

# Intersection Safety Resources

Numerous funding and information sources are available to help create and advance programs to improve intersection safety.

The last two major Federal assistance funding bills enacted by Congress in 1991 and 1998 included provisions for a wide variety of funding possibilities for the research, design and implementation of intersection safety improvement projects, as well as targeted money that is available for working in cooperation with private organizations to fund intersection safety projects.

## Where to Get More Information

### Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), Surface Transportation Program, Section 1108

Provides for a block grant program that can be used on roads that were never part of any Federal-aid highway system. The provision authorizes any operational or highway safety improvement projects to be Federally funded, including automated intersection enforcement technologies. The Federal share of project costs is 80 percent, but some States can qualify for up to 95 percent Federal funding if large portions of the State contains Federal lands.

### Congestion Mitigation and Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), Section 1110

The primary use of CMAQ funds is to improve air quality. CMAQ funds can be used for intersection projects on arterial or collector roadways, including signal-retiming projects to increase intersection efficiency and therefore reduce emissions. This program also encourages public/private partnerships with any level of government, or even with non-governmental organizations, to cooperatively implement any project—including intersection projects—funded through CMAQ. The Federal share of project costs is 80 percent.

### Section 5207 of TEA-21

Intelligent Transportation Research and Development. This section allows local governments to apply directly to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for grants to conduct traffic management research, development and operational tests in several qualifying areas.

### National Highway System Designation Act of 1995

The National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 includes provisions for safety studies and projects: Section 347 (Safety Report), Section 351 (Railroad Highway Grade Crossings) and Section 358 (Safety Research Initiatives).

Funds available through cooperative planning and program approval submissions with a State transportation department can be applied to major construction and reconstruction intersection projects, depending on the provision in Federal law. Funds can also be applied to the limited rehabilitation, installation, or upgrading of traffic control devices or, for some programs, for maintenance work to correct deteriorated road and traffic control features at intersections.

Local governments can reach their State transportation departments and determine which programs can be accessed for intersection funding by contacting:

#### The FHWA Office of Budget and Finance

Union Center Plaza, Suite 750  
820 1st St., NE  
Washington, DC 20002

Telephone: (202) 366-2288;  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovativefinance](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovativefinance).

The FHWA also has State divisions and regional resource centers to assist local governments in obtaining funding assistance. The best way to locate a division office or resource center is to access the listing entered on the FHWA Web site: [www.fhwa.dot.gov/fhwaweb.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/fhwaweb.htm).

#### Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) and Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP)

LTAPs and TTAPs provide training and technical assistance to local and tribal transportation agencies. The LTAP and TTAP clearinghouse is located at:

#### American Public Works Association

1401 K St., NW, 11th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005 USA  
Telephone: 202-408-9541  
Fax: 202-408-9542  
[www.ltapt2.org](http://www.ltapt2.org)

This briefing sheet includes legislative and organizational resources to allow individuals to access current information on all aspects of Intersection Safety.

(More resources on back.)



**American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO)**

444 N. Capitol St., NW  
Suite 249  
Washington, DC 20001  
Telephone: 202-624-5800  
[www.aashto.org](http://www.aashto.org)

Local governments can also contact AASHTO for assistance in reaching their State highway or transportation departments.

State budget and contracting authority is authorized by Federal law and permits States to set aside funds for specific safety projects before the money is actually appropriated by Congress and distributed by FHWA to the States. This allows for good lead times in planning and designing intersection safety improvement projects.

**Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO)**

1730 Rhode Island Ave., NW  
Suite 608  
Washington, DC 20036  
Telephone: 202-366-2288  
[www.ampo.org](http://www.ampo.org)

Local governments are also able to work in concert with their Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in States and regions. The MPOs help form a list of planned intersection safety improvement projects that can receive combined Federal and State funding.

**Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety**

750 First St., NE, Suite 901  
Washington, DC 20002 USA  
Telephone: 202-408-1711  
[www.saferoads.org](http://www.saferoads.org)

The Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety recently produced a primer that local governments can use in seeking Federal funding sources for intersection safety improvements. This report, *Driving the Agenda: Intersection Safety—Potential Federal Funding Sources for Safety Improvements*, April 2001, can be downloaded from the Advocates' Web site.

**FHWA Safety Core Business Unit**

Information on intersections can be found on the FHWA Safety Core Business Unit Web site:  
<http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/intersections.htm>

**Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)**

1099 14th St., NW, Suite 300 West  
Washington, DC 20005 USA  
Telephone: 202-289-0222 x132  
[www.ite.org](http://www.ite.org)

The ITE Web site contains technical resources and materials on intersection safety, including the papers and presentations from the National Workshop on Intersection Safety (Milwaukee, WI, November 14–16, 2001). The National Agenda for Intersection Safety can also be downloaded.

**ITS America**

400 Virginia Ave, NW  
Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20024-2730  
Telephone: 202-484-4847  
[www.itsa.org](http://www.itsa.org)

Projects that use advanced technologies for traffic control and could be funded under one or more provisions of TEA-21 addressing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) can be explored for their potential Federal support through ITS America.

**National Association of Governors' Highway Safety Representatives**

750 First St., NE, Suite 720  
Washington DC 20002 USA  
Telephone: 202-789-0942  
[www.naghsr.org](http://www.naghsr.org)

**National Association of Counties**

440 First St., N.W., Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20001 USA  
Telephone: 202-393-6226  
Fax: 202-393-2630  
[www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)

**Strategic Highway Safety Plan**

In 1998, AASHTO approved the Strategic Highway Safety Plan that was developed by the AASHTO Standing Committee for Highway Traffic Safety with the assistance of the FHWA, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the Transportation Research Board Committee on Transportation Safety Management. The plan includes strategies in 22 key emphasis areas that affect highway safety; Area 17 of the Strategic Plan is to improve the design and operation of highway intersections. The Web link for this document is:  
<http://safetyplan.tamu.edu>