Community Project Funding Resource Guide

Fiscal Year 2024

Updated March 2023

Dear Community Member,

I am pleased to share this resource guide outlining how to request Community Project Funding through the annual federal appropriations process. As your member of Congress, I am committed to creating a fair and equitable process that will benefit Philadelphia communities.

This document provides an overview of federal appropriations and Community Project Funding as well as answers to frequently asked questions, contact information for my congressional staff, and information about alternative federal funding sources.

Projects should address a clear and present need in the community, be administered by an eligible nonprofit, and demonstrate significant local support.

My office will receive far more Community Project Funding requests than the House Appropriations Committee can fulfill. Many eligible and deserving projects will not receive federal assistance in Fiscal Year 2024. It is very important for every applicant to pursue other available federal, state, and local funding opportunities. Please contact my staff if you need help searching for additional funding streams.

Thank you again for your interest in Fiscal Year 2024 Community Project Funding. I look forward to working with you to deliver federal resources to Pennsylvania's Third Congressional District.

Sincerely,

Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

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Contact Information and Deadline

To submit a request, please complete the [form](#) on my website. Note that my congressional staff cannot forward requests to other congressional offices.

Please submit all **FY2024 Community Project Funding requests** through my office's [form](#).

Community Project Funding requests are due by 5:00 PM ET on Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

My office cannot accept requests submitted after this deadline.

All community project funding questions should be emailed to CommunityProjectsPA03@mail.house.gov

Please be aware that the federal appropriations process takes months and often involves delays past the end of the fiscal year on September 30. Appropriations bills approved by the House Appropriations Committees must also pass the Senate then be signed into law by President Biden. Your patience during this complex and lengthy process is greatly appreciated.

Overview of the Community Project Funding Process

The House Appropriations Committee will accept Community Project Funding requests for Fiscal Year 2024.

My team and I look forward to recommending important local projects for federal funding this year, so it is important for you to understand how the process will work this year.

We expect to receive many requests for funding, but members of the U.S. House of Representatives can only submit **15** community projects to the Appropriations Committee and cannot guarantee what will be funded.

Any request you make must satisfy **every** requirement set by the House Appropriations Committee. Most importantly, each project request must include demonstrated community support. Selected projects will be required to submit evidence of community support, including (but not limited to):

- Letters of support from elected community leaders.
- Press articles highlighting the need for the requested community project funding.
- Support from newspaper editorial boards.
- Projects listed in state intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents.
- Resolutions passed by city councils or boards.
- Other compelling evidence of community support.

Please see additional guidelines below:

- For-profit recipients are NOT eligible for community project funding.
- Certain projects require matching funds from the state/local government (matching funding does NOT have to be in-hand, but projects must have a plan to fund in order to meet this requirement).
- Each project is funded only for FY2024 – we cannot accept multi-year requests.

In the interest of transparency, all Community Project Funding requests submitted to the House Appropriations Committee must be posted on members' official congressional websites. The posted information will include the name and address of the proposed recipient, the amount requested, an explanation of the project's purpose, justification for the project's use of taxpayer funds, and its federal nexus.

Community Project Funding Eligible Accounts

Agriculture Subcommittee

Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Conservation Operations

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) supports private landowners, conservation districts, and other organizations to conserve, maintain, and improve the Nation's natural resources. Examples of specific objectives include reducing soil erosion, improving soil health, enhancing water supplies, improving water quality, increasing wildlife habitat, and reducing damage caused by floods and other natural disasters.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations projects must be for purposes authorized by the Soil Conservation and Allotment Domestic Act of 1935, 16 U.S. Code sections 590a-590d and 590f-590g.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide details on the work to be done, including if the project will conduct surveys, investigations, or research, and if there is a plan to publish the results of any such work. Applicants should also describe any preventive measures to be taken, such as engineering operations, methods of cultivation, or changes in use of land.

For FY24, the Appropriations Committee will only consider projects for funding recipients that are state, local, and Tribal organizations, or public conservation districts. **Non-profit recipients will not be considered.**

The State Conservationist is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. House community projects in the account averaged about $1.3 million in FY23.

All project requests must meet applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made, including applicable underlying statutory and regulatory requirements (e.g., cost share). Any funded projects will need to apply with USDA to receive the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award. To ensure your projects meet eligibility requirements for the Natural Resources Conservation Service accounts, you must consult with your respective State Conservation office which can be found here:

> Natural Resources Conservation Services:
> https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservationbasics/conservation-by-state/state-offices.

For each CPF request, applicants whose projects are selected must provide answers to the questions below in a single document, which are intended to provide transparency and ensure the project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds.

Here are the specific pieces of information needed for the Agriculture bill:

1. The website address of the proposed recipient.

2. If there are additional costs necessary to complete the project, have those been secured?

3. Does the entity plan to make grants to other entities from the funds provided and, if so, to whom?

4. Why is the project a priority for the district? Briefly explain the community benefits.

5. Has any funding for the project been included in any presidential budget and, if so, how much, in which fiscal year, and in which agency or agencies and program(s)?

6. Has the project received Federal funding before and, if so, how much, when, and from which agency or agencies and program(s)?

7. Have you contacted the State Conservation Office to discuss the project and confirm eligibility?

8. Briefly describe how the project will reduce soil erosion, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, or other objectives that will help conserve, maintain, and improve natural resources.

Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee

*This section provides guidance on submitting Community Project Funding (CPF) requests within the Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee for FY24. All CPF requests must adhere to the eligibility requirements outlined in this guidance to be considered for FY24 funding. Please review this guidance **in its entirety** prior to submitting.*

Project Amounts. After reviewing all project requests received for fiscal year 2024, the Chair of the Appropriations Committee will determine what, if any, caps to place on project amounts. Targeted projects of modest size can have meaningful impact for communities and likely have a greater chance of being funded.

- **One-year projects only**. Each project request must be for fiscal year 2024 funds only and cannot include multi-year funding.

Project Title. This should be a <u>short</u> name to identify the project. The project title should clearly indicate how the funds will be used. This title may be used in the House report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding goes to the correct project.

Examples:

Estuary Habitat Restoration and Resilience
Policing Equipment and Technology Upgrades
Human Trafficking and Organized Crime Program
Smart-X Internet of Things (IOT) Living Lab

Project Description. You must include a brief project description. In this description, please tell me:

- the cost;
- the recipient; and
- the nature of the project.

X **Do not** specify brand names for equipment and technology requests.
X **Avoid** using abbreviations and acronyms.
✓ **Do** follow the examples below.

