Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley Massachusetts 7th Congressional District

Community Project Funding Resource Guide

Updated: April 2, 2025

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Overview of the Community Project Funding Process

For the 119th Congress, the House Appropriations Committee will be accepting Community Project Funding requests for Fiscal Year 2026. These requests will be funded through the numerous government appropriations bills.

Community Project Funding, an improved version of the "earmarks" funding offered by Congress in the past, will bring direct funding to projects that make a real difference in the lives of constituents, especially the most vulnerable. Reforms to the process have led to investments in a small number of projects with strong community support, a transparent process where no Member's family can benefit, and auditing to ensure money was spent as planned.

My team and I are looking forward to recommending important local projects for federal funding this year. And it is important that you know how this process will work this year.

Community Projects are limited to certain subcommittee accounts, detailed in this document. Most importantly, each request must include demonstrated community support. You will be required to submit evidence of community support, such as:

- Letters of support from elected community leaders
- Press articles highlighting the need for the specific project
- Resolutions passed by local/county/state governments
- Projects listed on community development plans, state intended use plans, and other publicly available planning documents
- Support from local newspaper editorial boards, etc.

It is important that any request you make satisfies every requirement laid out by the House Appropriations Committee and can legally apply to federal funding requirements, such as matching requirements. Additional requirements are listed here:

- A financial disclosure statement from the Congresswoman certifying that neither the Congresswoman's immediate family nor the Congresswoman have any financial interest in the proposed project.
- No funds can be used by for-profit recipients.
- Matching funding must be available for each project from the state/local government (matching funding does NOT have to be in-hand, but officials must have a plan to fund in order to meet this requirement).
- Each project is funded only for FY 2026.

In the interest of transparency, all Members are required to post all Community Project Funding requests submitted to the committee on their website. The posting includes the name of the proposed recipient, the address, the amount of the request, and an explanation of the purpose and justification for the use of taxpayer funds.

Minimum Required Information for Submissions

Each House Appropriations Subcommittee requires slightly different information to be submitted before they will consider a Community Funding Project request complete. The full list of questions will be provided by the Congresswoman's staff but typically include at least the following:

- 1. Legal Name of Requesting Entity/Organization
- 2. Location of Entity/Organization
- 3. Point of Contact
- 4. Eligibility of Requesting Entity/Organization
 - a. State, local, or tribal government
 - b. Publicly owned entity (i.e. port, university, PUD, etc.)
 - c. Non-profit with a quasi-governmental purpose (i.e. Special District)
- 5. Name of Project/Program to be Funded
- 6. Physical Location of the Project/Program
- 7. Short Description of the Project (To appear in Subcommittee Report)
- 8. Explanation of the Project/Program and Justification of the Use of Taxpayer Funds (No more than 1,000 words, this will be posted publicly on the Congresswoman's website)
- 9. Detailed description of the project or program to be funded including data and/or evidence that demonstrates the public benefit
- 10. Amount of funds requested in dollars
- 11. Detailed breakdown of how the requested funds would be spent
- 12. Total project cost (Include Federal/Non-Federal Shares): Detailed breakdown of the total cost of the project or program that includes all prior funding sources (both public and private) and any amounts that remain unfunded
 - a. Sources of funding for full share of cost if amount received is less than requested (Include whether the sources have been secured and, if so, how much)
- 13. Total amounts of federal funds previously awarded to this project or program (Include how much and from which agency, agencies, or programs)
- 14. Detailed timeline and anticipated completion date for the project or program
- 15. Once completed, will the project or program require continued funding to maintain operation? If so, where will that funding come from?
- 16. Federal Agency that would administer this funding and the Account one of the following:
 - o Department of Agriculture–Farm Production and Conservation Programs
 - i. Natural Resources Conservation Service (Conservation Operations)
 - o Department of Agriculture-Research, Education, and Economics
 - i. Agricultural Research Service (Buildings and Facilities)
 - Department of Agriculture–Rural Development
 - i. Rural Housing Service (Community Facilities)
 - ii. Rural Utilities Service (ReConnect Program)
 - iii. Rural Utilities Service (Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants)
 - iv. Rural Utilities Service (Rural Water and Waste Disposal Grants)
 - Department of Commerce
 - i. NIST—Scientific and Technical Research

