



**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
TRAFFIC DESIGN DIVISION**

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WILL REID
COMMISSIONER

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GOVERNOR

January 28, 2026

Dear Local Partners,

The Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Traffic Design Division is pleased to announce that grant applications will be accepted for the 2026 Traffic Signal Modernization Program (TSMP). This grant opportunity is a TDOT program designed to help communities and their local traffic signal maintaining agencies modernize existing traffic signal equipment and operations. The TSMP project must be located on a State Route. Communities and unincorporated areas within counties are eligible for TSMP funds if either of the following are met:

- Any community in a non-CMAQ county; or
- Any community with a population below 5,000 (based on the 2020 federal census).

Check CMAQ County here: [Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality \(CMAQ\) Improvement Program](#)

Any grant application submitted on behalf of a community that is identified as not eligible for TSMP funds will be eliminated from consideration. The TSMP grant funds are intended to address specific needs contained in the grant application and not intended as equipment only procurement funds or provide local project fund assistance for communities.

TSMP Grant Application Matching and Funding Cap Requirements

The TSMP project is a 100% state funded program (i.e. no local match required). Every project will have a different associated project cap up to \$125,000 per project.

TSMP Grant Application Eligible Items

The following includes, but not limited to, upgrade items eligible for TSMP funding:

- Controllers & Conflict Monitors
- Controller Cabinet & Equipment
- Signal Heads & Flashing Beacons
- Supplemental Signal Heads
- Pedestrian Signal Heads & Push Buttons
- Advance & Stop Line Detection
- Signal Timing Optimization
- School Zone Flashing Beacons Plans

TSMP Grant Application Ranking Criteria

The TSMP grant application ranking criteria will include, but is not limited to, county economic status, approximate age of traffic signal equipment, crash history, AADT, work type being requested, other possible funding program involvement, and associated project impacts regarding right-of-way, environmental, railroads, and utilities. All projects awarded will be prepared in accordance with applicable State and Federal requirements. All design services will be the responsibility of and conducted by TDOT staff and/or their on-call consultants.

We thank you for your interest in this grant opportunity. Please complete the attached TSMP grant application along with any other information related to the grant application and submit everything electronically via email by **4:00pm Central (5:00pm Eastern) on Wednesday, April 1, 2026** to tdot.trafficdesign.tsmmprogram@tn.gov with the subject line **“2026 TSMP Grant Application”**. Please **also include your community (i.e. city, town, county)** in the subject line. For questions regarding this TSMP grant application process, please contact Steve Bryan via the same email address.

Sincerely,



[Andrew Barlow \(Jan 28, 2026 11:41:59 CST\)](#)

Andy Barlow, P.E.

Director, Traffic Design Division

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