

eMobility Planning Grants for TMAs

Solicitation Overview





General Information

Purpose To help New Jersey TMAs identify the transportation needs and preferences of residents and develop thoughtful, community-driven solutions that improve air quality and fill mobility gaps.

Open and Close Dates March 24, 2025-April 25, 2025

Funding Each Project Area will be eligible for a grant of up to \$100,000.00. Individual applicants may apply for up to four (4) Project Areas. DEP reserves the right to limit the number of Projects awarded per applicant.



Eligibility

Applicants New Jersey Transportation Management Associations

Locations Project Areas may be a neighborhood, census tract, municipality, county, tribal land, or other delineation and must be located in an overburdened community (OBC) in New Jersey.

Project Costs

- Personnel/salary costs
- Consultants/subcontractors
- Supplies and materials
- Facility rental

- Travel/transportation
- Language translation and interpretation services



How to Apply

- 1. Review the Solicitation Overview
- 2. Complete the Online Proposal Form

Project Scoring

- ☑Initial indication that there are transportation needs not being met in the community.
- ☑Initial indication these transportation needs may be met by an eMobility solution, community members may prefer an eMobility solution, and the project could support a solution that reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
- ☑Applicant's demonstrated ability to complete the project, including experience with similar projects and the administration of government-funded grants.
- ☑Applicant's existing or planned partnerships with local governments and CBOs serving the project area(s), as well as other partnerships as needed to support the project.

Grant Process (After Award)

Grant Agreements will be between DEP and the awarded TMA (Grantee). Project partners may be listed in the original proposal; however, it will be the Grantee's responsibility to complete their project and ensure compliance with the terms of their grant agreement.

Awarded projects must be completed within 12 months of grant execution. Grantees may be asked to meet quarterly with DEP staff during this time to ensure projects are progressing and for DEP staff to gain insight on the process.



Grant Process (After Award)

Competitive Procurement

Procurement of supplies, equipment, and other services with grant funds must be accomplished in a manner consistent with all applicable Federal and State requirements.

Generally, DEP considers the following methods to meet competitive procurement requirements for supplies, equipment, and services:

- Obtain three (3) separate quotes for each item/service;
- Utilize a Request for Proposals or similar competitive solicitation process; or
- Choose vendors from a cooperative purchasing agreement.

Grant Process (After Award)

Grant Payments are generally issued as reimbursement. Grantees may be authorized for an advance payment if needed and justified with good cause.

Grantees will not be reimbursed for expenses incurred outside of the work period indicated in their Grant Agreement.

Grant Deliverables include at least the following:

- Expenditure Report (standard for all DEP grants; sample will be included in the Grant Agreement)
- Invoices and proofs of payment e.g. bank statements, canceled checks, etc.
- Project Summary Report (see next slide)

Project Summary Report

Includes these four primary components

(Detailed template provided in Attachment 1 of the Solicitation Overview)

- **1.** Conduct background research of the project area.
- 2. Complete community engagement actions, including at least one transportation needs/preferences resident survey and at least two engagement activities/events.
- **3.** Explore three or more potential transportation solutions, including at least one eMobility model, and complete additional community engagement to gain further insight from residents about the potential solutions.
- **4.** Choose the best solution based on the analysis completed throughout the project and determine the steps needed to implement.



Transportation Needs Index

A data-driven analysis of transportation need in New Jersey



A collaborative effort between DEP and the New Jersey State Office of Innovation, the Transportation Needs Index is a tool that can help you identify where transportation gaps exist, especially in historically underserved communities. It works by analyzing factors such as poverty, car ownership, and transit access and other key data to highlight areas that may benefit from additional mobility investments.

This approach builds on and adapts a framework used by the 2022 JC on the Move transportation study. It is important to acknowledge the index is a work in progress. As we gather feedback and refine our approach, the tool will continue to improve and better reflect community needs.

To help improve future versions of the tool, we welcome any feedback on the analysis and mapping by email to stopthesoot@dep.nj.gov with the subject "Transportation Needs Index feedback".

Explore the Index

Methodology & Technical Documentation

This information describes the approach used by the Office of Innovation for the underlying data analysis.