Examples:

$95,000 for an Esparza Beach Police Department body camera project.
$500,000 for a Markus, Nebraska, records management system project.
$375,000 for a Barczak, Kentucky, high-risk youth crime and violence diversion program project.

Project Recipient. You must include accurate recipient information when filling out the online request. The accuracy of the recipient's legal name is essential to ensuring that the funding goes to the correct project.

- The recipient's name entered must be the legal name of the organization that will be receiving these funds.
- Do not include abbreviations, acronyms, and avoid using "The" before the recipient's name where possible.

X **Do not** cite an individual person as the recipient.

✓ **Do** follow the examples below.

Examples:

| Bucks County Department of Corrections |
| Florida Gulf Coast University |
| Cambria County District Attorney's Office |
| City of Battle Ground |

Project Location. The location of the project's activities may be different from the mailing address of the recipient organization. You will be asked to provide the full address.

Explanation. Please describe the overall objectives of the proposed project and how the requested funds would be spent to achieve those goals. Requesters must include an explanation of the request, including an explanation of why this is a good use of taxpayer funds.

> **NOTE:** Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide a detailed budget breakdown for how the funding is anticipated to be spent (e.g., what types of gear or services the funds will be used to buy; or how research dollars will be spent).
>
> X **(Reminder) Do not** specify brand names for equipment and technology requests.
> ✓ **Do** follow the examples on the next page.

Examples:

> The requested amount of $500,000 would be used by Adcock County to purchase 911 emergency radio equipment, including 300 dash mount radio units and 400 portable radios. This equipment would replace the county's current 911 radio equipment, a significant portion of which is now approaching the end of its operational life. The project is a good use of taxpayer funds because replacement equipment purchased by Adcock County would be allocated for first responders throughout the region, lowering costs for municipalities that may otherwise need to make emergency response upgrades independently.

> The $325,000 in funding would be used to fully outfit video monitoring systems in 12 police cruisers for the Turpen County Sherriff's Department. The project is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will help enhance police-community relations in the county.

Evidence of Community Support. You must describe or include compelling evidence of community support. You may include any relevant links to information posted on your website, or elsewhere online, including:

- Letters of support from elected community leaders.
- Press articles highlighting the need for the requested community project funding.
- Support from newspaper editorial boards.
- Projects listed in state intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents.
- Resolutions passed by city councils or boards.
- Other compelling evidence of community support.

For-Profit vs. Non-Profit Entities. A project request will not be considered if the intended recipient is a for-profit entity. If an applicant requests that funding be directed to a non-profit organization, the applicant will need to provide evidence that the recipient is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Department of Justice

Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Byrne Justice projects assist state, local, and Tribal law enforcement efforts to enforce laws, address violent crime, increase prosecutions, improve the criminal justice system (including the correctional system), provide victims' services, and other related activities.

Purpose & Federal Nexus

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, the Office of Justice Programs' mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) program, section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

Prohibited Uses

34 US.C. 10152(d) provides:
(d) Prohibited uses:
Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds provided under this part may be used, directly or indirectly, to provide any of the following matters:
(1) Any security enhancements or any equipment to any nongovernmental entity that is not engaged in criminal justice or public safety.
(2) Unless the Attorney General certifies that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist that make the use of such funds to provide such matters essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order-
(A) vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats), or aircraft (excluding police helicopters);
(B) luxury items;
(C) real estate;
(D) construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions); or
(E) any similar matters.

In addition, per language from the House Appropriations Committee, the Committee Chair will **not** support the use of Byrne Justice Community Project Funding for the following:
- Initiatives that involve the distribution of drug paraphernalia.
- Initiatives that undermine the 2nd Amendment or infringe upon rights guaranteed by the Constitution without due process of law.
- Initiatives that appear to be anti-law enforcement or unrelated to criminal justice.
- Larger projects for the construction or renovation of penal or correctional institutions that will exceed the capability of single-year funding.

Prioritization of Projects

Per language from the Appropriations Committee, in the event of limited funding, the Committee Chair will prioritize projects focused on improving the effectiveness of law enforcement, increasing officer safety, curbing the opioid crisis, and other strategic priorities.

Non-Profit Entities

Projects with non-profit recipients may be eligible, so long as the purpose is to carry out work that closely aligns with the purposes of the Byrne JAG program. Such projects will be closely examined by the Appropriations Committee.

Requirements

- Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#).
- Below are the links to the Department's guidance and frequently asked questions regarding the Byrne-JAG program, which may help guide you in gauging the eligibility of a proposed Byrne project:
    - https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview
    - https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/jag-faqs.pdf
- Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program's authorizing legislation.

Supplemental Question: *(applicant will be required to provide this information if project is selected)*

- Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment

COPS Technology and Equipment projects support state, local, and Tribal law enforcement efforts to develop and procure the technology and equipment needed to respond more quickly and effectively, improve officer safety, increase transparency and enhance community relations.

Purpose & Federal Nexus

Funding must be aligned with the purposes of section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)). As such, the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee will consider projects to develop and/or acquire technologies and

equipment, including interoperable communications technologies, modernized criminal record technology, and forensic technology, to assist State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, including by reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime and training law enforcement officers to use such technologies.

Notes:

- Eligible recipients for COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding are State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies.
- Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding.

Supplemental Question: *(applicant will be required to provide this information if project is selected)*

- Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.

Department of Commerce

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Scientific and Technical Research

NIST Scientific and Technical Research projects support standards-related research and technology development.

Purpose & Federal Nexus
Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NIST's mission and aligned with one or more of the functions and activities described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

Note: Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of NIST Scientific and Technical Research Community Project Funding.

Supplemental Question for NIST Scientific and Technical Research project requests: *(applicant will be required to provide this information if project is selected)*

- Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services

NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services projects support science education, research, and technology development related to NASA's mission.

Purpose & Federal Nexus
Funding must be for activities advancing the purposes described in section 20102 of title 51, United States Code. Projects should focus on science, education, research, and technology development related to NASA's mission.

> **Note:** The following projects will **<u>not</u>** be considered for NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services Community Project Funding:
> - Building construction or renovation projects.
> - Medical research projects.

Supplemental Question for NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services project requests:
(applicant will be required to provide this information in a single document if project is selected)

- Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.

Homeland Security Subcommittee

Department of Homeland Security

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Projects

FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grants assist state, local, tribal, and territorial governments with planning and implementing sustainable, cost-effective measures to provide long-term, permanent risk reduction to individuals and property from future natural hazards, such as floods and wildfires, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters.

