

Tactical Urbanism Demonstration Projects Supporting Active Transportation



January 23, 2026

Applications are due by 4 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 26. An extension of the application deadline is available with approval prior to the deadline (will be determined on a case-by-case basis).

The Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity (DNPA) invests in partnerships and activities with communities that work toward creating vibrant places that are safe for being physically active during everyday activities such as walking and bicycling. Quickly implemented, low-cost projects supporting safe physical activity have been proven to be a critical spark for successful long-term community change. This program will provide funding to build short-term, low-cost demonstration projects that create long-term momentum to improve the built environment supporting safe walking and bicycling for residents of all ages.

The DNPA focuses on increasing healthy eating, promoting physical activity, and decreasing obesity. Poor nutrition, sedentary behaviors, and obesity are serious threats to the health, academic achievement, and productivity of Indiana's residents. These factors are linked to an increased risk for chronic diseases such as heart disease, stroke, some cancers, and diabetes. Chronic disease is the leading cause of death and disability in Indiana.

The DNPA works with local communities across Indiana to increase levels of physical activity to support healthy community outcomes with an emphasis on removing the structural barriers that create health inequities and increase equitable access for all communities. The implementation of tactical urbanism demonstration projects are effective ways to invest in changes to policies and the built environment that supports equitable and healthy community outcomes.

Tactical Urbanism Demonstration Project Funding Overview

The DNPA is providing funding to communities to assist in the design and implementation of low-cost pop-up, tactical urbanism projects that support active living in Indiana. This funding will assist grantees in the planning, preparation, and implementation of one or more tactical urbanism projects in their communities. This round of funding is for projects starting in the spring and summer of 2026. Projects must be installed by August 31, with the final evaluation and project reporting completed by Sept. 30, 2026.

Key expectations for the demonstration projects are:

- Must be quickly completed and implemented while supporting a range of active transportation options in the community
- Special consideration will be given to projects that enhance access to parks, playgrounds, schools, childcare settings, shopping areas, transit stops, and other areas children visit often
- Include public input and involvement as part of the planning and implementation process with a focus on equity

- Include an evaluation documenting successes and challenges along with future planned long-term changes

Examples of projects to be funded include:

- Temporary bicycle and pedestrian safety demonstration projects that lead to long-term changes
- Purchase and deployment of temporary traffic calming equipment and projects, such as curb extensions, traffic circles, and high visibility crosswalks, that may be reused in other locations
- Temporary protected bike lanes, pedestrian lanes, parklets, projects to teach children safe walking and bicycling, and other similar facilities

Call for Applications and Eligible applicants

The DNPA seeks applications from communities in Indiana interested in using grant funds to assist in planning and implementing tactical urbanism demonstration projects. Successful applicants will be selected based on their level of readiness to plan for and implement these types of projects as well as their willingness to consider future permanent environmental changes necessary to foster healthy and active communities.

Eligible applicants include incorporated communities in Indiana, school corporations, and not-for-profit community groups.

Program Funding Requirements

The maximum grant award is \$10,000 for each community and may include single or multiple project locations. Matching funds are not required but will be positively considered in the review of the applications. Funding will pay for artist fees, equipment, materials, and installation of the temporary demonstration projects. Other expenses (such as permitting fees, food, and travel) will not be reimbursed as part of this funding. Final approval of funds will be contingent upon the preparation of an approved grant agreement between the IDOH and the applicant that includes other state required conditions necessary for the approval. Final funding reimbursement will require a project report documenting the installation of the project(s) along with an evaluation of the project results.

Planning and Implementation Process

The process required for the use of these funds will be community-focused through public engagement throughout the project period. The objectives of the project planning and implementation process are:

- Engage the public and project users to help guide and evaluate the project's success
- Identify both the short-term and long-term effects of the project implementation
- Work closely with local (or state) officials for required approval and permits for all improvements
- Follow all accepted engineering, design, and safety protocols necessary for implementing the project
- Integrate educational activities into the project implementation



- Provide before and after project data (such as speed reduction or pedestrian counts) as part of the required evaluation report at the end of the project period)

The final project scope of work will be defined with each community during the preparation of the grant agreement with IDOH and can be tailored to address specific community needs.

