



**DAVID L. FUENTES**  
**HIDALGO COUNTY COMMISSIONER PCT. 1**  
1902 JOE STEPHENS AVE. STE 101  
WESLACO, TEXAS 78599  
Office: (956) 968-8733 • Fax (956) 969-1417



March 17, 2023

Via Electronic Correspondence

Hon. Congressman Vicente Gonzalez  
1305 W. Hackberry Ave.  
McAllen, Texas 78501

RE: Supplemental Information  
FY 24 Community Project Funding - Office of Congressman Gonzalez - TX34  
Request by Hidalgo County  
Request for Funding for Transportation Project  
Nolana Loop Expansion Project - Construction from FM 88 to Mile 6 West

Dear Congressman Gonzalez,

Thank you for your consideration of the above-referenced project. For your reference, the following information is contained in this packet:

**Exhibit 1:** Information Requested Regarding Department of Transit Infrastructure Projects

**Exhibit 2:** Project Maps and Project History

**Exhibit 3:** Community Support:

- Letter of Support - Texas State Senator Chuy Hinojosa
- Letter of Support - Texas State Senator Morgan LaMantia
- Letter of Support - Hidalgo County Judge Richard Cortez
- Letter of Support - Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Commissioner David L. Fuentes
- Letter of Support - Mayor of Weslaco David Suarez
- Letter of Support - Mayor of Donna Rick Morales
- Letter of Support - RGV MPO Executive Director Andrew Canon
- Summary of Public Meetings and Public Outreach for RAISE FY 2023

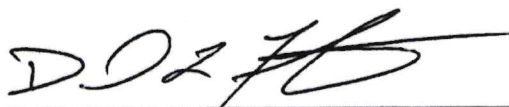
**Exhibit 4:** 2020-2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) of the RGV MPO

**Exhibit 5:** Environmental Approval Information

**Exhibit 6:** Supplemental Information Regarding Public Outreach (in separate e-mail)

This completes the supplemental information your office requested. As always, should you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me or my office any time.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D L Fuentes', written over a horizontal line.

David L. Fuentes  
Hidalgo County Precinct 1 Commissioner



**Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Community  
Project Funding Information Packet and  
Resource Guide**

**Submission Deadline: 6 PM CT on Friday, March 17, 2023**

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your interest in this year's annual appropriations process. On March 1, 2023, U.S. Representative Kay Granger, Chairwoman of the House Committee on Appropriations, announced the Committee would again solicit Community Project Funding (CPF) requests, along with the standard programmatic and language-based requests, for the fiscal year 2024 appropriations cycle. This resource guide is intended to provide you with clear and concise information on this process.

In this packet, you will find an overview of the appropriations process, information on the CPF process, answers to frequently asked questions, staff contact information, and links to the appropriations and CPF request forms on my website.

Through CPF, Members of Congress have the opportunity to request direct funding for up to 15 specific projects throughout their districts. These projects should fill a clear and present need in the 34th Congressional District of Texas, be administered by local government or eligible nonprofit organization, be able to demonstrate significant support from the community, and ensure a federal nexus demonstrating tie to federal authorization law.

As you prepare your requests, please keep in mind that my office will receive far more Community Project Funding requests than can be fulfilled. As a result, many deserving and eligible projects may not be provided federal assistance through Community Project Funding in fiscal year 2024. That is why I encourage every project and requestor to pursue other grant and funding opportunities where available. My team and I are here to help you secure this important funding.

I hope the below resources are helpful to you. Thank you again for your interest in this year's appropriations process. My team and I are ready and available to answer any questions you may have. I look forward to working with you to create a fair and equitable process that serves South Texans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vicente Gonzalez', written in a cursive style.

Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

## **Table of Contents:**

Overview of Appropriations Process	4
Overview of Community Project Funding Process	5
Accounts Eligible for Community Project Funding Requests by Subcommittee	6-34
Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies	6
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies	11
Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies	15
Homeland Security and Related Agencies	17
Interior, Environment and Related Agencies	20
Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies	21
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies	24
Staff Contacts, Deadlines, and Important Links	34
Other Federal Funding Resources	35

## **Overview of Appropriations Process:**

Each year, the United States Congress considers and enacts annual appropriations bills, which provide the federal government with the funding it needs to operate. Each subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations considers 12 bills that fund numerous activities, including government operations, medical research, national defense, infrastructure, education, etc.

Each year my team and I work to ensure that the federal government invests in programs that help move our communities, state, and country forward. This is why it is important I hear directly from you about what our federal budget should prioritize.