Homepage: https://dep.nj.gov/drivegreen/ transportation-needs-index/



Story map: https://bit.ly/emobilityneedsindex



1: Demographics

Looking at transportation needs based on demographics

This section focuses on populations that often lack adequate transportation. Particularly, this analysis brings together American Community Survey data (ACS 5-year 2022) on the following demographics factors, all weighted equally:

- population with disabilities
- senior and youth population
- households without vehicles
- · poverty level, and
- population density per square kilometer

The *Composite Needs Score* combines all the data highlighted above into one analysis, where areas with a larger number of populations in need were given a higher score.



Composite Needs Score



2: Access to Transit

Understanding access to transit in your neighborhood

To understand access to transit in your neighborhood, we analyzed where New Jersey Transit bus stops, bus terminals, and rail stations are located.

The *Access Score* represents the percentage of census block groups that are within half a mile of a train station and a quarter mile of bus stops. This score can help in understanding which areas have high, medium, and low access to transit. A score of zero reflects areas of New Jersey where NJ Transit bus terminals, bus stops, light rail or rail stations are not located.



Access Score



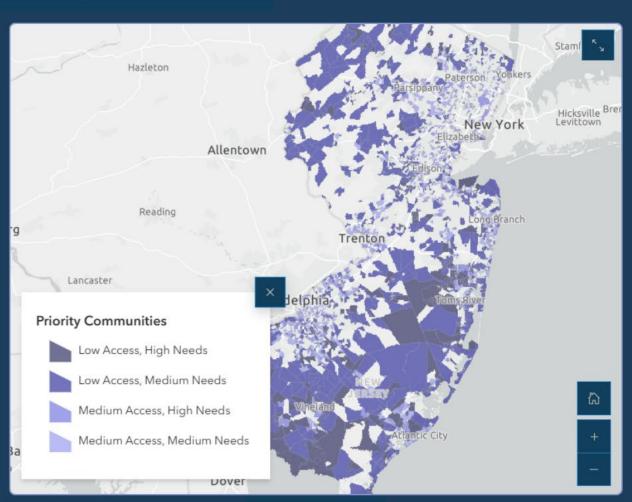
3: Priority Communities

Where are transportation services most needed?

This section highlights priority areas that may have a higher need for transportation services based on demographics, but face lower access to transit as they are far from NJ Transit bus stops and rail stations.

To identify priority communities, the analysis combines demographic needs and transit access to create the following categories:

- Low access to transit, high demographic needs (low access, high needs)
- Low access to transit, medium demographic needs (low access, medium needs)
- Medium access to transit, high demographic needs (medium access, high needs)
- Medium access to transit, medium demographic needs (medium access, medium needs)



Priority Communities

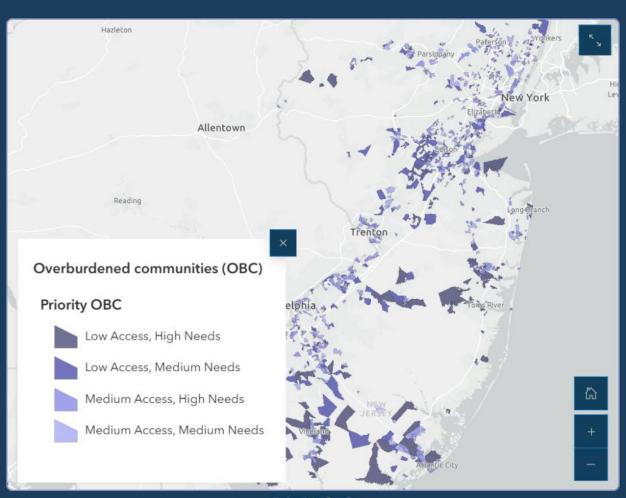


4: Priority OBCs

New Jersey's Overburdened Communities

These are areas that meet New Jersey's classification as an <u>Overburdened Community</u> (OBC) and may have a higher need for transportation based on demographics with lower access to transportation based on distance to transit. This layer combines the priority communities above, with New Jersey's OBCs.

Overburdened communities are census block groups with at least 35 percent low-income households; or at least 40 percent of residents identify as minority or as members of a State recognized tribal community; or at least 40 percent of households have limited English proficiency.

