LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

6. The Temporary Disability Benefits Law, N.J.S.A. 43:21-25;

7. N.J.S.A. 43:21-39.1; and

8. The New Jersey Gross Income Tax Act, N.J.S.A. 54A:1-1.

SUBCHAPTER 3. VIOLATIONS; PUNISHMENT; NOTICE OF INTENT

12:8-3.1 Posting of names to a list on the Department's website of persons prohibited from contracting with any public body

(a) Where a person has been found to be in violation of any State wage, benefit, or tax laws and where a final order has been issued against that person by the Commissioner, or other appropriate agency officer, for a violation of any State wage, benefit, or tax laws, the Department may post that person's name to a list on the Department's website of persons prohibited from contracting with any public body.

(b) The Commissioner shall consider the following factors as material in each decision to place a person on the list pursuant to (a) above:

1. The record of previous violations;

2. Previous placement on the list by the Commissioner;

3. The frequency of violations by the person in previous or still pending cases;

4. The significance or scale of the violations;

5. The existence of failure to pay;

6. Failure to cooperate or respond to a request to produce records, forms, documents, or proof of payments;

7. Submission of falsified or altered records, forms, documents, or proof of payments;

8. Failure to provide goods or services; and

9. Failure to comply with contract specifications.

(c) When the Department seeks to post a name to the list of persons prohibited from contracting with any public body, the Department shall, 15 business days prior to the posting, furnish the person with a written Notice of Intent indicating the following:

1. The name, email address, and telephone number of a contact person at the Department and description of the procedure for removal of the posting;

2. The specific details concerning the violations and a copy of the unsatisfied court final judgment or final order for any violation of State wage, benefit, and tax laws;

3. Notification that the person shall be prohibited from contracting with any public body if the liability is not resolved; and

4. Notification that the person can request a hearing, in writing, to the Commissioner within 20 days of receipt of the Notice of Intent to place the person on the list.

(d) The Notice of Intent to post a name to the list on the Department's website of persons prohibited from contracting with any public body shall be mailed, by regular mail, or equivalent United States Postal Service option, and return receipt requested, to the person sought to be listed by the Department.

(e) A person who receives a Notice of Intent pursuant to (c) above shall have 20 days from receipt of the Notice of Intent to request a hearing.

(f) If the person has either failed to file a timely appeal, or has expressly waived its right to appeal, the name of the person shall be posted to the list on the Department's website of persons prohibited from contracting with any public body.

(g) All hearings pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., and 52:14F-1 et seq., and the Uniform Administrative Procedure Rules, N.J.A.C. 1:1.

(h) The posting pursuant to (a) above, of the name of a person to the Department's list of persons prohibited from contracting with any public body, shall not occur when, prior to the anticipated date for posting of the name on the Department's list, either the person satisfies the entirety of the outstanding liability ordered by the court or the Commissioner, or a settlement has been reached and all payments have been made pursuant to the settlement.

(i) Within 15 days after the Department determines that a person on the Department's list of persons prohibited from contracting with a public body has satisfied the entirety of the outstanding liability ordered by the court, the Commissioner, or other agency head, or made all payments

pursuant to the settlement for a violation of any State wage, benefit, or tax laws, the Department shall remove the name of that person from the list of persons prohibited from contracting with any public body.

TRANSPORTATION

(a)

DIVISION OF LOCAL AID AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

County Local Aid

Proposed Readoption with Amendments: N.J.A.C. 16:20A

Authorized By: Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Commissioner, Department of Transportation.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 27:1A-5, 27:1A-6, 27:7-47, 27:13 et seq., 27:13A-1 et seq., 27:14-1 et seq., 27:15-1 et seq., 27:15A-1 et seq., and 27:1B-1 et seq.

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

Proposal Number: PRN 2021-045.

Submit comments by July 16, 2021, to:

Paul F. Sprewell Administrative Practice Officer New Jersey Department of Transportation PO Box 600 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600 Fax: (609) 530-4638 Submit electronically at pidetPules@dot.et

Submit electronically at <u>njdotRules@dot.state.nj.us</u>.

This rule may be viewed or downloaded from the Department's website at <u>http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/about/rules/proposals.</u> <u>shtm</u>.

The agency proposal follows:

Summary

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c and Executive Order No. 66 (1978), N.J.A.C. 16:20A was scheduled to expire April 16, 2021. As the Department of Transportation (Department) filed this notice prior to that date, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(2), the expiration date was extended 180 days to October 13, 2021. These rules provide the guidelines and establish procedures to be followed by counties in the receipt of State aid for transportation projects as disbursed through the Department's County Local Aid Program.