- ii. NOAA—Coastal Zone Management
- Department of Justice
 - i. COPS Technology and Equipment
 - ii. Byrne Justice
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
 - i. Safety, Security, and Mission Services
- Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works)
 - i. Investigations
 - ii. Construction
 - iii. Mississippi River and Tributaries
 - iv. Operation and Maintenance
- O Department of the Interior/Bureau of Reclamation
 - i. Water and Related Resources
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
 - i. Federal Assistance—Emergency Ops. Centers
 - ii. Federal Assistance—Pre-Disaster Mitigation
- Environmental Protection Agency
 - i. STAG—Clean Water State Revolving Fund
 - ii. STAG—Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
- Army
- Army National Guard
- o Army Reserve
- Navy & Marine Corps
- Navy Reserve
- Air Force and Space Force
- Air National Guard
- o Air Force Reserve
- o DoD, Defense-Wide
- o Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - i. CDBG Economic Development Initiatives
- o Department of Transportation
 - i. Airport Improvement Program
 - ii. Highway Infrastructure Projects
 - iii. Transit Infrastructure Projects
 - iv. Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements
 - v. Port Infrastructure Development Program
- 17. List any public or private entities that have been identified as project sponsors in prior funding requests and/or that will help determine how the requested funds will be spent.
- 18. Will funds go to an organization that will make sub-grants of those funds to other organizations? If yes, please list the sub-grantees.
- 19. Are there any known or anticipated community concerns associated with this project or program (e.g. conflict with land use, neighborhood concerns, etc.) that could prevent it from moving forward?
- 20. Please list additional stakeholders in the community who support the proposed program or project and evidence of community support.
- 21. Is another Member of Congress submitting a request for this same project?
- 22. Has the same project request been submitted to more than one Appropriations subcommittee?

Community Project Funding Eligible Accounts

Not every project or program is eligible for Community Project Funding this year. The House Appropriations Committee has determined that only select agencies and accounts, detailed below, will provide Community Project Funding. The following list and details were provided by the House Appropriations Committee, is organized by House Appropriations Subcommittee, and includes information about grants and permissible funding uses.

<u>Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee</u>

Department of Agriculture

Community Facilities Grants

Priority will be given to essential projects, such as those focused on public health and safety. Any project must serve a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53 (rural areas including cities, villages, townships and Federally Recognized Tribal lands with no more than 20,000 residents). The Member's request must demonstrate community support. Members should ensure that their request provides the most complete description of the project as possible. Submissions should include details on all proposed use of funds, activities that will occur, timeline, and detailed information on the complete service territory. Such requests are also subject to cost share requirements specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Please review program regulations carefully. Community Facilities grants cannot be used to pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring expenses, refinance existing debt, pay interest, build or repair facilities in non-rural areas, or pay for construction costs of facilities that will be used for commercial rental space. The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility and non-federal cost share requirements. For fiscal year 2023, the average Community Facilities CPF award was about \$1.3 million

Grants to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities, to purchase equipment, and pay other related project expenses. Essential community facilities include, but are not limited to, healthcare facilities, public facilities, public safety measures, educational services, or other community support services. Examples of eligible projects include: medical or dental clinics, towns halls, courthouses, childcare centers, police or fire departments, public works vehicles, or distance learning equipment. Any project must serve a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53, and the Member's request must demonstrate community support.

Such requests are also subject to the maximum grant assistance limitations specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Community Facilities grants generally cannot be used to pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring expenses, refinance existing debt, pay interest, build or repair facilities in non-rural areas, or pay for construction costs of facilities that will be used for commercial rental space.

