

Community Transportation Grants

2026 Letter to Applicants



April 1, 2026

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in applying for funding through our local community transportation and public right-of-way improvement grant program. We are excited to support community organizations that are working to make our shared spaces safer, more accessible, and more connected. *This grant is open to **registered nonprofit organizations and educational institutions in the borough** who are undertaking projects that enhance **public transportation infrastructure, pedestrian and bicycle safety and access, or public right-of-way usability** in our community. *For-profit organizations may participate as project partners in collaboration with an eligible nonprofit or educational institution**

We believe that vibrant, inclusive communities start with the spaces we all share. Through this grant, we aim to support projects that do more than improve infrastructure — we're looking for ideas that open up movement, opportunity, and connection. Whether you're enhancing a bus stop, building safer walkways, or reimagining how people use and move through public space, we're excited to invest in efforts that center equity, sustainability, and community voice. If your project helps more people get where they need to go — safely, affordably, and with dignity — we want to hear from you.

Eligible projects and programs may include, but are not limited to:

- Improve transportation access for underserved or marginalized communities.
- Increase pedestrian, bicycle, or public transit use and elevate safety
 - Purchase bike helmets and reflective gear for a student classroom
 - Purchase and installation of a public use bike rack
- Improve public spaces for non-motorized users, including the elderly and children.
 - Purchase materials to build/install a bench at a bus stop
 - Support community-based fabrication and installation of small-scale public infrastructure elements that enhance mobility and public space.
- Enhance environmental sustainability or reduce reliance on cars.
 - Purchase bus tokens for public distribution
 - Carpooling program startup
 - Setup a park and ride station with bike lockers
- Demonstrate strong community support and involvement.
 - Create public safety campaign and messaging

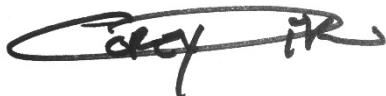
Application Materials Checklist

Please submit the following materials as part of your complete application package:

- 1. Cover Letter (1 page max)**
 - a. Introduce your organization.
 - b. Summarize your proposed project and its intended community impact.
 - c. Share why your organization is well-positioned to lead this work.
- 2. Completed Forms**
 - a. **Application** Answer all required questions included in the online application document. [FAST Planning - Transportation Community Grants Application 2026](#)
 - b. **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**. If applicable, complete and attach a signed MOU (template available on grant website).
- 3. Proposed Project Budget;** Include a rough line-item budget and note how grant funds will be used. Highlight any in-kind contributions. *A total of \$20,000 is available in this grant cycle. Individual awards may be up to \$5,000 per applicant.**
- 4. Project Timeline;** Provide a timeline showing key project milestones and include anticipated start and completion dates.
- 5. Proof of Nonprofit Status;** Include IRS determination letter or equivalent documentation.
- 6. Supporting Materials (Optional but Encouraged)**
 - a. Letters of support from partners or community members.
 - b. Maps, drawings, or photos of the project site.
 - c. Any permits, approvals, or relevant documentation. (FAST Planning staff can help contribute staff time in the creation of these materials)
 - d. Data or research that supports the project's need or impact.

Please direct any questions to Jackson Fox (jackson.fox@fastplanning.us) and submit** your full application package no later than April 28, 2026. Thank you for your commitment and service to our community, we look forward to learning more about your work!

Cheers,



Corey M. DiRutigliano (he/they)

Transportation Planner, **FAST Planning**

100 Cushman Street, Suite 205 | Fairbanks Alaska, 99701 | Main 907 308 3809

** No Match Required. This program does not require a financial match. Projects of all sizes and capacities are encouraged to apply. In-kind contributions—such as volunteer time, donated materials, or partnerships—may strengthen an application by demonstrating community support but are not required.*

*** You can deliver your application materials (attachments, figures, budgets, letters of support, etc) three ways:*

- 1. Visit us in person at the FAST Planning office at 100 Cushman Street Suite 205/215 during regular business hours (M-F 9am-5pm).*
- 2. By submitting electronically via email application and additional materials to jackson.fox@fastplanning.us; please include your organization name and "CTG Application Materials" in the subject line.*
- 3. By submitting electronically via the website "Upload Application Materials" button here: <https://fastplanning.us/keepup/grants/> *Note that applications filed and submitted online are automatically sent to staff**

FAST Planning Staff will review and send a confirmation receipt within 5 days.

Applications close April 28, 2026 and participants will be notified of awards in late May 2026.