The Department has reviewed the rules and determined that they are necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purposes for which they were originally promulgated. Amendments are necessary to update contact information; update the specifications that must be followed; and include language in compliance with the governing statutory authority at N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.1 et seq. (effective June 26, 2019), which amended the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund. Specific citations will be found in the discussion below. The Department is proposing to readopt the rules with amendments as set forth below. Since the Department has provided a 60-day comment period for this notice of proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

The current chapter is summarized as follows:

Subchapter 1 provides the purpose and scope of the chapter.

Subchapter 2 provides the definitions for the chapter.

Subchapter 3 provides contact information.

Subchapter 4 describes the State's participation in eligible project costs, program approval, and county responsibilities.

Subchapter 5 provides standards and specifications.

Subchapter 6 provides the procedures to be followed in awarding contracts; contract completion and payment; reporting progress on expenditure of funds; cost of engineering, inspection, and construction supervision.

Subchapter 7 provides the requirements for the annual audit of the county.

The proposed amendments are as follows:

N.J.A.C. 16:20A-3.1(a)1 is proposed for amendment to correct the phone number for the main office in Trenton. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-3.1(a)4 is proposed for amendment to correct the phone number for District 3, Bureau of Local Aid. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-3.1(a)5 is proposed for amendment to correct the phone number for District 4, Bureau of Local Aid.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.d, N.J.A.C. 16:20A-4.1(a)2 is added to state that grant recipients are permitted to expend up to five percent of their allotment for design purposes in the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2019, and every fiscal year thereafter for those purposes. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-4.2(a) is proposed for amendment to change the date by which counties shall be notified of the amount of funds allotted for the current fiscal year. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-4.2(b) is proposed for amendment to require that counties submit applications by December 1st of each year. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-4.2(c) is added to provide that the Department will execute agreements with counties concerning projects and includes the required dates and timelines.

N.J.A.C. 16:20A-5.2(a) is proposed for amendment to correct cross-references.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.c, N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.2(a) is proposed for amendment to require that all bidders with contracts valued at more than \$5,000,000 shall be prequalified by the Department. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.2(e)2 is proposed for amendment to delete the requirement for sealed resolutions. The Department has determined that this is unnecessary. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.a, existing N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.2(g) is proposed for deletion because local aid program funds are not allowed to be used for employees or equipment belonging to the local entity. Also pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.a, new N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.2(g) is added to specifically state that local aid program funds are not allowed to be used for employees or equipment belonging to the local entity. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.b, new N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.2(h) is added to state that all construction contracts must be compliant with the provisions at N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.4(e) is proposed for amendment to clarify the provision, without making a substantive change. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.4(f) is proposed for deletion because the language is unnecessary.

Social Impact

The New Jersey Department of Transportation is committed to advancing projects that enhance safety, renew aging transportation infrastructure, and support new transportation initiatives. The rules proposed for readoption with amendments will continue to have a positive social impact by continuing to provide State aid to counties for rehabilitation and improvement of roads and bridges and other transportation projects. As of Fiscal Year 2017, \$161.35 million in State transportation aid was provided to the counties and up to \$7.5 million in discretionary funding will be available to both counties and municipalities through the Department's State Local Aid Program. The rules continue to assist counties in providing a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system essential to the traveling public and the economy of the State.

Economic Impact

The rules proposed for readoption with amendments are an essential mechanism in providing counties with necessary funds for the rehabilitation and improvement of public roads and bridges and for other public transportation projects. County governments will continue to incur direct and indirect costs for the processing of plans and specifications, cost of engineering, contractual agreements, and distribution of allotments. The cost of right-of-way acquisition shall continue to be borne by the county, except in special approved cases.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25-1 et seq., county aid allotments are based on a distribution factor that is based on the county's population compared to the State's population and roadway miles within the county compared to county roadway miles within the State. The Department updates the county population information when it is updated by the U.S. Census Bureau. The 2020 U.S. Census data figures have not yet been deemed official; therefore, the 2010 figures are being used in formulas. The Department expects to be able to use the 2020 figures for the upcoming 2023 programs. As the formula by which county aid allotments are established and is controlled by statute, the Department has no discretion in the calculation of these allotments.

Counties will continue to have flexibility in establishing the pool of projects to be advanced to construction, which should improve their ability to expend funds allotted to them, so as to avoid the penalties outlined in the chapter.

