

Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2026 Application Package | Memo



To: Senator Rick Billinger, Chair, Build Kansas Advisory Committee
Chardae Caine, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Shauna Wake, Office of the Kansas State Treasurer

From: Jason Fizell, Interim Executive Director, Kansas Infrastructure Hub

RE: Build Kansas Fund Application #2025-152-NoEDD

Date: July 22, 2025

Attached, please find an application made to the Build Kansas Fund by the City of Valley Falls. The application packet includes the following items:

- Coversheet – provides a high-level overview of the application including a unique identification number, page 1 of 11 of the Build Kansas Fund Application Package.
- Build Kansas Fund Application – includes information submitted with the Build Kansas Fund Application, pages 2-8. Page 8 provides the table of funding sources and zip codes served by the project.
- Attachments – Executive summary and project map, pages 9-11.

Project Overview

The City of Valley Falls seeks funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation for funding available through the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program for their Safe Streets for All Implementation Grant project which includes implementing a series of safety improvements to reduce crash risk and enhance pedestrian infrastructure near schools and key corridors.

This opportunity is a discretionary IIJA program with a local match requirement of 20% of the total project cost. The entity is requesting \$1,615,000.00 from the Build Kansas Fund, and is providing a local match of \$85,000.00. This request has the potential to unlock \$6,800,000.00 in federal funds, for a total project cost of \$8,500,000.00.

The deadline was June 26, 2025, and this Build Kansas Fund application was received on June 18, 2025.

Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee Recommendation

The Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee reviewed this application on June 25, 2025 following a successful completeness check. The Steering Committee **RECOMMENDS APPROVAL** of Build Kansas Funding to the Build Kansas Advisory Committee for final advice.

Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2026 Application Package | Coversheet



Build Kansas Fund Application Number	2025-152-NoEDD
Applicant Name	City of Valley Falls
Application Date Received	6/18/2025
Project Name	Safe Streets for All Implementation Grant
Project Description	Implement a series of safety improvements to reduce crash risk and enhance pedestrian infrastructure near schools and key corridors
Entity Type	Local Government
Economic Development District (EDD) Planning Commission	NO EDD/RPC
Infrastructure Sector(s)	Transportation
BIL Program	Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program
BIL Program Type	Discretionary
Application Type	Implementation
BIL Application Deadline	6/26/2025
Build Kansas Fund Request	\$1,615,000.00
Technical Assistance Received	General Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	BIL Application Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Build Kansas Fund Application Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (Brief Description): Provided General TA and BKF Application Support.
Application Notes	Build Kansas Fund contribution of \$1,615,000.00 will unlock \$6,800,000.00 in federal BIL funding, with a local cash contribution of \$85,000.00 for a total project cost of \$8,500,000.00.
Steering Committee Funding Recommendation	6/25/2025 Recommend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Funding Recommendation	7/22/2025 Recommend <input type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/>

Title	Valley Falls, Kansas	06/18/2025
	by Wesley Lanter in Build Kansas Fund Application	id. 50860367
	417 Broadway St Valley Falls, Kansas 66088 United States 7859456612 cityadmin@valleyfalls.org	

Original Submission	06/18/2025
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Score	n/a
Part 1: Applicant Information	
The name of the entity applying for the Build Kansas Fund:	Valley Falls, Kansas
Project Name:	Safe Streets for All Implementation Grant
Entity type:	Local Government
Entity Population:	1,092
Applicant Contact Name:	Wesley Lanter
Applicant Contact Position/Title:	City Administrator
Applicant Contact Telephone Number:	+17859456612
Applicant Contact Email Address:	cityadmin@valleyfalls.org
Applicant Contact Address:	417 Broadway Street
Applicant Contact Address Line 2 (optional):	
Applicant Contact City:	Valley Falls

Applicant Contact State: Kansas

Applicant Contact Zip Code: 66088

Is the Project Contact the same as the Applicant Contact? Yes

Part 2: Build Kansas Fund - Eligibility Criteria

Certify that you are pursuing an Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity for which your entity is eligible: Yes

Certify that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity you are pursuing has a required non-federal match component: Yes

What is the primary county that the project will occur in? Jefferson County

The Build Kansas Fund is intended to support Kansas-based infrastructure projects. Please provide a list of all the zip codes this project will be located in, along with an estimated percent [%] of the project located in that zip code. For example, if seeking funding for road infrastructure, provide a rough percent of the roads expected in each zip code:

[Zip Code Percentage.xlsx](#)

Part 3: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) - Grant Application Information Please Note: This information is related to the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity to which you will apply. This is NOT information for the Build Kansas Match Fund.