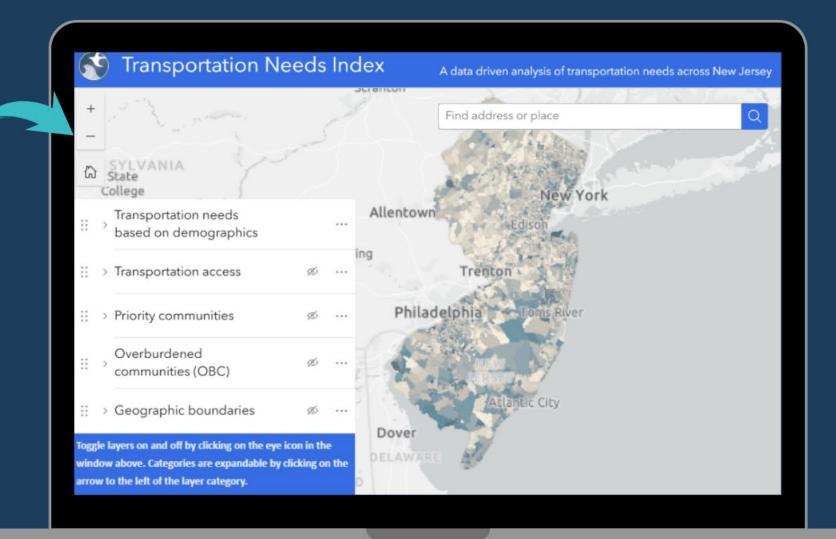


Priority OBC



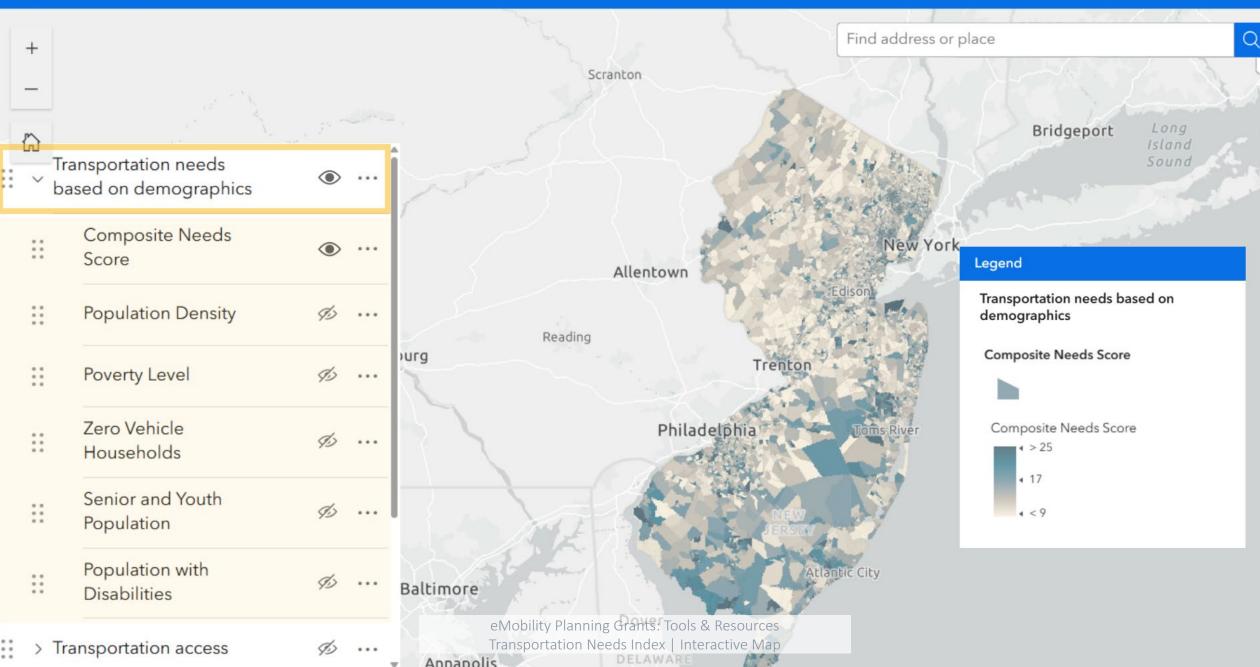
Explore the Tool

To explore all the data underlying this analysis, click here to view the Transportation Needs Index interactive map. You can find all the individual demographic maps for the Composite Needs Score, along with NJ transit layers (for bus stops and train stations) considered for the Access Score. You can also explore how demographic needs and transit access are integrated statewide through the Combined Needs and Access for New Jersey layer and view all of New Jersey's OBCs.