Federal Standards Statement

A Federal standards analysis pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-23 is not required because the rules proposed for readoption with amendments are proposed under the authority of State statute only and are not subject to Federal law, standards, or requirements.

Jobs Impact

The rules proposed for readoption with amendments establish the policies and procedures for disbursement of county aid from the State Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) for transportation projects advanced by the counties. As of Fiscal Year 2017, \$161.35 million is available for county aid from the TTF. These projects generate jobs in the construction industry and other industries directly and indirectly impacted by transportation construction. The number of jobs generated by these projects is difficult to estimate, as it is dependent on the type and complexity of the transportation project and the amount of other work being undertaken by a particular contractor working on a particular county transportation project. The rules, therefore, will continue to have a positive impact on the generation of jobs in the State and are not anticipated to result in the loss of jobs in the State, although the magnitude of that positive impact cannot be determined.

Agriculture Industry Impact

The rules proposed for readoption with amendments have no impact on the agriculture industry. The rules are not intended to regulate farming, crop, or animal production.

Regulatory Flexibility Statement

A regulatory flexibility analysis is not required since the rules proposed for readoption with amendments do not impose any reporting, recordkeeping, or compliance requirements on small businesses as the term is defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq. The rules affect how county governing bodies receive State aid for transportation projects.

Housing Affordability Impact Analysis

The rules proposed for readoption with amendments will have no impact on the affordability of housing in New Jersey. The rules establish the policies and procedures for the disbursement of county aid from the State Transportation Trust Fund for transportation projects advanced by the counties. The Department believes it is extremely unlikely that the rules would bring about a change in the average costs associated with housing.

Smart Growth Development Impact Analysis

The rules proposed for readoption with amendments will have no impact on smart growth. The Department believes that it is unlikely that the rules would bring about a change in housing production in Planning Areas 1 or 2, or within designated centers, under the State Development and Redevelopment Plan because the rules establish the policies and procedures for disbursement of county aid from the State Transportation Trust Fund for transportation projects advanced by counties.

Racial and Ethnic Community Criminal Justice and Public Safety Impact

The rules proposed for readoption with amendments establish the policies and procedures for disbursement of county aid from the State Transportation Trust Fund for transportation projects advanced by counties. The existing rules had no impact on Racial and Ethnic Community Criminal Justice and Public Safety in New Jersey and the Department believes that it is extremely unlikely that the proposed amendments, as they refer primarily to disbursement of county aid from the State Transportation Trust Fund for transportation projects advanced by counties, will have any impact on pretrial detention, sentencing, probation, or parole policies concerning adults or juveniles in the State. Therefore, no further analysis is required.

Full text of the rules proposed for readoption may be found in the New Jersey Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 16:20A.

Full text of the proposed amendments follows (additions indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

SUBCHAPTER 3. CONTACT INFORMATION

16:20A-3.1 Contact information

1

(a) Local aid funds are administered by the Department's Division of Local Aid and Economic Development. Contact information for the Division is as follows:

> Main Office PO Box 600 Trenton NJ 08625-0600 Phone: (609) [530-3640] **963-2021** Fax: (609) 530-8044 Counties covered: all counties

2.-3. (No change.)
4. District 3, Bureau of Local Aid PO Box 600 Trenton, NJ 08625-0600 Phone: [(732) 625-4290] (609) 963-2020 Fax: (732) 625-4292 Counties covered: Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Somerset
5. District 4, Cherry Hill

One Executive Campus Route 70 West, 3rd Floor Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002 Phone: (856) [486-6618] **414-8414** Fax: (856) 486-6771 Counties covered: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem

SUBCHAPTER 4. COUNTY AID

16:20A-4.1 Eligible costs

(a) A grant recipient under the local aid program shall be permitted to expend up to five percent of its aid allotment for design purposes in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, and every fiscal year thereafter for that purpose.

Recodify existing (a)-(d) as (b)-(e) (No change in text.)

16:20A-4.2 Annual Transportation Program approval

(a) Annually, prior to [August] **July** 31, each county shall be notified of the amount of local aid funds allotted to the county for the current State fiscal year. Any unencumbered funds from prior year allotments, not subject to rescission pursuant to N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.4, shall be available in addition to the current annual allotment. Balances from prior year allotments must be encumbered before a county uses its current annual allotment.

(b) An ATP shall be submitted by each county for approval through the Department's online grant management system, SAGE found at: <u>http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/sage.shtm</u>. [Submissions shall be made within five months of notification, unless otherwise directed by the Department.] **Each county shall submit an application for funding by December 1st of each year.**

1.-6. (No change.)