For PDM grant requests, the database includes specific eligibility questions to ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO). The subcommittee encourages offices to consult with their [State Hazard Mitigation Officers](#) when answering the questions in the database.

For any PDM projects designated for funding in the FY 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, must apply with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the entities responsible for the project (grant subrecipients).

CPF funding in the FY 2023 House bill ranged between $320,482 and $10,000,000 for individual PDM grants.

Supplemental Questions: _(applicant will be required to provide this information in a single document if project is selected)_

1. Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the PDM grant program?
2. Can the requesting jurisdiction provide the required non-federal cost share (25% of total eligible activity costs, or 10% for small, impoverished communities), as detailed in the NOFO?
3. If less than the requested amount is provided as the federal share, would additional state, local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
4. Can the requesting jurisdiction provide a Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) or other documentation that validates cost-effectiveness, which is defined by FEMA as having a BCA of 1.0 or greater? A non-FEMA BCA methodology may only be used if preapproved by FEMA in writing.
5. Consistent with the NOFO for PDM grants, is the proposed activity consistent with the goals and objectives in both the state or tribal hazard mitigation plan (44 CFR Part 201)

and the local hazard mitigation plan of the jurisdiction in which the project is located?
6. If so, what is the FEMA approval date and when will the plan expire?
7. Have you confirmed the funding request does not include unallowable activities for PDM grants (e.g., dredging waterways; the purchase of emergency vehicles and equipment)?
8. Describe how the proposed activity expands mitigation capacity rather than repair and maintenance of existing capacity.
9. How will the project provide long-term, permanent risk-reduction, as opposed to simply supporting short-term, temporary emergency protective measures?
10. Can the recipient describe how the activity supports the needs of people disproportionally at risk of harmful impacts of natural disasters?
11. Does the recipient specifically encourage the adoption and enforcement of the latest disaster resistant building codes?
12. Provide a clear and detailed description of the proposed mitigation activity.
13. How will the mitigation activity be implemented?
14. Who will manage and complete the mitigation activity?
15. What risks will remain from natural hazards after project implementation (i.e., residual risk)?
16. How does the activity reduce the risk to individuals and property for future natural hazards, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters?
17. Has the project been submitted, selected, or awarded funding in current or previous Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), or Hazard Mitigation Grant Program fiscal year grant cycles?
18. If so, what is the subgrant ID, or which grant program and fiscal year was the application submitted, selected, or awarded funding?
19. Have you consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
20. If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

Emergency Operations Center Grant Program

FEMA's EOC grants improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully interoperable EOCs with a focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs. According to the National Fire Protection Association, an EOC is defined as a "facility or capability from which direction an control is exercised in an emergency. This type of center or capability is designated to ensure that the capacity exists for leadership to direct and control operations from a centralized facility or capability in the event of an emergency."

There are specific eligibility questions for EOC grants to ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent NOFO.

For any EOC projects designated for funding in the FY 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, must apply with FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the entities responsible for the project (grant subrecipients).

CPF funding in the FY23 House bill ranged $158,176-$3,000,000 for individual EOC grants.

Supplemental Questions: *(applicants will be required to provide this information in a single document if project is selected)*

1. Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program?
2. Is the requested federal funding amount limited to a maximum of 75% of the total project cost?
3. Can the requesting jurisdiction provide the required 25% non-federal cost share?
4. If less than the requested amount is provided as the federal share, would additional state, local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
5. Have you reviewed the funding restrictions and allowable costs section of the NOFO for EOC grants?
6. Have you confirmed the funding request does not include unallowable activities for EOC grants (e.g., personnel costs; replacement radios for police, fire, and other response personnel; generators for emergency shelters; any equipment that is portable and does not directly support the functional and operational capabilities of an EOC)?
7. Is the proposed project related to a structure or facility that meets the definition of an EOC, to include supporting incident management (on-scene) operations across multiple functional disciplines and/or jurisdictions?
8. For EOC projects that involve construction or upgrading of multipurpose facilities, such as public safety facilities, police/fire stations, etc., EOC grants may only be used for those parts of the facility that are directly associated with the EOC. Does the requested federal funding amount reflect the proportionate facility construction cost, which is generally based on the square footage (floor space) of the EOC compared to the square footage of the entire facility?
9. Have you consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
10. If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

Interior and Environment Subcommittee

Environmental Protection Agency

State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

For FY 2024, the Interior Subcommittee will accept Community Project Funding requests in the Environmental Protection Agency – State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) account for certain clean water and drinking water infrastructure projects. The Subcommittee will not accept project requests in any other account.

These projects include construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Similar to past practice, the Appropriations Committee will be limiting STAG infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly owned or owned by a non-profit entity and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs.

When submitting EPA STAG Community Project Funding requests, please be aware of the following guidance:

- **Ban on for-profit recipients and privately-owned projects**. The Appropriations Committee will not fund projects to for-profit entities and privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program.
- **State, municipal, local, territorial, or Tribal governmental entities as grantees.** Public entities should be considered as the primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project. For STAG water infrastructure projects, States have Intended Use Plans (IUPs) with drinking water and wastewater projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials.
- **Non-profits as grantees.** Non-profits will be considered on a limited basis at the discretion of the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee. If an applicant requests that funding be directed to a non-profit organization, the applicant will need to provide evidence that the recipient is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Many water projects often partner with non-profit entities to complete projects. Therefore, the Chairman will consider, on a limited basis, projects that are directed to non-profits with an inherently governmental function.
- **Federal Nexus.** The Appropriations Committee will only fund projects with purposes authorized by Federal law:
  - Clean water/wastewater projects: Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

- o Drinking water projects: Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j12.
- **Matching requirements.** There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant and the Appropriations Committee will not waive matching requirements:
  - o For example, a $1 million project could receive a maximum of $800,000 from the Federal government, with the remaining $200,000 the responsibility of the grantee.
  - o In *almost* all cases, other Federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. However, assistance provided by a SRF does count towards the project's matching requirement.
  - o It is important that applicants have the ability to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that applicants must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable.
- **One-year funding:** Each project request must be for FY 2024 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.
- **Project Amounts**. Applicants should use the range of project amounts funded in FY 2023 as a general guide when making requests. In FY 2023, most EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from $45,000 - $5,000,000. Note that the Appropriations Committee may consider higher project amounts for fiscal year 2024, and any caps will be determined by the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee after reviewing the full universe of requests.
- **Contact information**. It is very important to include accurate contact information for the prospective grantee when filling out the online request. This includes a point of contact, phone number, email information, and address. The grantee name entered into the online database must match the grantee name on the signed disclosure of financial interest certification letter.
- **Eligibility Questions.** Applicants must answer all the eligibility questions in a separate document for a request to be considered including the below supplemental questions:
  - o Is this a Clean Water SRF project or a Drinking Water SRF project?
  - o Is the project on your State's most recently finalized Clean Water/Drinking Water SRF Intended Use Plan (IUP)?
  - o Has the project received Federal funds previously? If so, please describe.
  - o Does the project have (or expects to have within 12 months) its 20% cost share requirement?
  - o Given the Federal nexus requirement, does the project help meet or maintain Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act standards? If so, please describe.

