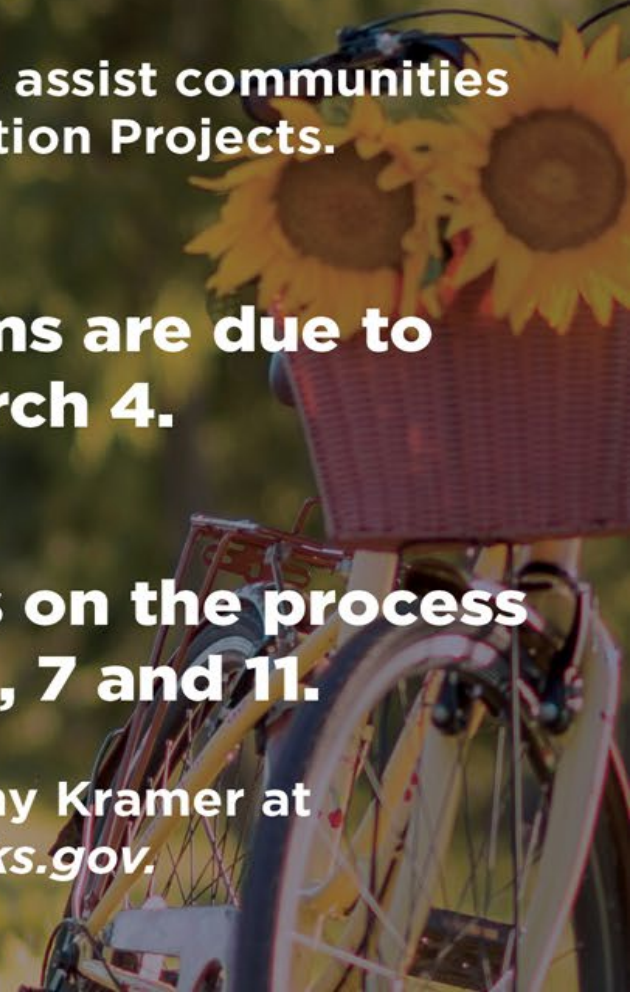


Project concept forms are due to KDOT by March 4.



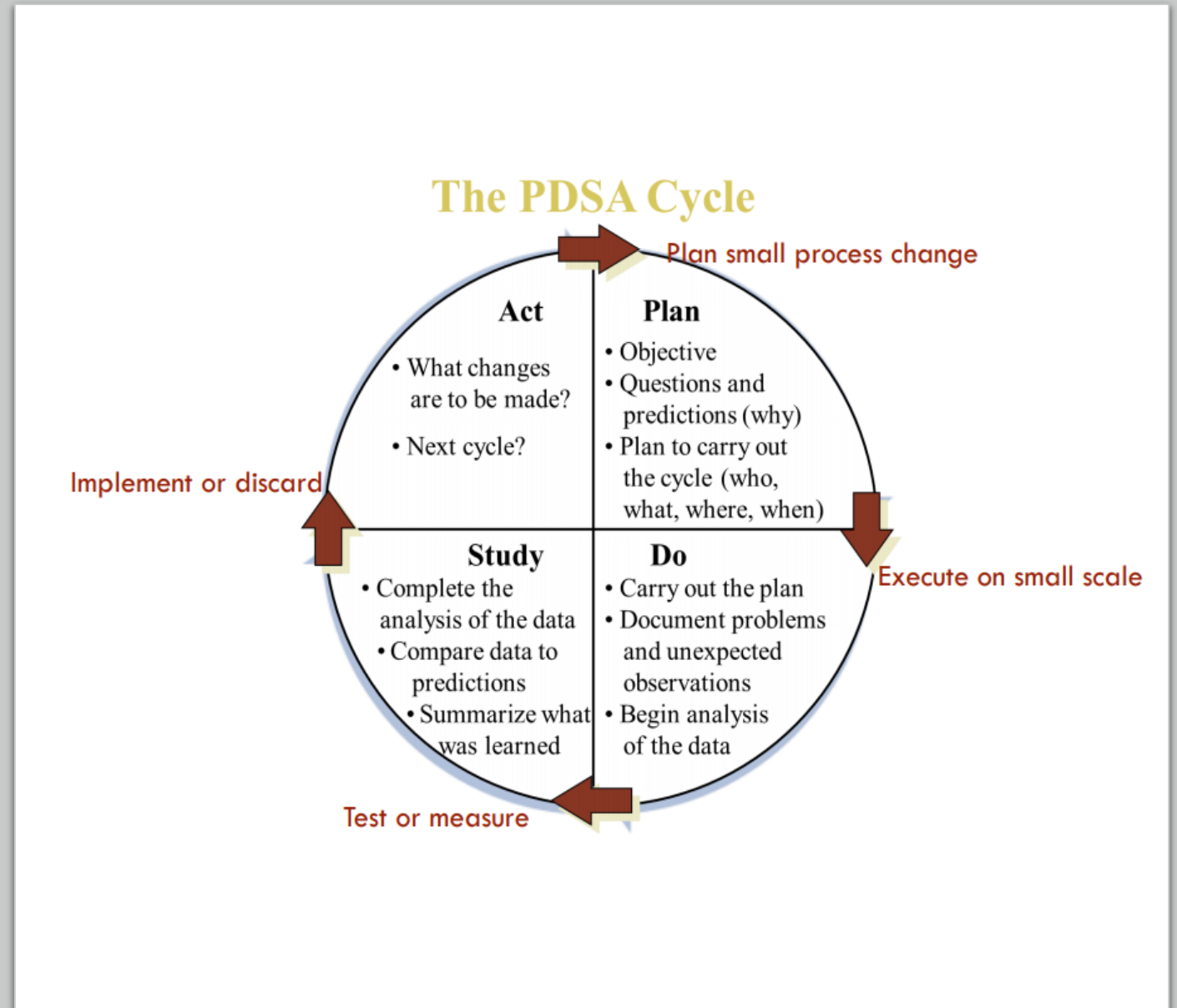
Informational webinars on the process are set for Feb. 4, 7 and 11.