Reconnect Program

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grant funding can be used for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access, which is defined as 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream. The area must be rural and lack sufficient access to broadband service. A rural area is any area which is not located within: (1) A city, town, or incorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants; or (2) an urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants. Sufficient access to broadband is defined as greater than 90% of any rural area in which households have fixed, terrestrial broadband service delivering at least 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream. Mobile and satellite services will not be considered in making the determination of sufficient access to broadband.

Stand-alone, middle-mile projects are not eligible under the ReConnect Program. However, middle-mile facilities are eligible if they are needed to bring sufficient broadband service to all premises in the area. It is strongly recommended that Community Project Funding requests include specific information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served in the area, what the performance of the service to be offered would be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities would be served.

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program (DLT) helps rural residents better utilize the enormous potential of modern telecommunications and the internet for education and healthcare, two critical components of economic and community development. The DLT program helps rural communities acquire the technology and training necessary to connect educational and medical professionals with students, teachers, and patients in rural areas. Grants may be used for audio and video equipment, broadband facilities that support distance learning or telemedicine (not actual broadband), computer hardware or network components/software, and acquisition of instructional programing.

All requests are subject to all the regulations governing the program which can be found at 7 CFR Part 1734. The program requires a 15% match that cannot come from another federal source. The program is intended to serve rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.

<u>Agriculture Research Service, Buildings and Facilities</u>

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) owns and operates laboratories and facilities across the United States. Many of these laboratories/facilities are decades old, have outlived their functional lifespan, and are badly in need of major repairs, renovation, or replacement. Facility requests must be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that will enhance ongoing ARS work. Requests can assist in the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture. It is strongly encouraged that Community Project Funding requests include details on the research to be conducted, why the research is a high priority, as well as details on the modernization and why it is critical in carrying out the research. https://www.ars.usda.gov/about-ars/

Natural Resources Conservation Service, 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.

Conservation Operations has four major program components: Conservation Technical Assistance, Soil Survey, Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting, and Plant Materials Centers. Examples of specific objectives include reduce soil erosion, improve soil health, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, and reduce damage caused by floods and other natural disasters.

Supplemental Required Questions for the Agriculture Subcommittee:

- 1. The website address of the proposed recipient.
- 2. If there are additional costs necessary to complete the project, have those been secured?
- 3. For Rural Development projects, is the project for an eligible purpose and does it meet all eligibility requirements under current law?
- 4. Does the entity plan to make grants to other entities from the funds provided and, if so, to whom?
- 5. Why is the project a priority for the district? Briefly explain the community benefits.
- 6. 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)?
- 7. Has the project received Federal funding before and, if so, how much, when, and from which agency or agencies and program(s)?
- 8. Have you contacted the State Rural Development Office/State Conservation Office to discuss the project and confirm eligibility?
- 9. For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated start date of the project? How soon could the feasibility/engineering design phase commence? [mm/yy]
- 10. For ARS B&F only, does the project have distinct and separable phases?
- 11. For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated completion date of the project? When does completion of construction occur? [mm/yy]
- 12. For ARS B&F only, have you verified that this facility is owned or operated by the Agricultural Research Service?
- 13. For ReConnect requests only, please provide relevant information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served, what the performance of the service to be offered will be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served.
- 14. For Conservation Operations requests only, 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.
- 15. For Water and Waste requests only, provide relevant information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served.

You can find the list of questions that must be answered for each submission under the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee Community Project Funding Guidance Request link found on this page.

Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee

Department of Justice

<u>DOJ Office of Justice Programs – Byrne Justice</u>

Byrne Justice projects assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement efforts to prevent crime, improve the criminal legal system, provide victims' services, and other related activities. Community projects funded under this category must comply with the requirements cited in JAG statutes and be consistent with U.S. Department of Justice guidance for the program. Historically, the House Appropriations Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account. Below are the links to the Department's guidance and frequently asked questions regarding Byrne-JAG:

- https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview
- https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/jag-faqs.pdf

Supplemental Required Questions for Byrne Justice Projects:

- 1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
- 2. 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.
- 3. Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building?
- 4. Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project?
- 5. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) - Technology and Equipment

Funding will be provided for community project grants for 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. The Chairman 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.