STAG projects have very specific eligibility requirements, and the Committee will not consider projects that do not meet those requirements. The following lists some of the project types that are ineligible for STAG funding:

Projects that are NOT generally eligible for STAG Grants

	Clean Water / Wastewater		Drinking Water
1.	Land, except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11.	1.	Dams or rehabilitation of dams.
2.	Operations and maintenance costs.	2.	Operations and maintenance costs.
3.	Non-municipal point source control.	3.	Water rights, except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA's DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019.
4.	Acid rain drainage correction.	4.	Reservoirs, except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located.
5.	Ambient water quality monitoring.	5.	Laboratory fees for monitoring.
6.	Flood Control Projects, unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.	6.	Projects needed mainly for fire protection.
7.	Privately owned sewer pipes.	7.	Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.
		8.	Projects for systems in significant non-compliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.
		9.	Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.

The following list provides some examples of the types of projects that are eligible for STAG grant funding, and which are most frequently funded:

Projects that ARE generally eligible for STAG Grants			
	Clean Water / Wastewater		Drinking Water
1.	**Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities:** Upgraded (increase in treatment level) or expanded (increase in treatment capacity) facilities, including biological facilities, mechanical, a lagoon system, a land treatment system, or individual on-site systems.	1.	Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e., PFAS).
2.	**Collector Sewers:** Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.	2.	Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.
3.	**Interceptor Sewers:** Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility.	3.	Install or upgrade treatment facilities.
4.	**Sewer Pipes:** Rehabilitation is eligible only if pipes are publicly owned.	4.	Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.
5.	**Outfall Sewer:** A sewer that conveys treated wastewater from a wastewater treatment facility to the receiving waters (i.e., a river, stream, lake, ocean, etc.).	5.	Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe or improve water pressure to safe levels.
6.	**Storm Water Management:** Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e., storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).	6.	Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example, when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons – are eligible for DWSRF assistance.
7.	**Combined sewer overflow (CSO) control and sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) control:** Combined sewers are sewers that convey both wastewater and storm water and may overflow during periods of heavy rain. The costs to correct CSO and SSO overflow problems are eligible.	7.	Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection.

8.	**Infiltration/Inflow Correction:** Construction activities that prevent surface water or groundwater from entering the sewer system.	8.	Project planning, design, and other related costs.
9.	**Water Security:** These projects include installation or upgrade of physical security infrastructure such as lighting, fencing, monitoring and access control. Also, cybersecurity measures, installation of safer treatment technologies, and more secure storage of on-site treatment.		
10.	**Septic Tanks:** Remediation, rehabilitation, removal and replacement of failing tanks are eligible, as well as installation of new tanks where none had previously existed.		
11.	**Land:** The leasing and fee-simple purchase of land, including surface and subsurface easements, needed to locate eligible municipal or tribal projects, and land integral to the treatment process (e.g., land for effluent application or recharge basins), and a place to store equipment and material during POTW construction. Municipal purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source water protection are also eligible.		
12.	**Water Reuse:** Projects involving the municipal reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water. This includes but is not limited to the purchase and installation of treatment equipment sufficient to meet reuse standards, distribution systems to support effluent reuse, recharge transmission lines, injection wells, and equipment to reuse effluent (e.g., gray water, condensate, and wastewater effluent reuse systems).		
13.	**Capital Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects:** E.g., river or streambank restoration, agricultural best management practices (i.e., buffer strips, manure containment structures), wetlands restoration, etc.		

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

Department of Defense

Military Construction Accounts

CPF requests must follow the guidelines included in this section. Each project request must be for FY24 funds only and cannot be for multiyear funding. Additional requirements:

- Must be included on an unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFR/UPL) from a military service or combatant command or the FY24-FY28 Future Years Defense Program (FYDP).
    - Projects suggested by an installation or unit commander will not be accepted.
- Have at least 35 percent of its design completed.
    - For projects that have not reached 35 percent design, planning and design funding can be requested.
- Able to be obligated in FY24.

Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Active Components
Eligible CPF requests include construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for active components in the accounts listed below. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than $9,000,000.

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force and Space Force
- Defense-Wide Agencies: Special Operations Command (SOCOM), Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), etc.

Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Reserve Components
Eligible CPF requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for Reserve Components in the accounts listed below. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than $9,000,000.
**Note: Some Reserve Component projects require a state funding match.** Requesting offices must determine whether the proposed project requires such a match and if so, confirm that the project has current state matching funds. The Committee will not waive match requirements.

- Army National Guard
- Air National Guard
- Army Reserve

- Navy Reserve
- Air Force Reserve

<u>Sources of Eligible Community Project Funding Projects</u>

Eligible CPF requests are those submitted to Congress by DoD, the Services, and Combatant Commanders.

Sources include:

- **Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFR/UPL)** – UFRs/UPLs are lists that the Services and Combatant Commanders provide to Congress identifying priority projects that were not included in the President's budget request. UFRs/UPLs are available to Congress within ten days of the release of the President's budget and can be found by contacting the Armed Services' Congressional Liaison Offices.
- **Future Year Defense Program (FYDP) –** The FYDP is a projection of the forces, resources, and programs needed to support DoD operations over a five-year period. The FYDP is released simultaneously with the President's budget request. The FY24-28 FYDP listing the military construction projects that may be eligible for Community Project Funding in FY24 can be obtained through the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) website: https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/

Supplemental Information
For military construction Community Project Funding requests, the following information will be needed. This information is specific to the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies (*applicants will be required to provide this information in a single document if your project is selected*):

- Which Service is the project for?
- Program (Is the funding request for construction, unspecified minor construction, or planning and design?)
- Project Location (State/Territory Title)
- Installation Name (Location Title)
- Is the project on the FY24-FY28 FYDP? If so, which fiscal year?
- Is the project on a FY24 Service or Combatant Command unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFRs/UPLs)?
- If a Reserve Component project, does it require a State funding match?
- Is this project at or above 35% design complete?
- Can the project funds be obligated in FY24?
- If a project was previously authorized in a NDAA, please provide the fiscal year.