To register, email Jenny Kramer at Jenny.Kramer@ks.gov.



TA Quality Improvement

- Change desired: increase % of projects that let within the FFY for which they are awarded
- Hold project team meetings at time of award and then every 3 months until PS&E submitted
- Teams include KDOT project manager, TA manager, TA sponsor (City, County, etc.), consultant

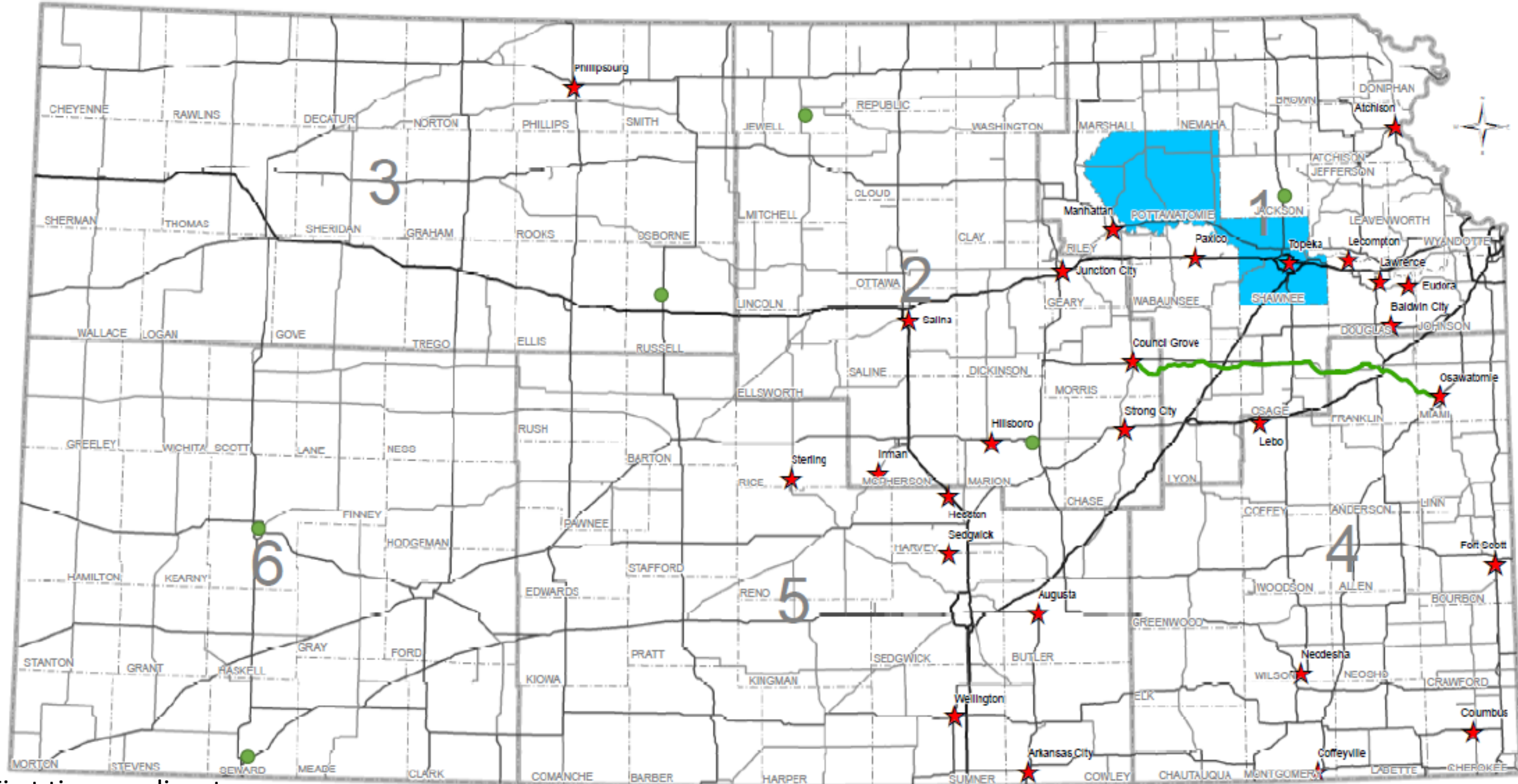


Kansas Active Transportation Plan

- Partnership Catalyst: Pathways, Sunflower Trails
 - Pathways to a Healthy Kansas - Multimodal Transportation and Trails Learning Collaborative
 - Sunflower Trails Champion Cohort Sessions
 - Extensive public outreach
- Toolkits-Planning, Bridge, Active Tourism
- Crash and Economic Impact Analyses
- Resources and funding guides
- KS AT Plan and Policy Registry COMING SOON!