Supplemental Required Questions for COPS Projects:

1. Is the recipient a State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency?

- 2. 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.
- 3. Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building?
- 4. Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project?
- 5. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Coastal Zone Management

Community project funding for NOAA will only be considered within the Coastal Zone Management account. This account supports the protection, restoration, and responsible development of our nation's diverse coastal communities and resources. Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NOAA's mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.). Coastal Zone Management projects are subject to any applicable cost-share required by law under the Coastal Zone Management Program.

Supplemental Required Questions for NOAA Projects:

- 1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
- 2. 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.
- 3. Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project?
- 4. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services

Funding must be for activities consistent with and supportive of the work of NASA's mission directorates and within the agency's authorities, such as STEM education activities and scientific research. Funding for building construction or renovation projects will not be considered for community project funding.

Building construction or renovation projects and medical research projects will not be considered for NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services Community Project Funding.

Supplemental Required Questions for NASA Projects:

1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]

- 2. 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.
- 3. Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building?
- 4. Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project?
- 5. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

NIST Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS)

Funding must be for activities consistent with and supportive of NIST's mission and within its authorities, such as STEM education activities, scientific research, or other activities that support American manufacturing and industry.

Supplemental Required Questions for NIST Projects:

- 5. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
- 6. 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.
- 7. Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project?
- 8. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

All requests for the Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) accounts listed above should reflect a funding amount that can be realistically utilized in Fiscal Year 2023. It is possible that approved Community Project Funding requests will be funded at a level lower than the requested level. Requestors are encouraged to keep in mind that only a very limited number of new start projects will be considered, if any, in the Investigations, Construction, and Mississippi River and Tributaries accounts. Similarly, requestors are encouraged to keep in mind that only a very limited number of Environmental Infrastructure projects, if any, will be considered in the Construction account. A very limited number of Continuing Authorities Program projects will be considered in the Construction account. Projects authorized under sections 4007, 4009(a), and 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements Act for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-322) will not be accepted

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- Investigations
- Construction
- Mississippi River and Tributaries
- Operation and Maintenance

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Water and Related Resources

Supplemental Required Questions for Energy & Water Projects:

- 1. Is this a Corps request for an authorized project? [yes/no] If yes, please provide specific section of that authority (i.e. 204, 206, 1125, etc.).
- 2. What is the official project name and authorization (assistance at the link above)?
- 3. What is the fiscal year 2024 capability?
- 4. For a Corps of Engineers project, what is the correct appropriations account in which to request funding?
- 5. For a Corps of Engineers project, is this project a new start?
- 6. For a Bureau of Reclamation project, is this project authorized only under section 4007, 4009(a), or 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–322)?

You can find the list of questions that must be answered for each submission under the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee Community Project Funding Guidance Request link found on this page.

Homeland Security Subcommittee

Department of Homeland Security

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Projects

FEMA's 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. Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant program will be considered for funding, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable.

For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2023 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor's state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

Supplemental Required Questions for Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants:

- 1. Did you include a letter from the appropriate State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, confirming project eligibility and their willingness to administer the grant?
- 2. Did you include letters of support from local government entities demonstrating community support for the project(s)?
- 3. Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the PDM grant program?
- 4. 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?
- 5. 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?
- 6. 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.
- 7. 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?
- 8. If so, what is the FEMA approval date and when will the plan expire?
- 9. Has your office confirmed the funding request does not include unallowable activities for PDM grants (e.g., dredging waterways; the purchase of emergency vehicles and equipment)?
- 10. Describe how the proposed activity expands mitigation capacity rather than repair and maintenance of existing capacity.
- 11. How will the project provide long-term, permanent risk-reduction, as opposed to simply supporting Short-term, temporary emergency protective measures?
- 12. Can the recipient describe how the activity supports the needs of people disproportionally at risk of harmful impacts of natural disasters?
- 13. Does the recipient specifically encourage the adoption and enforcement of the latest disaster resistant building codes?