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee

Department of Transportation

Transit Infrastructure Projects

Transit Infrastructure Projects are public transportation capital projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code. Eligible capital projects are described under section 5302(4) of title 49, United States Code. All projects must be:

1. Transit capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a transit capital project;
2. Supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project. Inclusion on a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement; and
3. Sponsored by designated recipients, States (including territories and the District of Columbia), local governmental authorities, and/or Indian tribes.

Public transportation or transit is defined in section 5302(15) and (22) of title 49, United States Code, as regular, continuing shared-ride surface transportation that is open to the general public or open to a segment of the general public defined by age, disability, or low income, and does not include intercity passenger rail transportation, intercity bus service, charter bus service, school bus service, sightseeing service, courtesy shuttle service for patrons of one or more specific establishments, or intra-terminal or intra-facility shuttle services.

The Subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include but are not limited to general operating expenses, joint development projects, and planning activities authorized under sections 5303, 5304, and 5305 of title 49, United States Code. Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Subcommittee will continue to treat the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program as programmatic requests and will not fund CIG projects under Transit Infrastructure Projects. Any projects for which the sponsor is seeking or will seek a CIG grant will not be considered.

For each Transit Infrastructure Project request, applicants will need to provide specific information.

Demonstration of Community Support:

Demonstration of community support for a project is crucial for determining whether it should receive funding. Projects must have substantial evidence of community support to be considered for funding. Community support documentation can include: letters from elected officials and community groups, local transportation or community development plans, publications (including news articles), and any other documents that demonstrate public support for the project.

Community Project Funding (CPF) Questions for Transit Infrastructure Projects (*applicants will be required to provide this information in a single document if project is selected*):

1. **General description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is a priority.**

   EXAMPLE: *The West Elm Paratransit Fleet Replacement will replace 12 gasoline powered cutaway paratransit vehicles with 12 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) paratransit vehicles in the city of Green Bay to accommodate the most vulnerable population. The gasoline buses are at or beyond their useful life. The funding will also be used to install a CNG fueling station located at the West Elm's maintenance facility. The new CNG paratransit vehicles will require training current employees on this new technology in order to assist with operations and maintenance of the fleet. Safety is the SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES primary benefit of the project as it provides ADA accessible vehicles for older adults and people with disabilities. A safe, reliable, and comfortable transportation is critical for this population. These vehicles will carry multiple passengers to employment, education, healthcare, and recreational locations. It is a priority for the West Elm Public Transportation Authority given the limited resources they have to fully fund the paratransit procurement.*

2. **Amount of CPF funding requested for project.**

   EXAMPLE: $1,200,000

3. **Total project cost.**

   Provide the total estimated cost of the project. If outlined in the STIP or TIP, provide that amount unless estimated project costs have increased. If project costs have increased, provide a justification.

4. **Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?**

5. **Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If yes, list sources and amounts of funds.**

   The cost-share requirements are defined in statute. In general, transit capital projects typically require 20 percent non-federal share.

   EXAMPLE: *Local sales taxes are committed for 25 percent of the project.*

6. **If the project receives less than requested for the transit infrastructure projects, will the project proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?**

   EXAMPLE: *Yes, however, the project will not be able to proceed immediately without the total amount. The West Elm Public Transportation Authority anticipates using FY24 formula funds to make up the shortfall if there are no other federal grant opportunities available.*

7. **Does the project intend to apply for any DOT discretionary programs before proceeding? If yes, will the project sponsor still proceed if not selected?**

   EXAMPLE: *Yes, the transit agency anticipates submitting an application for the FY23 Low or No Emission Grant Program before the April NOFO deadline. If they are not selected as a grant awardee for the Low or No Emission Grant Program, the West Elm Public Transportation Authority will still proceed using their formula funds.*

8. **Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.**

   EXAMPLE: *FY22 FTA Buses and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant: $100,000; FY23 FTA Formula Funds: $25,000.*
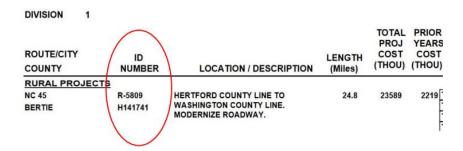
9. **Where is the project in the construction process?**

   Choose either:
   - Planning and Environmental Review
   - Final Design
   - RFP/IFB Issued
   - Contract Awarded
   - Capital Purchase or Lease

- Construction, or
- Other (please specify).

10. Estimated start and completion dates.

11. Is the project on a state, tribal or territorial transportation improvement plan (STIP) or a transportation improvement plan (TIP) as of 12/31/2022? If yes, provide a link to the plan.

12. Provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID Number comes from.

EXAMPLE: See below – the North Carolina STIP, ID Number R-5809 H141741.

| DIVISION 1 | | | | | |
ROUTE/CITY COUNTY	ID NUMBER	LOCATION / DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (Miles)	TOTAL PROJ COST (THOU)	PRIOR YEARS COST (THOU)
RURAL PROJECTS					
NC 45 BERTIE	R-5809 H141741	HERTFORD COUNTY LINE TO WASHINGTON COUNTY LINE. MODERNIZE ROADWAY.	24.8	23589	2219

The STIP or TIP also can be used for the location/description of a project, the total project cost, and information about where funding comes from.

Highway Infrastructure Projects

Highway Infrastructure Projects are capital projects eligible under title 23 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code, as amended by title III of division A of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under chapters 1 and 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible.

All projects must be:

1. Capital projects or project-specific design for a capital project.
2. Supported by the state or Tribal government that would administer the project. Inclusion on a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement.
3. Administered by public entities or Tribal entities.

The Appropriations Committee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses, and planning activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

Applicants should be aware that Highway Infrastructure Projects have a non-Federal cost share calculated on a sliding scale. The cost-share requirements are defined in statute and vary based on activity, location, and other factors.

Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. I strongly encourage potential funding recipients to reach out to their state departments of transportation to determine the eligibility and viability of projects.

Demonstration of Community Support:
Demonstration of community support for a project is crucial for determining whether it should receive funding. Projects must have substantial evidence of community support to be considered for funding. Community support documentation can include: letters from elected officials and community groups, local transportation or community development plans, publications (including news articles), and any other documents demonstrating public support for the project.

Community Project Funding Supplemental Questions for Highway Infrastructure Projects
(applicants will be required to provide this information in a single document if project is selected)

1. **Project Name.**

   A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location (city, county, State, Tribe, Congressional District).