Community Transportation Grants

2026 Program Description



The FAST Planning Community Transportation Grants Program supports local, borough area, nonprofit organizations, education institutions and other community organizations, in making small, practical improvements that help people move more safely, comfortably, and confidently through our community. This program is designed to fund visible, community-scaled projects—such as better walking and biking connections, transit-supportive amenities, and welcoming public spaces—that improve safety, access and usability for the public, in the public right-of-way. We prioritize projects that serve historically underserved populations, strengthen neighborhood connections, and demonstrate shared community investment. FAST Planning has allocated \$20,000 for this grant cycle. Individual requests may be up to \$5,000, though the program is designed to support multiple smaller awards—often in the range of \$1,000 to \$2,000—to help fund a variety of community-led projects. This program does not require a financial match. Projects of all sizes and capacities are encouraged to apply. In-kind contributions—such as volunteer time, donated materials, or partnerships—may strengthen an application by demonstrating community support, but are not required. The application process is intentionally simple, and FAST Planning works as a partner with grantees to help projects succeed from idea to implementation.

2026 Grant Program Timeline

- **April 2026 – Applications Open April 1-28 (4 weeks)**
The FAST Planning Community Transportation Grants application will be open for a four-week period in April. During this time, interested nonprofit organizations may submit proposals through a simple online application, and other supporting materials as required/relevant. FAST Planning staff will be available to answer questions and help applicants determine whether their project is a good fit.
- **Late April–Early May 2026 – Application Review & Scoring (2 weeks)**
Submitted applications will be reviewed and scored over a two-week period by FAST Planning’s Project Enhancement Committee, and awarded by the Policy Board. Projects will be evaluated based on community benefit, feasibility, equity impacts, and alignment with program goals.
- **Late May 2026 – Awards Announced & Funds Distributed**
Selected applicants will be notified in May. Grant agreements will be finalized shortly thereafter, and funds will be distributed to allow projects to begin as soon as possible.
- **Summer–Fall 2026 – Project Implementation & Check-Ins**
Grantees will implement their projects according to the proposed timeline. FAST Planning will conduct light check-ins during implementation to offer support, answer questions, and help troubleshooting any challenges.
- **Within 30 Days of Project Completion – Final Report**
Grantees will submit a brief 1-2 page final report documenting completed activities, final expenses, program feedback and photos of the finished project.
- **1-Year After Completion – Follow-Up Check-In**
On a per-project basis, a short follow-up will confirm ongoing maintenance, lessons learned, and continued public benefit of the project. This may include a brief site visit, call, or email update.

Community Transportation Grants

2026 Application



(Also available online at: [FAST Planning Community Transportation Grants - 2026 Application](#))

General Information

- 1 **Organization Name** _____
- 2 **Applicant Point of Contact** _____
(Name, Phone, Email)
- 3 **Is your organization a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) or equivalent?** Yes No
(See item #3)
- 4 **Is your organization located within the Fairbanks North Star Borough?** Yes No
(At this time, we are only offering this program to organizations within the borough)
- 5 **If you answered "No" above, and are NOT a registered non-profit, are you partnering with a (501(c)(3) or equivalent?** Yes (See item #4) No
(At this time, we are not providing grants exclusively to for-profit businesses)
- 6 **Who is your non-profit partner(s)?** _____

Project Name, Purpose and Intent

- 7 **Please describe the project you are proposing.** (Include project name, goals, location, activities involved and 2-3 measurable outcomes.)

Project Name: _____

Purpose and Intent: _____

- 8 **How will this project improve public transportation and/or public rights of way in our community?** (Highlight expected outcomes like increased safety, accessibility, or users/ridership.)

- 9 **Who will benefit from this project, and how?** (Who are the primary users? Are any of these groups historically underserved or facing mobility barriers?)

Implementation and Feasibility

- 10 **What is your project timeline, including key milestones?** (You may submit this as a separate document)

- 11 **Are there partners or stakeholders involved in this project? If so, please describe their role(s).** (e.g., local governments, local businesses, community groups.)

- 12 **Are there necessary permits, approvals, or support to complete this project? If so, what are they, and what steps are you taking to obtain them?** (Note that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) form is included for your use, as part of this application)

Budget and Accountability

13 **Please describe how grant funds will be used. You may include any in-kind contributions (e.g., volunteer labor, donated materials, or partnerships), though these are not required.** Note that a line-item budget should be submitted with your application (see Letter to Applicants, Application Materials Checklist Item #3); this does not need to be final or professionally formatted, a rough, but realistic, estimate is sufficient.

Grant Request Amount:	In-Kind Contributions (optional) <input type="checkbox"/>
	Estimated value:

Budget Description:

14 **How will you measure the success or impact of this project? Include both qualitative and quantitative metrics if possible.** (E.g., number of users, observed behavior changes, photos, testimonials, before/after conditions)

Thank you for your application!

You can deliver your application materials (attachments, figures, budgets, letters of support, etc) three ways:

1. *Visit us in person* at the FAST Planning office at 100 Cushman Street Suite 205/215 during regular business hours (M-F 9am-5pm).
2. *By submitting electronically via email* application and additional materials to jackson.fox@fastplanning.us; please include your organization name and "CTG Application Materials" in the subject line.
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Community Transportation Grants

2026 Memo of Understanding (MOU)



Between FAST Planning and _____ (Grant Recipient)

This Memo of Understanding (“MOU”) outlines the responsibilities of grant recipients under the FAST Planning Community Transportation Grant and establishes mutual expectations for transparency, stewardship, and accountability.