- 14. Provide a clear and detailed description of the proposed mitigation activity.
- 15. How will the mitigation activity be implemented?
- 16. Who will manage and complete the mitigation activity?
- 17. What risks will remain from natural hazards after project implementation (i.e., residual risk)?
- 18. How does the activity reduce the risk to individuals and property for future natural hazards, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters?
- 19. Has the project been submitted, selected, or awarded funding in current or previous PreDisaster Mitigation (PDM), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), or Hazard Mitigation Grant Program fiscal year grant cycles?
- 20. If so, what is the subgrant ID, or which grant program and fiscal year was the application submitted, selected, or awarded funding?
- 21. Has your office or the community consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
- 22. 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 and 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." Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable, will be considered for funding.

For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SSA affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

Supplemental Required Questions for Emergency Operations Center Projects:

- Did you include upload a letter from the appropriate State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, confirming project eligibility and their willingness to administer the grant?
- 2. Did you include letters of support from local government entities demonstrating community support for the project(s)?
- 3. Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the EOC grant program?
- 4. Is the requested federal funding amount limited to a maximum of 75% of the total project cost?

- 5. Can the requesting jurisdiction provide the required 25% non-federal cost share?
- 6. 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?
- 7. Has your office reviewed the funding restrictions and allowable costs section of the NOFO for EOC grants?
- 8. Has your office 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)?
- 9. 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?
- 10. 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?
- 11. Has your office or the community consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
- 12. If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact

The PDM and EOC grant programs have cost-share requirements. Federal funding is available for up to 75 percent of the eligible activity costs. The remaining 25 percent of eligible activity costs must generally be derived from non-federal sources. The non-federal cost-share contribution is calculated based on the total cost of the proposed activity. For example, if the total cost is \$100,000 and the non-federal cost-share is 25 percent, then the non-federal contribution is \$25,000. For PDM grants, small, impoverished communities are eligible for up to a 90 percent federal cost-share for their mitigation planning and project sub-applications in accordance with the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5133(a),(h)(2)).

You can find the list of questions that must be answered for each submission under the Homeland Security Subcommittee Community Project Funding Guidance Request link found on this page.

Interior and Environment Subcommittee

Environmental Protection Agency

State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

These projects include construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Similar to past practice, the 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.

There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant. 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. In almost all cases, other federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. Ability to fund the 20% cost share is required before EPA can award a STAG grant. Please note that only the non-federal portion of assistance provided by a SRF can be applied towards a project's matching requirement.

STAG projects have very specific eligibility requirements, and the Committee will not consider projects that do not meet those requirements.

Projects that generally ARE NOT eligible for STAG Grants include:

Clean Water/Wastewater

- 1. Land: except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11
- 2. Operations and Maintenance Costs.
- 3. Non-Municipal point source Control.
- 4. Acid Rain Drainage Correction.
- 5. Ambient Water quality monitoring.
- 6. Flood Control Projects, unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.
- 7. Privately Owned Sewer Pipes.

Drinking Water

- 1. Dams or rehabilitation of dams.
- 2. Operations and Maintenance Costs.
- 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. 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. Laboratory Fees for Monitoring.
- 6. Projects needed mainly for fire protection.

- 7. Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.
- 8. Projects for systems in significant noncompliance unless funding will ensure compliance.
- 9. Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.

Projects that generally **ARE** eligible for STAG Grants:

Clean Water/Wastewater

- 1. Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities new, 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.
- 2. Collector Sewers Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.
- 3. Interceptor Sewers Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility.
- 4. Sewer Pipes Rehabilitation is eligible only if pipes are publicly owned.
- 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.).
- 6. Stormwater Management Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e. storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).
- 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.
- 8. Infiltration/Inflow Correction Construction activities that prevent surface water or groundwater from entering the sewer system.
- 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.

Drinking Water

- 1. Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e. PFAS).
- 2. Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.
- 3. Install or upgrade treatment facilities.
- 4. Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.
- 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. 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. 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. Project planning, design, and other related costs.

You can find the list of questions that must be answered for each submission under the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee Community Project Funding Guidance Request link found on this page.