Please enter the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity title that the entity is applying for: Safe Streets and Roads for All Funding Opportunity

What is the funding agency for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? U.S. Department of Transportation

What is the Assistance Listing Number (ALN) for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? 20.939

What is the federal application due date for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? 6/26/2025

Application Type: Implementation

What is the federal fiscal year for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? 2025

Enter the amount of funding being applied for, from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity: \$6,800,000.00 for a total project cost of \$8,500,000.00

Enter the total project cost: \$8,500,000.00

Enter the required non-federal match percentage: 20%

Part 4: Build Kansas Fund - Match Application Information Beginning in July 2024 and moving forward, eligible applicants are expected to contribute a portion of the non-Federal match requirement. This contribution can be in the form of cash and/or in-kind contributions. The goal is to demonstrate the applicant's commitment to the project. The contribution should be significant enough relative to the Build Kansas Fund request. For a local public entity, 5% of the non-federal match is a good guideline, but not a requirement. See Build Kansas Fund Program Guidance for exceptions and more information.

Enter the non-federal cash match amount being requested from the Build Kansas Fund: \$1,615,000.00 for a total project cost of \$8,500,000.00

Enter the non-federal cash match amount being provided by the eligible applicant, if applicable: \$85,000.00 for a total project cost of \$8,500,000.00

Enter the estimated value of the non-federal in-kind match amount being provided by the eligible applicant, if applicable: 0

Expected breakdown of funding sources to support the project: Enter the funding source and projected amount from each source to support this project:

[Kansas+DOT+table_V2.xlsx](#)

Part 5: Build Kansas Fund - Means Test and Eligible Applicant Match

What other available funding sources that are currently planned to go unused by your entity will be leveraged for this project? None, the City allocates its annual budget each year. For the 2025 budget, we do not anticipate having any unused funds – which is the case for all of our annual budgets.

Will any American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) or Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Fund monies will be used for the non-federal match?	No.
What other sources of in-kind match will be leveraged for this project? Please list and include the actual or estimated value of each.	No in-kind match is being leveraged.
What other funding sources (local, federal, or non-federal) will be used for this match?	Local funding will be provided out of the city's 2025 street maintenance budget.
Describe your efforts to find other available funding sources for this project:	There have been conservative budgeting efforts in recent years to ensure the City's funding is being used wisely, as the city has a relatively small tax base to begin with. The City is aware of KDOT's programs that would fund a portion of these programs – TA, SRTS, Cost Share, and possibly CCLIP. However, there are no KDOT programs that would cover the diversity of projects that this application is applying for in one funding cycle.

Part 6: Additional Information

Please upload a draft or final version of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) program grant application associated with this request OR an executive summary providing an overview of the project:

[Implementation_Grant_Application_-_Valley_Falls_2025.06.12.pdf](#)

Provide any additional information about this project not covered in previous sections of this application (optional):

Part 7: Terms and Conditions

Understanding of Fund Release Requirements:

checked

Understanding of Use of Funds:

checked

Understanding of Reporting Requirements:	checked
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Authority to Make Grant Application:	checked
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Persons and Titles: The following persons are responsible for making this Build Kansas Fund application.	Wesley Lanter
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Position/Title:	City Administrator
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Additional:

Position/Title:

Additional:

Position/Title:

Additional:

Position/Title:

Source	Amount	% of Project
Build Kansas Funds (non-federal match)	\$1,615,000.00	19.00%
Eligible Applicant Cash Match	\$85,000.00	1.00%
Eligible Applicant In-Kind Match (estimated value)	\$0.00	0%
BIL Federal Funds (applied for)	\$6,800,000.00	80.00%
Additional Project Contribution (if applicable)	\$0.00	0%
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$8,500,000.00	100%

***Applicant satisfies recommended match contribution of 5% of the required match**

Zip Code	% of project in zip code
66088	100%
	100% In Kansas



SAFE STREETS FOR ALL IMPLEMENTATION GRANT – VALLEY FALLS, KANSAS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction to Valley Falls

Valley Falls, Kansas, is a rural town located in the northeast corner of the state, in Jefferson County. With a population of 1,192 people, the city has 444 households, over a third of which have children under 18. The town was founded in 1854.