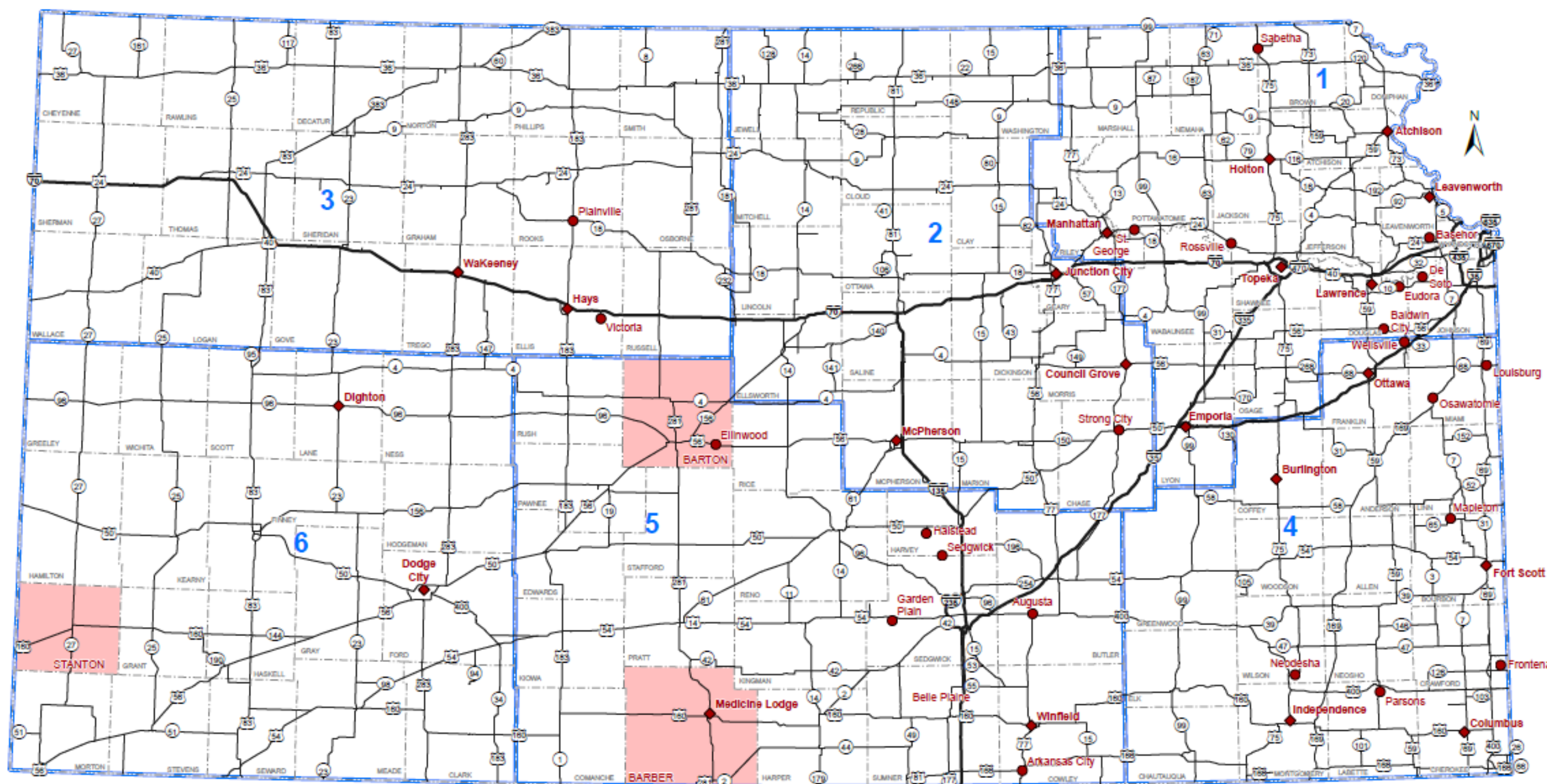


35 FFY22-23 TA Applications Received - \$52.6M Requested



- First time applicant

TA Concepts Map FFY23-24



Questions and Contact Information

Jenny Kramer

Bike/Ped Coordinator

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Michigan Department of Transportation Office of Economic Development



Mike Smith, TAP Manager

www.Michigan.gov/TAP

smithm13@michigan.gov

Grant Coordinator Role

Reduces burden on local agencies:

- Provides education & guidance early during idea stage
- Single point of contact for applicant – cradle to grave
- Old way – apply to everything and see what sticks = maximum cost
- New way – target applications to the most likely funding source = minimum cost
- Wrap around programming and guidance

This role helps remove a barrier for distressed communities



Nine Mile Road Streetscape
Oakland County



Petoskey-to-Alanson Rail-Trail
Emmet County

Technical Review Process

MDOT technical experts assist local agencies at no cost:

- Identify potential constructability issues
- Generate ideas for solutions
- Continue working toward solutions across multiple review cycles

This process helps ensure all communities can succeed

Conditional Commitment

Formal written pledge from MDOT

Promise of future year construction funding:

- Provides applicant with confidence to proceed with acquisition and design, knowing construction funding will be there
- Applicant uses to leverage acquisition and design funding, as well as construction match funding



Dequindre Cut Phase II
Detroit



Fred Meijer Standale Trail Tunnel
Kent County

TAP Process Improvement Efforts

Opportunities to target diversity, equity, and inclusion improvements:

- TAP Scoring to increase competitiveness factors for
 - economically distressed communities
 - pedestrian safety target areas
- Mapping of all past TE, TAP, and SRTS projects to identify communities that have never received a grant
 - develop target areas for engagement

MDOT Active Transportation Plan: A Bold Vision

Sample goals in the plan that TAP can help address:

- Complete Streets
- Walking and bicycling should be safe and comfortable for everyone
- Walking and bicycling infrastructure should be accessible to all people, regardless of age, ability, background, and income
- First and last mile connections
- Interconnecting other modes
- Providing diverse options for active transportation to improve public health and connect communities



Bike Racks on Busses, Bike Lanes
Detroit

[MM2045 Active Transportation Plan: A Bold Vision](#)

Questions?

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