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

Department of Defense – Military Construction Accounts

<u>Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Reserve Components</u>

Eligible community project requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for Reserve Components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$9,000,000. Some Reserve Component projects require a State funding match. It must be determined whether the proposed project requires such a match and if so, confirm that the project has current State match funding before the request can be considered. The types of projects under this heading include construction, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for training and administration for the accounts listed below:

- Army National Guard
- Air National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Air Force Reserve
- Navy Reserve

Future Year Defense Program (FYDP)

FYDP is a projection of the forces, resources, and programs needed to support Department of Defense (DOD) operations over a five-year span. The FYDP is released simultaneously with the President's budget request. The updated document listing projects eligible for FY 2024 will be obtainable after the FY 2023 full budget rollout, through the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) website: https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/

<u>Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFRs/UPLs)</u>

UFRs/UPLs are lists that each Service provides to Congress that identify priority projects which were not included in the President's budget request. These lists must be approved by the Secretary of Defense. UFRs/UPLs become available to Congress on the date of the President's full budget request release, which is different from the release of a top-line budget request or 'skinny budget'.

Supplemental Required Questions for Military Construction Projects:

- 1. Which Service is the project for?
- 2. Project Title.
- 3. Amount Requested for FY24.
- 4. Program (Is the funding request for construction, unspecified minor construction, or planning and design?).
- 5. Project Location (State/Territory Title).

- 6. Installation Name (Location Title).
- 7. Is the project on the FY24-FY28 FYDP? If so, which fiscal year?
- 8. Is the project on a FY24 Service or Combatant Command unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFRs/UPLs)?
- 9. Does the project have a DD Form 1391?
- 10. If a Reserve Component project, does it require a State funding match?
- 11. Is this project at or above 35% design complete?
- 12. Can the project funds be obligated in FY24?
- 13. Has a corresponding request been submitted to HASC for inclusion in the FY24 NDAA?
- 14. If a project was previously authorized in a NDAA, please provide the fiscal year.
- 15. Who is the point of contact in the requesting office?

You can find the list of questions that must be answered for each submission under the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee Community Project Funding Guidance Request link found <u>on this page</u>.

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee

Department of Transportation

Local Transportation Priorities

Local Transportation Priorities are highway and transit capital projects eligible under title 23 and title 49 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under Chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible.

All projects must be:

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

Requests for activities that are administrative in nature will not be funded even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses, and activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

Supplemental Required Questions for Local Transportation Priorities Projects:

- Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? If not, what would be the expected date of obligation?
- 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 so, what is the source and amount of those funds?
 - o NOTE: The cost-share requirements are defined in statute.
- Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and NEPA category of action (if applicable)?
- What is the type of project eligible under 23 USC 133(b): Highway, Bridge, Transit, Bike/Pedestrian, or Other (please specify)?
- Where is the project in the construction process: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Capital purchase or lease (including bus purchases), Construction, or Other (please specify)?
- Was the project on a State, tribal or territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or a metropolitan transportation improvement plan (MTIP) as of 12/31/2020? If yes:
 - o Please provide a link to the plan.
 - Please provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID number 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 Chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible.

All projects must be:

- Capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a capital project.
- 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.
- Administered by public entities or Tribal entities.

The Subcommittee 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 activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

Supplemental Required Questions for the Highway Infrastructure Projects:

- 1. Project Name
- 2. General description and benefits of the project and why it is needed.
- 3. Amount requested for project.
- 4. Total project cost.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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, and Section 5339(b)(1) and (c)(1)(B) of title 49, United States Code.

All projects must be:

- Transit capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a transit capital project.
- 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.
- Administered by public entities or Tribal entities.

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 general operating expenses, and activities authorized under sections 5303, 5304, and 5305 of title 49, United States Code.