(c) The Department shall execute an agreement with each county concerning the project or projects for which the aid is allotted to the county within 90 days from the date that the Department receives the application from the county or by April 1st of the following year, whichever is later.

SUBCHAPTER 5. STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

16:20A-5.2 Specifications

(a) Construction and materials shall conform to the Department's Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, [2007] **2019** edition, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented,

and the Department's Supplementary Specifications for State Aid Projects, [2011] **2019** Edition, incorporated herein by reference, as amended and supplemented. The Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction is available in electronic format on the Department's website at <u>http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/eng</u>. The Supplementary Specifications for State Aid Projects is available in electronic format on the Department's website at <u>http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/</u> <u>business/localaid/suppspecpay.shtm</u>.

(b) (No change.)

SUBCHAPTER 6. PROJECT AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS

16:20A-6.2 Award of contract

(a) Subject to the notification and approval [under] **pursuant to** N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.1, and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., the county shall advertise and award for construction contracts for a project being advanced by the county and listed in its ATP. Additionally, for all projects funded, in whole or in part, out of funds from the local aid program, each bidder on a construction contract valued at more than \$5,000,000 shall be prequalified by the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

(b)-(d) (No change.)

(e) Within 30 calendar days following the award of the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, the county shall submit the following to the appropriate district office:

1. (No change.)

2. A fully executed [and sealed] resolution awarding the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, subject to the approval of the Department;

3.-5. (No change.) (f) (No change.)

[(g) Counties may also perform work using their own workforce. In order to do so, the county must demonstrate to the Department that the force account method is more cost effective than contracting through competitive bidding and efficiently uses labor, equipment, materials, and supplies to assure the lowest overall cost.

1. When the force account method is being requested, the county must supply the following:

i. Sufficient cost information, so that a cost-effectiveness determination can be made by comparing the total cost for the county to perform the work versus the total cost using competitively bid prices. The project or contract completion time is to be equal for both county and contract work estimates in order to provide a fair price comparison;

ii. The determination that the county has the experience, resources, and demonstrated ability to complete the work with the same level of quality as that expected on a competitively bid contract;

iii. The ability to comply with the appropriate design, construction, and material quality standards; and

iv. Documentation of compliance that the level of quality is the same as that which is required for competitively bid contracts.

2. All force account work requests must be reviewed and approved by the Department prior to the start of construction.

3. If the force account method is approved, the county shall enter into a force account agreement with the Department. Any construction undertaken by force account prior to Department approval and execution of a force account agreement shall be subject to non-participation by the Department.

4. The Department's participation shall not exceed the approved project amount.]

(g) Local government entity grant recipients shall be prohibited from using local aid program funds to support the work of any of the local government entity's employees on any construction projects funded, in whole or in part, out of funds from the local aid program.

(h) The construction contracts for all projects funded, in whole or in part, out of funds from the local aid program shall be made and awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.

16:20A-6.4 Annual report on expenditure of funds

(a)-(d) (No change.)

[(e) The county must demonstrate satisfactory progress in expending local aid funds. Failure to award construction or other approved contracts

for 100 percent of a county's annual allotment within three years of the date established by the Department in the annual notification, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 16:20A-4.2(a), shall result in the immediate rescission of any unencumbered funds. Rescinded funds will be reallocated to the following State fiscal year's county local aid program to be distributed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 16:20A-1.2.

(f) Any encumbered funds not expended upon project closeout shall be returned to the Department or retained by the county and reallocated to another project. Such reallocated funds must be encumbered within one year.]

(e) Distribution of the portion of the grant provided initially to a county may be contingent on its performance in spending prior grants. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 16:20A-4.2(a), failure to award construction or other approved contracts for 100 percent of a county's allotment within three years of notification by the Department of that year's allotment shall result in the allotment being immediately rescinded or the funds returned to the Department, as applicable. In the event that the funds are not immediately returned, the Department will make deductions from future allocations of aid to that county. Any of those funds may be reallocated by the Commissioner to other transportation projects, as the Commissioner shall so determine.

(a)

DIVISION OF LOCAL AID AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Municipal Local Aid

Proposed Readoption with Amendments: N.J.A.C. 16:20B

Authorized By: Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Commissioner, Department of Transportation.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 27:1A-5, 27:1A-6, 27:13-1 et seq., 27:13A-1 et seq., 27:14-1 et seq., 27:15A-1 et seq., 27:15A-1 et seq., and 27:1B-1 et seq.

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

Proposal Number: PRN 2021-046.