Purpose

This agreement ensures that awarded grant funds are used as proposed and that any physical improvements resulting from the project are maintained for continued public benefit.

Responsibilities of the Grant Recipient

Maintenance Commitment

The recipient agrees to maintain any infrastructure, installations, or improvements funded by this grant for a minimum of two years after project completion, unless otherwise agreed in writing. Maintenance includes reasonable efforts to keep the site safe, clean, and functional, consistent with the scale and nature of the project.

Use of Funds

Grant funds must be used solely for the purposes outlined in the approved application and budget. Any changes to project scope or spending must be pre-approved in writing.

Community Contribution (Optional)

A financial match is not required for this program. Applicants are encouraged to identify in-kind contributions, such as volunteer labor, donated materials, or partnerships, which may strengthen the overall application. These contributions signal shared investment and community ownership.

Reporting and Check-Ins

The recipient agrees to:

- Submit a **Final Report** within **30 days of project completion**, including:
 - A summary of activities completed
 - Final budget showing actual expenditures
 - At least 2 photos of the completed project
- Participate (as applicable) in a **1-year check-in**, which may include a brief site visit, call, or short follow-up report to confirm ongoing maintenance and impact.

Public Acknowledgment

When applicable, recipients will acknowledge the support of FAST Planning in any public-facing materials or signage related to the project; materials (and associated costs) can be provided by FAST Planning staff. FAST Planning recognizes that community projects can change due to circumstances outside the recipient’s control and commits to working in good faith with recipients to resolve challenges

Agreement

By signing below, the parties acknowledge and agree to the preceding terms.

Recipient Organization: _____
 Authorized Signatory: _____
 Title: _____
 Date: _____

FAST Planning: _____
 Authorized Signatory: _____
 Title: _____
 Date: _____

Please include any additional relevant Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs), letters of permission, or similar agreements between the Recipient Organization and the property owner or Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

Examples may include:

- **Private property:** A tenant or partner organization obtains written permission from a private property owner to install or improve transportation-related amenities on the property.
- **Public right-of-way:** A property owner or organization obtains permission from the City of Fairbanks (or other appropriate agency) to install an amenity such as a bicycle rack, bench, or wayfinding element within the public sidewalk or right-of-way.

Community Transportation Grants

2026 Applicant Scoring Rubric



Applicant(s) Name _____
and Organization _____

Reviewer Name _____ Date: _____

Project Name _____

Grant Request Amount: _____ In-kind Contribution: (value?): \$ _____

1. Community Benefit & Transportation Impact (0 – 25 points)

How clearly does the project improve public transportation or public right-of-way conditions?

Scoring Guide

0 – 10: Limited or unclear impact

Consider:

- Improves safety, access, or usability
- Benefits multiple users
- Creates visible, tangible improvement
- Supports walking, biking, or transit use

11 – 20: Clear benefit with moderate impact

21 – 25: Strong, well-articulated, high public benefit

2. Equity & Underserved Populations (0 – 20 points)

Does the project serve historically underserved communities or reduce mobility barriers?

Scoring Guide

0 – 8: Equity not clearly addressed

Consider:

- Identifies specific user groups
- Addresses access gaps
- Demonstrates awareness of barriers
- Advances inclusive mobility

9 – 15: Serves broader public, some equity consideration

16 – 20: Strong equity focus with clear beneficiaries

3. Feasibility & Readiness

(0 – 20 points)

Is the project realistic and likely to be successfully completed?

Scoring Guide

Consider:

- Clear timeline
- Reasonable budget
- Identified partners
- Permits or approvals addressed
- Demonstrated capacity to deliver

0 – 8: Major gaps in readiness

9 – 15: Generally feasible with minor questions

16 – 20: Well-prepared, realistic, ready to implement

4. Community Support & Shared Investment

(0 – 15 points)

Does the project demonstrate collaboration and local buy-in?

Scoring Guide

Consider:

- Partnerships
- Letters of support
- Community involvement
- Local need

0 – 5: Limited , or unclear support

6–11: Some partnerships or Demonstrated support

12–15: Strong collaboration and shared investment

5. Measurable Outcomes & Stewardship

(0 – 10 points)

Does the applicant describe how success will be measured and maintained?

Scoring Guide

Consider:

- Clear outcomes (quantitative or qualitative)
- Maintenance plan (consistent with MOU requirements)
- Photos, before/after documentation
- Realistic evaluation methods

0 – 3: Vague or unclear metrics

4 – 7: Some measurable outcomes

8 – 10: Clear, specific, and realistic measures