Supplemental Required Questions for Airport Improvement Program Projects:

- 13. Project Name
- 14. Project Recipient.
- 15. General description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is a priority.
- 16. Amount of CPF funding requested for project.
- 17. Total project cost.
- 18. 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)?
- 19. 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.
- 20. If the project receives less than requested for the transit infrastructure projects, will the project proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?
- 21. Does the project intend to apply for any DOT discretionary programs before proceeding? If yes, will the project sponsor still proceed if not selected?
- 22. Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.
- 23. Where is the project in the construction process?
- 24. Estimated start and completion dates.
- 25. 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.
- 26. Provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID Number comes from.

<u>Airport Improvement Program (AIP)</u>

AIP community project requests may be used for enhancing airport safety, capacity, and security, and mitigating environmental concerns.

All projects must be:

- AIP eligible in accordance with sections 47101 to 47175 of title 49, United States Code, and FAA policy and guidance.
- Included in the FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).

- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- Administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor.

Supplemental Required Questions for Airport Improvement Program Projects:

- 1. Project Name
- 2. General description of the project and why it is needed.
- 3. Has the airport sponsor provided assurances that the project is eligible under AIP statutes? Airport sponsors should engage with their Federal Aviation Administration Airport District Offices to ensure eligibility under statutory requirements.
- 4. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
- 5. Amount requested for the Community Project Funding for fiscal year 2024, and the total project cost.
- 6. Estimated start and completion dates.
- 7. Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds for the required cost-share and committed for the forecasted operations and maintenance costs? What is the source and amount of those funds?
- 8. Has the airport submitted a grant application for this same project to FAA?

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 Subcommittee 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.

Supplemental Required Questions for Airport Improvement Program Projects:

- 1. Project Name
- 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.

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.

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, rail-related research, and workforce activities.

Supplemental Required Questions for Airport Improvement Program Projects:

- 1. Project Name
- 2. Project Recipient
- 3. General description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is a priority.
- 4. Amount of CPF funding requested for project.
- 5. Total project cost
- 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?
- 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.
- 9. Where is the project in the construction process?
- 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.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

** In FY 2026, only governmental entities and public institutions of higher education will be eligible for EDI projects**

EDI community project requests may be used for economic and community development activities, including land or site acquisition, demolition or rehabilitation of housing or facilities, construction, and capital improvements of public facilities (including water and sewer facilities), and public services. Requests may also include planning and other activities consistent with the underlying authorization for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program within HUD.

Given that projects must meet these authorized purposes of the CDBG program, the 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 (Interior bill) or Rural Water and Waste (Agriculture bill);
- Local road infrastructure, which is not otherwise eligible as a CPF in Highways (in this bill);
- 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.

The following types of projects are not eligible for CPF funding: Memorials, museums, and commemoratives (i.e., projects named for an individual or entity)

Supplemental Required Questions for Economic Development Initiative Projects:

- 1. Project Name.
- 2. General description of the project and why it is needed.
- 3. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
- 4. Amount requested for the Community Project Funding and the total project cost.
- 5. Who are the community partners participating in this project? Have local community development organizations with prior experience with HUD programs been consulted?
- 6. Has the request been submitted to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
- 7. Is this project consistent with the primary objective of the community development program? Please describe who the project is intended to benefit.

You can find the list of questions that must be answered for each submission under the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee Community Project Funding Guidance Request link found on this page.

Frequently Asked Questions

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.

Can I request funding for "bricks and mortar"?

In general, 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. There are some exceptions to this rule, including the Economic Development Initiative under the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and certain projects under the Military Construction Subcommittee, etc.

Should I submit my request to both my U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators?

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

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 FY 2026 Community Project Funding process is extremely targeted, and this process is also very competitive. While we will look at all requests, it is strongly recommended you explore other grant and funding sources as well.

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

The Committee requires all members to publicly disclose and post their final requests to the Appropriations Committee once the requests are made. Please remember, 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.

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, recipients of Community Project Funding will be contacted by the designated agency or office that oversees the account from which your project received funding. This cannot 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, others may take several months after the bill's enactment into law. 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? 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 us if you believe that federal support will be needed beyond a single fiscal year.

Key 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 a number of 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 us to discuss how you can access any assistance.

- 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.