   EXAMPLE: *Main Street widening and resurfacing, City, State, Congressional District.*

   NOTE: The project name and location will be used to list the project in the House Report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding goes to the correct project and location. Any changes after enactment will require additional legislative actions.

2. **General description and benefits of the project and why it is needed.**

   EXAMPLE: *Widening and resurfacing Main Street will allow the local government to add a turn lane to reduce congestion. It will also allow for safety upgrades at Avenue D where there is a high level of safety incidents.*

NOTE: Benefits may include safety, environmental, economic, equity, mobility, etc.

3. **Amount requested for the project.**

4. **Total project cost.**
   NOTE: Provide the amount of the total cost of the project as outlined in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), if applicable.

5. **Type of project eligible under 23 USC 133(b) (Surface Transportation Block Grant Program); 23 USC 201 (Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Programs); 23 USC 202 (Tribal Transportation Program); or 23 USC 165 (Territorial and Puerto Rico Highway Program).**

6. **Estimated start and completion dates.**
   NOTE: Appropriated funds for these projects cannot be used for costs incurred prior to project authorization, which occurs when a project sponsor signs a grant agreement with or receives an allotment by a federal agency.

7. **Has the request been submitted to a federal agency for non-earmarked funds, or to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?**

8. **Please provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include both formula funds and any discretionary grants.**
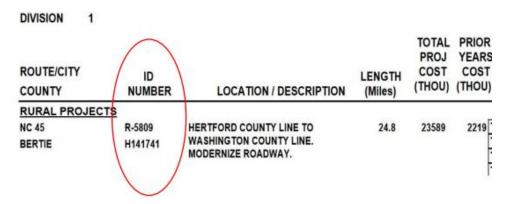   EXAMPLE: *FY20 TIGER/BUILD Grant: $10 million; FHWA Formula Funds: $5 million*

9. **Does the project have other public (state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?**

10. **If the request does not fully fund the project, describe where the remaining funding comes from to complete the project.**
    EXAMPLE: *State funds will compose 10 percent of the remaining cost and previously identified federal formula funds (STBG) will make up the rest.*

11. **Is the project on a STIP or a TIP? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.**

12. **Please provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID Number comes from.**

<u>EXAMPLE</u>: *See below: North Carolina STIP. ID Number R-5809 H141741. The STIP or TIP also can be used for the location/description of a project, the total project cost, and information about where funding comes from.*

DIVISION 1

ROUTE/CITY COUNTY	ID NUMBER	LOCATION / DESCRIPTION	LENGTH (Miles)	TOTAL PROJ COST (THOU)	PRIOR YEARS COST (THOU)
RURAL PROJECTS					
NC 45 BERTIE	R-5809 H141741	HERTFORD COUNTY LINE TO WASHINGTON COUNTY LINE. MODERNIZE ROADWAY.	24.8	23589	2219

Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements

Rail infrastructure projects are capital projects eligible under the CRISI program authorized in section 22907 of title 49, United States Code. CRISI provides grants to assist in financing the cost of improving passenger and freight rail transportation systems. All projects must be:

- Rail capital projects or systems planning for a rail capital project;
- Supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project; and
- Sponsored by public entities or Tribal entities

This is a new Community Project Funding account for Fiscal Year 2024. The Appropriations Subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include but are not limited to general operating expenses, rail-related research, and workforce activities.

Projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

Demonstration of Community Support:

Demonstration of community support for a project is crucial for determining whether it should receive funding. Projects must have substantial evidence of community support to be considered for funding. Community support documentation can include: letters from elected officials and community groups, local transportation or community development plans, publications (including news articles), and any other documents that demonstrate public support for the project.

Community Project Funding (CPF) Questions for CRISI Projects: *(applicants will be required to provide this information in a single document if project is selected)*

1. **Project Name.**
   A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location. This description may be used in the House report and must be accurate to ensure funds are provided to the correct project and location.

   EXAMPLE: *West Elm Track and Railroad Bridge Improvements, City, State, Congressional District.*

2. **Project Recipient.**
   As a reminder, for-profit entities are **not** eligible for CPF funding. The recipient must be a public entity such as a state department of transportation, public agency, or not-for-profit rail carrier that provides intercity rail passenger transportation, etc.

3. **General description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is a priority.**
   EXAMPLE: *The West Elm Track and Railroad Bridge Improvements Project will replace an aging railroad bridge and rehabilitate 11 sidings and wye tracks that can handle increased traffic along the main rail route between the cities of Green Bay and Pembine. The improvements will increase the efficiency of the route by eliminating slow-orders along 32 miles of track and help mitigate congestion along the track to increase safety. It is a priority for both cities given the limited resources they have to fully fund the project.*

4. **Amount of CPF funding requested for project.**

5. **Total project cost** (provide the total estimated cost of the project)**.**

6. **Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction? if so, what is the source and amount of those funds?**

   NOTE: The cost-share requirements are defined in statute. Rail capital projects under the CRISI program require a minimum 20 percent non-federal share.

   EXAMPLE: *Local sales taxes are committed for 20 percent of the project.*

7. **If the project receives less than requested, will the project still proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?**

8. **Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.**
   EXAMPLE: *FY20 BUILD Discretionary Grant of $7.5 million.*

9. **Where is the project in the construction process?**

   Choose either:
   - Planning and Environmental Review
   - Final Design
   - Right of Way
   - Contract Awarded
   - Capital Purchase or Lease
   - Construction, or
   - Other (please specify)

10. **Estimated start and completion dates.**

11. **Is the project on a state rail plan as of 12/31/2022? If yes, provide a link to the plan and specify page number.**

12. **Is the project included in a grade crossing action plan? If yes, provide a link to the plan and specify page number.**

Port Infrastructure Development Program

Port Infrastructure Development Program projects are projects eligible under Section 54301 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by title XXXV of division C of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022.

The Appropriations Committee will only fund projects that meet eligibility criteria and will be administered by eligible applicants, as described by statute. As a reminder, funding may not be directed to for-profit recipients. Due to the limited amount of total CPF funding, priority will be given to projects at small inland river and coastal ports and terminals, as described in 46 U.S.C. 54301(b), and to discrete, smaller-scale projects at larger ports and intermodal connections to ports.

This program has a statutory non-Federal matching requirement, with potential exceptions for small and rural area ports. Applicants should review 46 USC sections 54301(a)(8) and 54301(b) for more information on these cost-share requirements before submitting requests for funding. Note that recipients are also required to comply with reviews and audits from the Department of Transportation.

Additionally, these projects may be subject to various Federal requirements such as Buy America and the National Environmental Policy Act. It is strongly encouraged that potential funding recipients to reach out to their local port authorities and the Maritime Administration's Gateway Offices to help determine the eligibility and viability of projects.