Application Submittal

Applications are due by 4 p.m on Thursday, Feb. 26. An extension of the application deadline is available with approval prior to the deadline (will be determined on a case-by-case basis).

Applications must be submitted via email (PDF format in one unified file) to [Pete Fritz](#) (24MB file size limitation).

Required Application Documents

Applications shall include the following items in a single unified PDF document:

1. A cover letter on the sponsoring community's letterhead, signed by the highest elected official in the community that states a commitment to implementing the project during the required time. The letter should also include key contact information for one person that can be notified during the application review process for more information and/or award notice.
2. One response to the application questions below, not to exceed a total of five pages in length.
3. A minimum of three letters of support from community stakeholders supporting the project, such as the local school corporation, local hospital, local health department, Chamber of Commerce, and other project sponsors.

Required Application Questions

1. Describe your community's interest in and need for this type of demonstration project, including any planning documents or other data addressing the need for the project.
2. Describe the type of project you wish to implement with the grant funds. Explain the various components of the project in detail and provide a clear location map showing street names and adjacent uses and buildings. Clearly state whether the project is on a local street or state highway. Provide a brief project budget (identify any matching funds) and project timeline.
3. Lack of safe access by walking and bicycling to everyday destinations is a pervasive and well-known problem in Indiana. Explain how your project will increase safe access to all (especially children) for bicycling and walking to everyday destinations in your community. Also explain how your project addresses the health needs of populations that are specific to your community.
4. How will you measure the project's success? Clearly state the benefits of your project and how you will measure success, such as speed reduction, safety improvements, number of participants, etc.



5. Describe how you will gain the required design assistance and local approvals to implement the project within the grant period. If the project is along a state highway explain how the project will obtain INDOT review and approval.
6. Support from residents and elected officials is key to the project's success. How will your community inform and engage residents and elected officials throughout the project planning and implementation? How will the outreach process engage people of all ages, especially children? How will you reach out to your local health department for support and involvement.
7. Are there currently any programs, events, or activities offered in your community to encourage walking, bicycling, or using public transit? How will the project build upon those existing programs?

Project Scoring Criteria

Successful applicants will be selected based on their level of readiness to plan and implement a tactical urbanism demonstration project within the grant period as well as their capacity to create meaningful and safe public engagement and promotion activities to diverse audiences for the project. Applicants will also be scored on how they will utilize a tactical urbanism demonstration project to address the health needs of populations that are specific to their community.

A digital copy of this request for applications is available on the [IDOH grants web page](#). For more information and questions contact [Pete Fritz](#) at 317-234-6808.



Tactical Urbanism Examples

Below are links to web sources for more information on tactical urbanism demonstration projects that support safe active transportation.

Slow Your Street, a How-to Guide for Pop-up Traffic Calming:

http://www.onestl.org/media/site/documents/reports/bicycle-pedestrian-planning/SlowYourStreets_HowToGuide_Final-v.2_reduced.pdf

The AARP Pop-up Demonstration Tool Kit: <https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/livable-communities/images-2016/PopUpToolKit/PopUpToolKitPDF/a-Pop-Up-Demonstrations-Printable-272017.pdf>

South Bend Indiana Neighborhood Traffic Calming Demonstration Projects:

<https://smartgrowthamerica.org/south-bend-in-demonstration-project-neighborhood-traffic-calming/>

Fort Wayne Indiana Better Block Project: <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/getting-around/info-2018/build-a-better-block.html>

Pop-ups for Safe Routes to School:

http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/sites/default/files/pdf/where_the_duct_tape_meets_the_road.pdf

Traffic Calming Pop-up Demonstration Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9rT9GOAWjY>

Resources to Host a Pop-up Traffic Calming Demonstration:

<https://www.strongtowns.org/journal/2017/4/10/use-these-resources-to-host-a-pop-up-traffic-calming-demonstration>

Pop up Complete Streets Events: <https://atpolicy.org/resources/implementation-steps/tacticalsuburbanism/>



South Bend Traffic Calming Demonstration Project



Fort Wayne Better Block Demonstration Project