Previous SS4A funding for Safety Action Plan

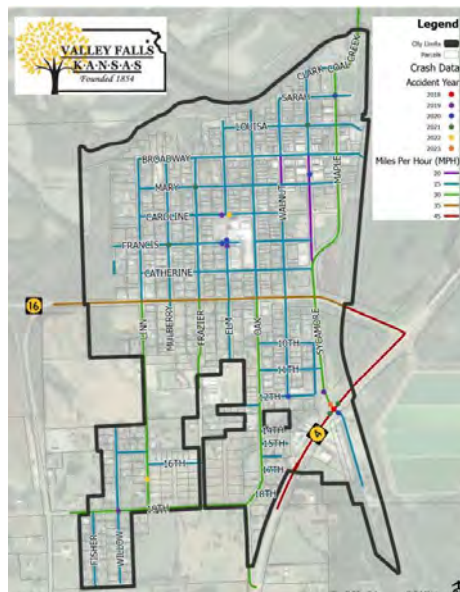
Valley Falls was awarded an Action Plan Grant through the Safe Streets for All program in fiscal year 2022 for \$40,000. Since then, it has completed a Safety Action Plan as well as additional investigation to establish the best ways to invest in the city's road safety. The Safety Action Plan can be found [here](#). The plan was approved as an eligible Action Plan for applying for this Implementation Grant by the SS4A Committee on May 29th, 2025. This grant will greatly aid the city in improving street safety, as it is difficult to find funding for these projects as a small rural community.

Safety Needs in Valley Falls

While fatal crashes in Valley Falls have been low in recent years, there are many factors that could be addressed to reduce severe crashes and the potential for fatalities in the coming years. Most crashes that occurred between the studied years (2018-2023) took place along Elm Street near the school facilities, or at the intersection of K-4 and Sycamore Street.

Notably, there is minimal pedestrian infrastructure in the entire city. Due to having no traffic signals, the town also has very few marked pedestrian crosswalks. Crosswalks that do exist could be improved for clearer demarcation and vehicle behavioral adjustments.

Especially problematic are the near the high school. There have been five crashes near



the high school. The campus would benefit from more extensive safety analysis and re-design. Additionally, there are limited amounts of sidewalks in the city, causing school kids and other pedestrians to walk on the shoulders of the roads.

Being a small municipality, it can be difficult to properly maintain roadways in a cost-effective way. Using this grant funding to update streets can help reduce the frequency of potholes and other uneven pavement areas, which contribute to crashes.

Community Desire for Improvement & Collaborators

A survey on roadway safety was part of the initial Safety Action Plan and demonstrates the community is supportive of addressing safety issues throughout town. 44% of respondents chose “Conditions of sidewalks” as one of their top three priorities for safety improvements in town, and 90% of survey takers responded it is “somewhat important” or “very important” for Valley Falls to prioritize creating safer streets for pedestrians.

Collaborators on this project include local entities such as the Police Force, Chamber of Commerce, USD 338, Parent Teacher Organization, and local Lions and Rotary Clubs. Several of these entities will be submitting letters of support to the federal application. Valley Falls will also engage the Kansas Department of Transportation more thoroughly during this phase of Safe Streets for All Implementation.

Proposed Projects

Several projects are being proposed throughout Valley Falls as part of this Implementation Grant. They are outlined in the project narrative in the draft federal application attached to this application. There are 17 total projects being proposed. Six involve building sidewalks and ADA ramps through important corridors in town, five will create crosswalks with ADA ramps in important locations, and the other projects include building a walking trail, reconstructing a main street with a waterline, completing a Streets Safety Analysis, completing a Traffic Flow & Pedestrian Crossing Study, establishing a brick streets policy, and implementing a Safety Education Day at the local schools where kids can get free bicycle gear and learn about road safety. All of these projects utilize at least one of the Federal Highway Administration’s Proven Safety Countermeasures, and 10 of the 17 utilize one or more of NHSTA’s Countermeasures that Work. The projects also use the Safe Systems Approach elements of Safer People, Safer Speeds, and Safer Roads.

Funding

The Safe Streets for All grants require a 20% match, and it is the hope of this applicant that Build Kansas will be able to aid in providing this match. The breakdown of proposed funding is shown below.

BIL Federal Funds (applied for)	\$6,800,000
Build Kansas Funds (non-federal match)	\$1,615,000

Eligible Applicant Cash Match	\$85,000
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$8,500,000

These projects will include maintenance and implementation plans that show these monies are being used wisely and efficiently.

Conclusion

The Safe Streets for All funding is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to secure safer infrastructure for the cities of the United States. Valley Falls has already taken hold of this opportunity through the previous Safety Action Plan Grant and wishes to capitalize now on the chance to put the plan into action. This is currently the best way to achieve funding for these vital safety projects. If this application is accepted, the projects contained herein will be transformative for the town, its citizens, and their safety for generations to come.