Submit comments by July 16, 2021, to:

Paul Sprewell Administrative Practice Officer New Jersey Department of Transportation PO Box 600 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

Fax: (609) 530-4638

Submit electronically at <u>njdotRules@dot.state.nj.us</u>.

This rule may be viewed or downloaded from the Department's website at <u>http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/about/rules/proposals.</u> <u>shtm</u>.

The agency proposal follows:

Summary

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c and Executive Order No. 66 (1978), N.J.A.C. 16:20B was scheduled to expire April 16, 2021. As the Department of Transportation (Department) has filed this notice prior to that date, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(2), the expiration date was extended 180 days to October 13, 2021. These rules provide the guidelines and establish procedures to be followed by municipalities in the receipt of State aid for transportation projects as disbursed through the Department's Municipal Local Aid Program.

The Department has reviewed the rules and determined that they are necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purposes for which they were originally promulgated. Amendments are necessary to update contact information, update the specifications that must be followed, and include language in compliance with the governing statutory authority at N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.1 et seq. (effective June 26, 2019), which amended the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund. The Department is proposing to readopt

the rules with amendments as set forth below. Since the Department has provided a 60-day comment period for this notice of proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

The current chapter is summarized as follows:

Subchapter 1 provides the purpose and scope of the chapter.

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Subchapter 4 describes the State's participation in eligible project costs, program approval, and municipal responsibilities.

Subchapter 5 provides standards and specifications.

Subchapter 6 provides the procedures to be followed in awarding contracts; contract completion and payment; reporting progress on expenditure of funds; cost of engineering, inspection, and construction supervision.

Subchapter 7 provides the requirements for the annual audit of the municipality.

The proposed amendments are as follows:

N.J.A.C. 16:20B-3.1(a)1 is proposed for amendment to correct the phone number for the main office in Trenton. N.J.A.C. 16:20B-3.1(a)4 is proposed for amendment to correct the phone number for District 3, Bureau of Local Aid. N.J.A.C. 16:20B-3.1(a)5 is proposed for amendment to correct the phone number for District 4, Bureau of Local Aid.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.d, N.J.A.C. 16:20B-4.1(a) is proposed for amendment to state that grant recipients are permitted to expend up to five percent of their allotment in the fiscal year, beginning July 1, 2019, and every fiscal year thereafter for those purposes. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.1.a(2), N.J.A.C. 16:20B-4.4(a) is proposed for amendment to require the Department to solicit municipal applications by April 30th of each year. For purposes of that statutory authority, N.J.A.C. 16:20B-4.4(b) is also proposed for amendment to require that municipalities submit applications by July 1st of each year. Similarly, N.J.A.C. 16:20B-4.4(g) is proposed for amendment to state that award letters will be sent to municipalities by November 30th of each year.

N.J.A.C. 16:20B-5.2(a) is proposed for amendment to correct citations.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.1.a(2), N.J.A.C. 16:20B-6.1(c) is added to provide that the Department will execute agreements with municipalities concerning projects and includes the required dates and timelines. N.J.A.C. 16:20A-6.2(b) is proposed for amendment to clarify language related to the failure to use allotments in the required timeframes. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.c, N.J.A.C. 16:20B-6.3(a) is proposed for amendment to require that all bidders with contracts valued at more than \$5,000,000 shall be prequalified by the Department. N.J.A.C. 16:20B-6.3(e)2 is proposed for amendment to delete the requirement for sealed resolutions. The Department has determined that this is unnecessary. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.a, current N.J.A.C. 16:20B-6.3(g) is proposed for deletion because local aid program funds are not allowed to be used for employees or equipment belonging to the local entity. Also pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.a, new N.J.A.C. 16:20B-6.3(g) is added to state that local aid program funds are not allowed to be used for employees or equipment belonging to the local entity. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 27:1B-25.5.b, new N.J.A.C. 16:20B-6.3(h) is added to state that all construction contracts must be compliant with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. N.J.A.C. 16:20B-6.4(i) is proposed for amendment to clarify the provision, without any substantive change.

Social Impact

The New Jersey Department of Transportation is committed to advancing projects that enhance safety, renew aging transportation infrastructure, and support new transportation initiatives. The rules proposed for readoption with amendments will continue to have a positive social impact by continuing to provide State aid to municipalities for rehabilitation and improvement of roads and bridges and other transportation projects. As of Fiscal Year 2017, \$161.35 million in State transportation aid was provided to municipalities and up to \$7.5 million in discretionary funding will be available to both counties and efficient transportation system essential to the traveling public and the economy of the State.