# News Release

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## MnDOT grants to help improve bus stop access in rural, small urban areas

**ST. PAUL, Minn. –** The Minnesota Department of Transportation is taking grant applications to improve access for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities to bus stops and bus transfer facilities.

Applications must be submitted by Sept. 29. Projects will be awarded in October.

The new “Safe Access to Bus Stops” funding is directed toward improving access to transportation services in the rural and small urban areas. Rural area is defined as populations up to 50,000 and small urban is populations up to 200,000. The cities of Duluth, Moorhead, East Grand Forks, St. Cloud, Rochester, Mankato and La Crescent are among the small urban areas eligible to apply.

Eligible recipients are state and local units of government, tribal governments and private non-profit agencies.

“This new funding will help build accessible paths to a bus stop that is current inaccessible,” said Jasna Hadzic-Stanek, project planner in the Office of Transit. “Projects could include curb cuts, sidewalks and accessible pedestrian signals.”

Hadzic-Stanek said the goal of the funding program aligns with [Minnesota Walks](http://www.dot.state.mn.us/peds/plan/index.html), a framework for creating safe, convenient and accessible walking and rolling for all.

Grant amounts are dependent upon the Federal Transit Association’s appropriations. Projects require a 20 percent local match.

For funding criteria and application instructions, go to <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/transit/grants/5310/index.html>.

For more information, contact John Groothuis at 651-366-4187.

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