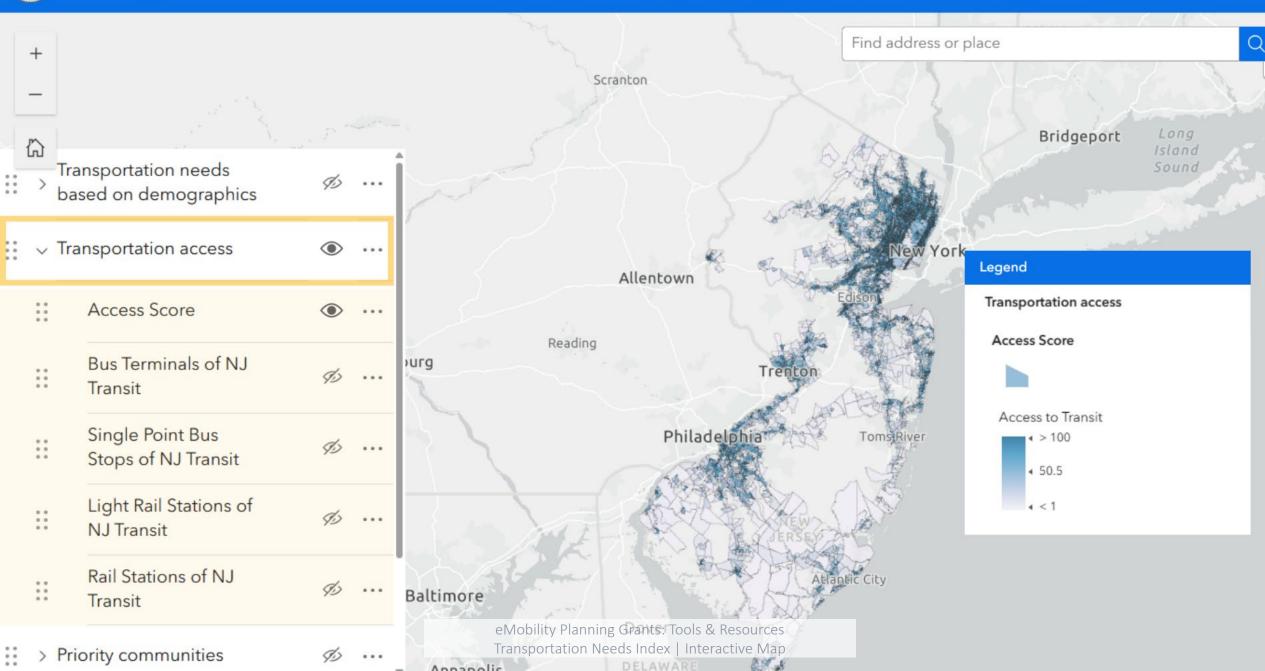




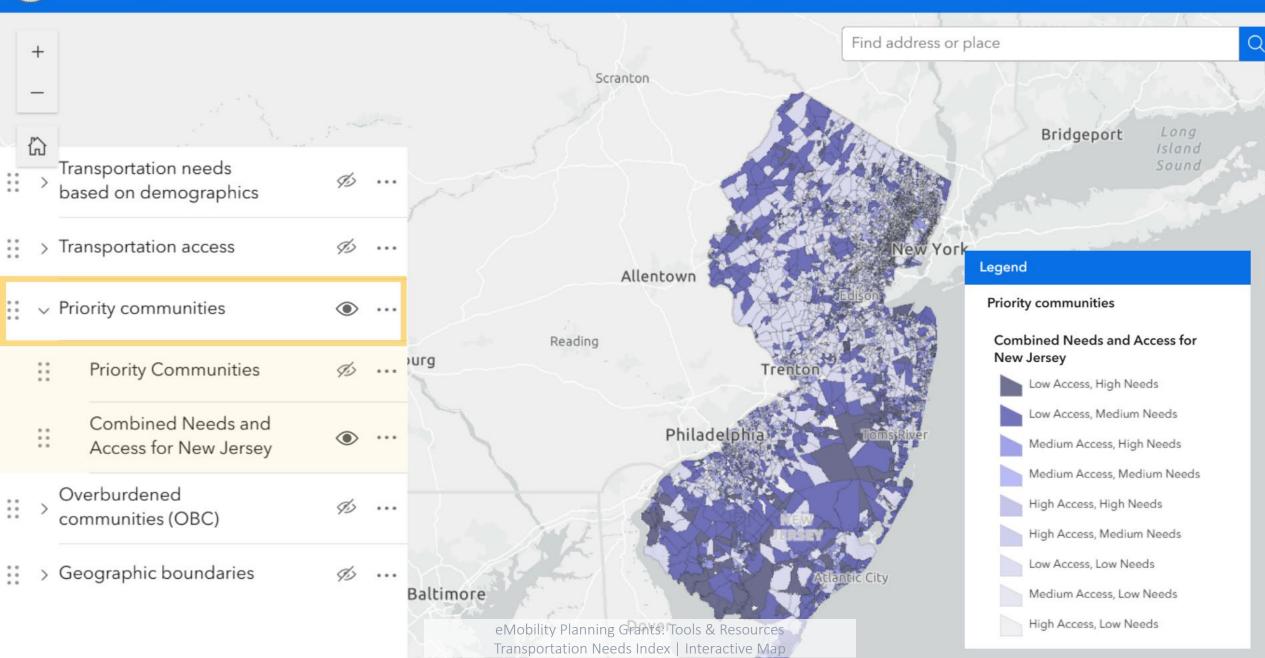






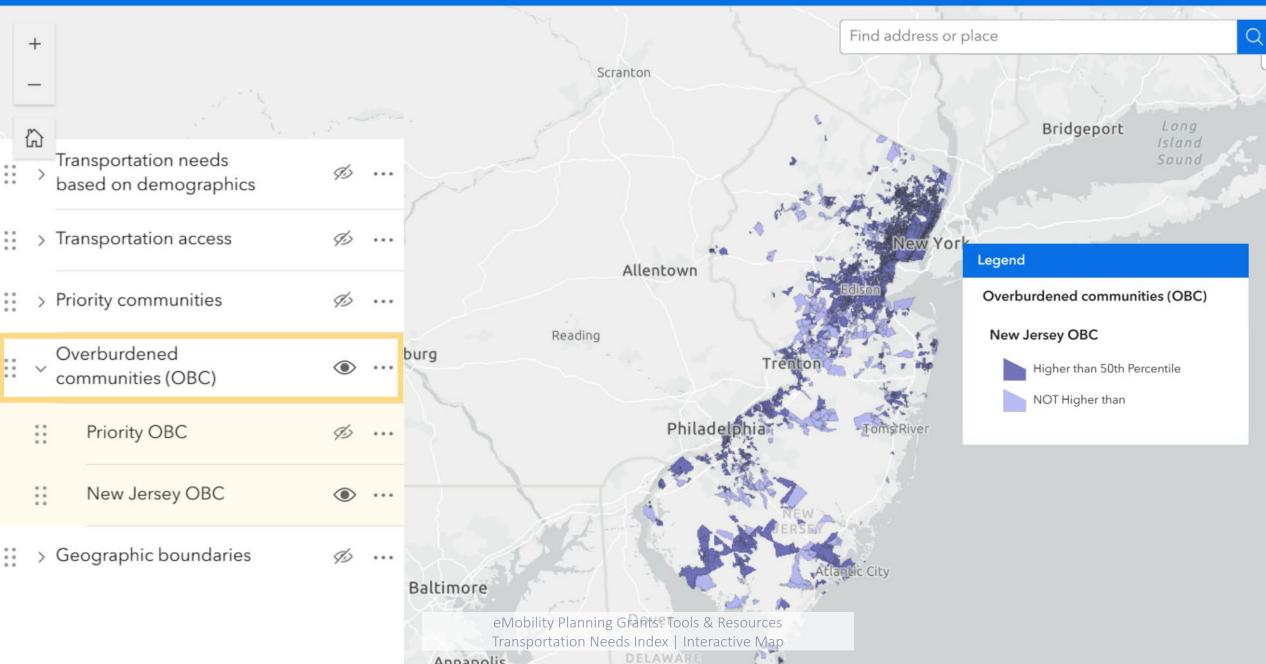






Annapolis







eMobility Planning Toolkit

Download full Toolkit (PDF)

STEP 1: Creating a Baseline

Gather and analyze existing transportation, equity, and demographic data to understand the characteristics of your community.

