



# ATP-7 PROTECT Funds

## Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025

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### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

A new program in the 2021 federal transportation bill, Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT), provides funds to plan or build climate change resiliency improvements. As with most federal transportation programs, the funding is likely to be split 70% to MnDOT and 30% to local governments via Area Transportation Partnerships.

Official funding guidance will not be provided until after January 30, 2023, but ATP-7 may be distributing between \$370,000 and \$500,000 in federal funds to local governments in fiscal years 2024 and 2025. The emphasis will be to fund new or additional resiliency components on planned projects. Since it is federal funding, local governments are required to provide a 20% match.

A statewide Resilience Improvement Plan will be developed in 2023 to better define Minnesota-specific guidance and priorities for fiscal years 2026 and 2027.

### ELIGIBILITIES

PROTECT funds may only be used on federal-aid routes (i.e. not on local roads or rural minor collectors). Project types include, but are not limited to:

- Roadway and bridge flood mitigation
- Installing riprap
- Slope stabilization
- Incorporating natural infrastructure
- Improving stormwater drainage from roads
- Scour protection for bridges

### IMMEDIATE NEED

The ATP should identify eligible projects that will be authorized in state fiscal years 2024 and 2025 to be included in the development of the 2024-2027 Area Transportation Improvement Plan (ATIP). As projects will be authorized in fiscal year 2024, they must be documented in the 2024-2027 ATIP, which will be drafted in Spring 2023.

### NEXT STEPS

1. District State Aid staff will request potential eligible projects from cities and counties.
2. Establish a review committee to provide recommendations to the ATP for inclusion in the 2024-2027 ATIP.
3. A statewide Resilience Improvement Plan will be developed in 2023 that will help inform future project selection.

### CONTACTS

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