Demonstration of Community Support:

Demonstration of community support for a project is crucial for determining whether it should receive funding. Projects must have substantial evidence of community support to be considered for funding. Community support documentation can include: letters from elected officials and community groups, local transportation or community development plans, publications (including news articles), and any other documents that demonstrate public support for the project.

Community Project Funding questions for Port Infrastructure Development Projects:
(applicant will be required to provide this information in a single document if project is selected)

1. Project Name.

A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location (city, county, State, Tribe, Congressional District).

> EXAMPLE: *Terminal 2 Expansion and Emissions Reduction Project, City, State, Congressional District*.

> NOTE: The project name and location will be used to list the project in the House Report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding goes to the correct project and location. Any changes after enactment will require additional legislative actions.

2. General description and benefits of the project and why it is needed.

3. Amount requested for the project.

4. Total project cost.

5. Who is the recipient? Provide a website address if available.

6. Is the project at a small port, as described under 46 USC 54301(b)?

7. Is the project in a rural area, as described under 46 USC 54301(a)(12) – an area that is outside of a Census-designated urbanized area?

8. Estimated start and completion dates.

9. Has the request been submitted to a federal agency for non-earmarked funds, or to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?

10. Please provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any.

11. Does the project have other public (state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?

12. If the request does not fully fund the project, describe where the remaining funding comes from to complete the project.

Department of HUD

Community Development Fund - Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

EDI Community Project Funding within the Community Development Fund account of the HUD title is intended for economic and community development activities, consistent with statutory and additional Appropriations Committee requirements.

Project requests for the FY24 Economic Development Initiative program must be eligible under one or more of the following criteria of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), 5305(a)(5); which are as follows—but limited to—land or site acquisition, demolition or rehabilitation; blight removal; and construction and capital improvements of public facilities, except for "buildings used for the general conduct of government." Programmatic and operational expenses are not eligible.

5305(a)(1) – the acquisition of real property (including air rights, water rights, and other interests therein) which is (A) blighted, deteriorated, deteriorating, undeveloped, or inappropriately developed from the standpoint of sound community development and growth; (B) appropriate for rehabilitation or conservation activities; (C) appropriate for the preservation or restoration of historic sites, the beautification of urban land, the conservation of open spaces, natural resources, and scenic areas, the provision of recreational opportunities, or the guidance of urban development; (D) to be used for the provision of public works, facilities, and improvements eligible for assistance under this chapter; or (E) to be used for other public purposes;

5305(a)(2) – the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation (including design features and improvements with respect to such construction, reconstruction, or installation that promote energy efficiency) of public works, facilities (except for buildings for the general conduct of government), and site or other improvements;

5305(a)(4) – clearance, demolition, removal, reconstruction, and rehabilitation (including rehabilitation which promotes energy efficiency) of buildings and improvements (including interim assistance, and financing public or private acquisition for reconstruction or rehabilitation, and reconstruction or rehabilitation, of privately owned properties, and including the renovation of closed school buildings);

5305(a)(5) – special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers which restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly and handicapped persons;

Given that projects must meet these authorized purposes of the CDBG program, the Appropriations Committee expects to fund the following types of projects and other similar projects:

- Water or sewer infrastructure projects, which are not otherwise eligible to be funded as CPFs in EPA STAG or Rural Water and Waste;
- Local road infrastructure, which is not otherwise eligible as a CPF in Highways;
- Streetscape improvements;
- Public or non-profit housing rehabilitation, housing development financing, residential conversions, and neighborhood revitalization projects, which would increase housing supply and/or improve housing affordability in the local community;
- Projects with a clear economic development benefit, such as workforce training centers and manufacturing incubators;
- Projects that meet a compelling local need consistent with the statutory purposes. For example, food banks in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, youth and senior centers, and multipurpose community centers.

All projects will be evaluated based on the individual submissions, and projects will be selected based on the merits of the project relative to other projects and the availability of CPF funding.

So that applicants have the clearest possible guidance on the front end, the following types of projects are **not eligible** for CPF funding:

- Museums, commemoratives, memorials;
- Swimming pools, water parks, golf courses;
- Healthcare facilities;
- Venues strictly for entertainment purposes – e.g., theaters and performing arts venues.

Due to the statutory restriction on using funds for "buildings for the general conduct of government," things like courthouses and town halls **cannot be** funded.

Demonstration of Community Support: Projects require substantial evidence of community support to be considered for funding. Community support documentation can include letters from elected officials and community groups, local transportation or community development plans, publications including news articles, and any other documents that demonstrate public support for the project.

Reminder on Environmental Review Requirements: EDI projects, like all projects funded by HUD, are subject to requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HUD's NEPA-implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 50 or 24 CFR Part 58, and all applicable federal environmental and historic preservation laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. An environmental review must be completed before HUD funds and new commitments of non-HUD funds can be used on a project (24 CFR 58.22).

In addition to meeting the above eligibility criteria, all projects must meet these Appropriations Committee requirements:

- Administered by state, local, or tribal governmental entities or non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations.
- As a reminder, for-profit entities are not eligible for Community Project Funding.
  - Applicants are advised that projects for governmental entities to improve private properties pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4) will be highly scrutinized and possibly not funded.
- Projects submitted under 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1)(C) will be disfavored if the only or primary purpose of the project is "beautification" or historic preservation, without evidence of other community development or economic development benefits.

EDI projects are **not** eligible for the reimbursement of expenses for soft costs (planning, administrative) incurred prior to the completion of a grant agreement between HUD and the

grantee; a grant agreement and a completed environmental review are necessary for reimbursement of hard costs (construction activities).

Community Project Funding Supplemental Questions for EDI: *(applicants will be required to provide this information in a single document if project is selected)*

➢ **Project Name.**

A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location (city, county, State, Congressional District, or Tribe).

NOTE: This description may be used to list the project in the House report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding goes to the correct project and location.

EXAMPLE: *Sturgis Downtown Revitalization. City of Sturgis, St. Joseph County, Michigan, 6th Congressional District.*

➢ **What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?**

EXAMPLE: *Downtown Sturgis is at a critical tipping point. Despite the challenges over the past two years related to the pandemic, the downtown is seeing an uptick in potential development projects, including a large-scale housing development. These projects will create an increased demand for parking and public amenities to make downtown Sturgis a destination of choice. The city is seeking to capitalize on this momentum to not only address needed infrastructure but also to create a vibrant central business district with the inclusion of a food truck court and trailhead.*

➢ **Amount requested for the Community Project Funding and the total project cost.**

➢ **Who are the community partners participating in this project? Have you consulted local community development organizations with prior experience with HUD programs?**

➢ **Has the request been submitted to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?**

➢ **Is this project consistent with the primary objective of the community development program? Please describe who the project is intended to benefit.**

Frequently Asked Questions

Submitting requests for Community Project Funding can be confusing. Please carefully review this section before following up with an email to CommunityProjectsPA03@mail.house.gov.