Step 1

STEP 2: Engaging the Community

Apply several approaches for meaningful community involvement to gain deeper insight to the transportation gaps, needs, and preferences of your community.

Step 2

STEP 3: Developing Solutions

Use the insight gathered from Steps 1 and 2 to frame ideas for potential transportation solutions, learn about practical steps to implement, and continue engagement to keep the community involved in the planning process.

Step 3

Homepage: https://bit.ly/emobilitytoolkit



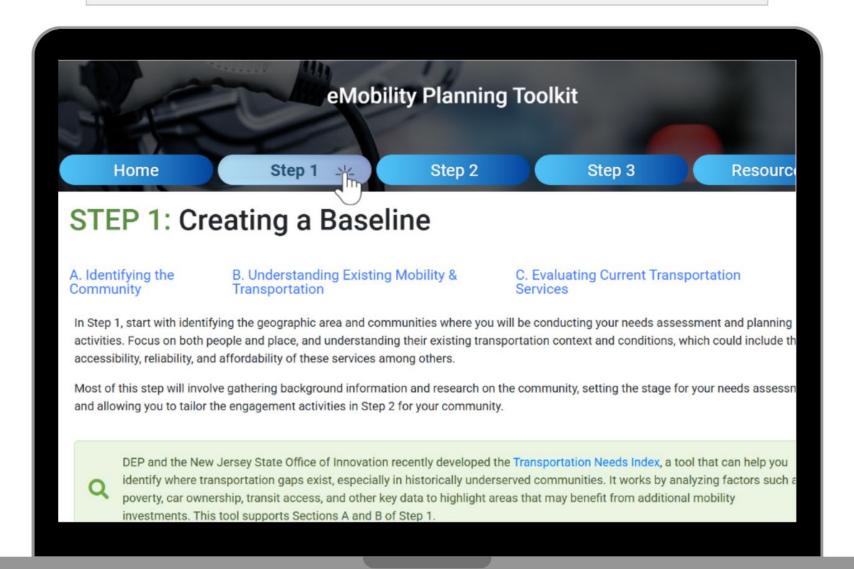
Solicitation Overview:

https://dep.nj.gov/wp-content/uploads/drivegreen/pdf/emobility/emobility-planning-grants_overview.pdf



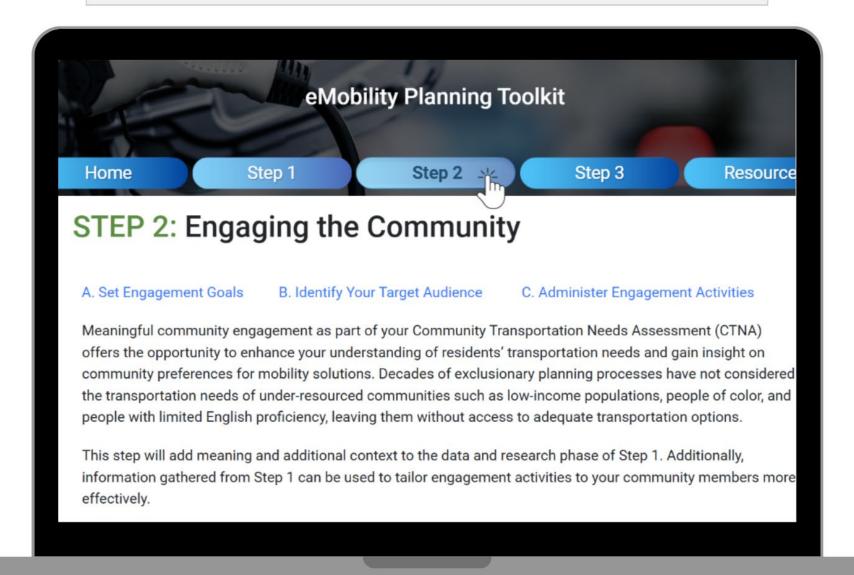
Attachment 1: Project Summary Report Template