What is Community Project Funding?
Community Project Funding is generally defined as spending provisions in federal legislation that:

- Are requested on behalf of constituents or constituent organizations by a Member of Congress or Senator;
- Provides, authorizes, or recommends a specific amount of discretionary budget authority, credit authority, or specific funding amount to a specific entity for a specific purpose; and,
- The purpose of the project must meet the objective of a federal program under existing law.

Community Project Funding is typically requested for projects with a clear purpose and goal above and beyond normal operating activities, for which private, non-federal funding is not available or sufficient. Community Project Funding will typically only serve as a partial contribution to the total cost of a project.

Is there a deadline for submitting a request?
Yes. You must submit your Community Project Funding request by <mark>5:00 PM ET on Wednesday March 22, 2023</mark>.

What if I miss a deadline? Are any exceptions made if the bill hasn't been passed?
Congressional offices review numerous requests in a short amount of time. As a result, deadlines are strictly enforced. Once my office submits our requests to the full committee, I am unable to change or add requests, so you must submit your request before the deadline.

Are Community Project Funding requests publicly disclosed?
Yes. All requests for Community Project Funding submitted by the Member to the committee for consideration must be publicly listed on that Member's website, including the name and address of the requestor, the amount requested, the justification for use of taxpayer funds, and federal nexus.

Are there limitations on what Community Project Funding can be used for?
Yes. Federal programs place restrictions on how federal funds can be used. It is recommended that you closely examine this guide for references to eligible uses or limitations on use. Generally, funding cannot be used for debt service, recurring or routine expenses, reimbursement of costs, or projects that cannot demonstrate value to the community.

Can I request funding for "bricks and mortar"?

Generally, no. One of the most common requests for funding is for building construction or renovation. Most appropriations accounts specifically prohibit this kind of project given the high demand.

Should I also submit my request to my Pennsylvania's senators?

Yes. It is strongly recommended that you submit your request to all your federal representatives.

How much should I request?

It depends on the account from which you are requesting funds. You should not request more funds than you need or that can be realistically spent in the Fiscal Year for which you receive the funds. While you should request the amount that can be expended in the upcoming Fiscal Year that you need, please remember that projects are rarely funded fully due to budgetary restraints. Receipt of funds from Community Project Funding in one Fiscal Year is not a guarantee for Community Project Funding in future Fiscal Years.

What if I do not know the appropriate Account or Agency for my project request?

This guide outlines information on eligible accounts. Applicants should use this guide to identify the appropriate account that meets the needs of your project or organization.

If my project is funded, will I receive the full amount I request?

There is no guarantee that an approved Community Project Funding request will be funded at the requested level. It is very likely that you will only receive a portion of your request, if funded at all. This is mostly due to budgetary restraints. Please keep this in mind when requesting support for your project.

Do I need letters of support?

Yes. The more community support for a project, the better. As listed above, letters of support from local, municipal, and state elected officials and stakeholders, as well as editorials and articles in local newspapers on the importance and necessity of the project are all important.

I submitted a request. Will it be approved? When will I know?

The FY24 Community Project Funding process is extremely targeted and also very competitive. While my team will look at all requests, it is strongly recommended you explore other grant and funding sources as well.

House Appropriations Subcommittee deadlines are in late March. My office's deadline is 5:00 PM ET on Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

House Appropriations bills are typically considered in late spring, with the Senate considering bills in late spring and over the summer. The House and Senate must convene a "conference committee" to work out the differences in each of those bills.

For Fiscal Year 2024, the House Appropriations Committee will again require members of Congress to publicly disclose post every final Community Project Funding request on their official House website following the Committee's review period. Please remember that even if your project is supported in the House and/or Senate Appropriations bills, the funding level is subject to change until the final bill is signed into law.

This process can be long, but my team and I will be sure to keep all projects apprised of their status.

If my Community Project Funding request is granted, what is the process for getting the assistance and how quickly will I receive it?
In general, once the President signs appropriations legislation into law, federal agencies will contact Community Project Funding recipients. This will not happen until the appropriations bill in which your project was listed is signed into law. The timing varies between departments and agencies – some may start the process within several weeks while others may take several months after the bill's enactment.

In most cases, you will have to complete and submit a grant application outlining the project's goals, cost estimates, and other requirements. You will work with a program or contract officer to complete these steps; they may have questions or additional requirements that could affect the timing of the obligations or outlay of funding to your organization.

The process of accessing funding and the time it takes to complete the necessary steps surprises many recipients who expect the money to be provided immediately.

Please be sure to take this into account when submitting a request.

Can I depend on receiving Community Project Funding for the same project more than once?
Generally, no. Most successful requests are one-time infusions of funding, generally used to launch a project or partially contribute towards the total cost of a project.

Given the limitations on the appropriations process for Community Project Funding, there is no guarantee that Congress will support a project for more than one year. However, you should discuss the needs of your project with your congressional sponsor(s) if you believe you will need federal support beyond a single fiscal year.

Other Federal Funding Resources

The Community Project Funding process is highly competitive, and while there are many worthy projects that deserve support, funding limitations prevent many from receiving funding through the Congressional appropriations process. However, it is important to note that Community Project Funding represents only a small fraction of the discretionary funding available through competitive grants, loans, and other opportunities.

Below are useful resources to explore other federal funding opportunities. Each Congressional office has staff dedicated to assisting organizations with seeking and applying for grants; you are strongly encouraged to contact your Congressional representatives to discuss how you can access any assistance from your federal elected officials.

Grants.gov

Looking for other federal funding opportunities? At Grants.gov, organizations can search and apply for competitive grants from 26 different federal agencies. Grants can be searched by agency, type of applicants, intended purposes, and more.

SAM.gov

The official U.S. government website for people who make, receive, and manage federal awards.

GovLoans.gov

Interested in finding out which loans or benefits you may be eligible for? Here you can learn more about federal loans, determine which loans may be right for you, and more.

Benefits.gov

This tool will help you figure out what government benefits you may be eligible for. It also provides information on how to apply for these programs.

USA.gov

The official guide to US Government Information and Services.