1. CREATING A BASELINE



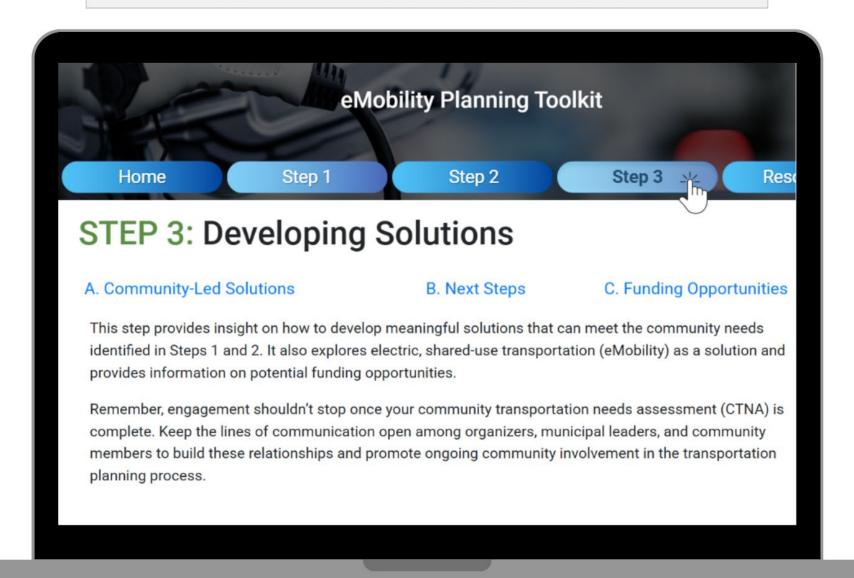
Attachment 1: Project Summary Report Template

2. ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY



Attachment 1: Project Summary Report Template

3. DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS & 4. FINAL RECOMMENDATION



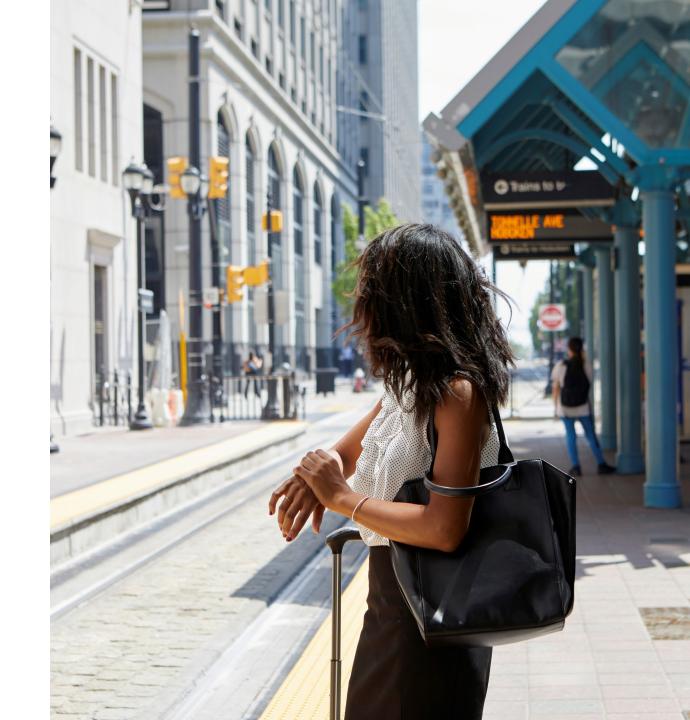
Important Links

Solicitation Homepage – Houses information and updates about this solicitation, including the links below and the Questions & Answers document (once available)

- Solicitation Overview
- <u>List of Proposal Questions</u>
- Online Proposal Form

Tools & Resources

- <u>Transportation Needs Index</u>
- eMobility Planning Toolkit









Bureau of Mobile Sources

stopthesoot@dep.nj.gov
NJ.GOV/DEP/DRIVEGREEN/EMOBILITY