Your organization may submit programmatic or language requests. Programmatic requests include funding for federal programs that are important to you or your organization. Language requests include specific policy directives to federal agencies.

My team and I will review each request. The entire appropriations process can take several months. Appropriations bills approved by the House Appropriations Committees must be agreed to by both chambers of Congress and signed into law by the President before the end of the fiscal year on September 30th; however, the process often extends beyond this date.

We ask that you submit your programmatic or language requests to [this link](#) **no later than 6 PM CT on Friday, March 17, 2023**. We cannot guarantee that requests submitted after our deadline will be considered. If you have problems or questions while completing these forms, please feel free to contact my staff.

## **Overview of the Community Project Funding (CPF) Process:**

For the second time, the House Appropriations Committee will be accepting requests for direct funding for eligible entities through Community Project Funding requests for Fiscal Year 2024. These requests will be funded through the numerous government funding bills.

My team and I are looking forward to recommending important local projects for federal funding this year. Members of Congress may only submit 15 requests to fund community projects. Though I will work to ensure each project is given full and fair consideration, there is no guarantee all eligible, deserving projects will be funded.

Furthermore, the House Appropriations Committee and respective subcommittees have specific requirements that must be met for a project to be eligible to receive Community Project funding:

- Limited Number of Member Requests: Members may submit a maximum of 15 requests across bills.
- Federal Nexus Requirement: In order to ensure a federal nexus exists for each funded project, the Committee will only fund projects that are tied to a federal authorization law.
- No Memorials, Museums, or Commemoratives: Memorials, museums, and commemoratives (i.e., projects named for an individual or entity) are not eligible for Community Project Funding.
- Demonstrations of Project Merit and Support: You must be able to demonstrate that the request has community support. Acceptable forms of evidence of community support include letters from elected community leaders, press articles highlighting the need for the specific project, newspaper editorial board pieces, a state-intended use plan or community development plan, or a city council resolution.
- Financial Disclosure: A financial disclosure statement from myself certifying that neither my immediate family nor I have any financial interest in the proposed project.
- Funding Window: Funding must be for Fiscal Year 2024 only.
- Stewardship Requirements: If the project would normally require a funding match or cost share by a non-federal entity, then the requesting entity will need to demonstrate that it can and/or has a plan to provide this match if it makes a CPF request. The Committee will conform to statutory match and cost-sharing requirements.
- Ban on For-Profit Recipients: Project funding may not be directed to for-profit recipients. Members may request funding for State, local, or tribal governmental grantees and certain eligible non-profits, as allowed under federal law and subcommittee guidance.

Per the rules enforced by the House Appropriations Committee, each Member may only submit a total of 15 CPF requests across 7 subcommittees for Fiscal Year 2024. Therefore, our office will not be able to accommodate every request we receive, even though we anticipate receiving requests for many worthy projects.

In the interest of transparency, all Members are required to post the final Community Project Funding requests submitted to the committee on their website. The posting must include 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.

# Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### **Department of Agriculture, Farm Production and Conservation Programs: 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.

Members 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. Members 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 Subcommittee 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 CPFs in the account averaged about \$1.3 million in FY23.

### **Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service: Buildings and Facilities**

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.

Members are strongly encouraged to provide 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.

## **Department of Agriculture, Rural Development: Community Facilities**

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, and public works vehicles.

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), and the Member's request must demonstrate community support.

Members should ensure that their request provides the fullest description of the project as possible. Submissions should include details on all proposed uses of funds, activities that will occur, timeline, and detailed information on the complete service territory, including median household income of the proposed project.

Please review all program regulations carefully, most notably:

- **Cost share requirements:** The Community Facilities program has a cost share calculated on a graduated scale. The applicant should be aware of any cost share as documented in 7 CFR 3570.63(b).
- **Credit Elsewhere Test:** Applicant shall certify they cannot finance the project from their own resources and credit is not otherwise available on reasonable terms from non-Federal sources.

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.

The State and Area Rural Development Offices are a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility.

**Texas Rural Development State Office**  
101 South Main Street, Suite 102  
Temple, Texas 76501  
Phone: (254) 742-9700

**Alice Area Office**  
2287 North Texas Boulevard, Suite 1, Alice, TX 78332  
Phone: (361) 664-0455 Ext. 4  
Fax: (844) 496-7057

**Edinburg Area Office**  
2514 South Veterans Blvd., Ste 4, Edinburg, TX 78539

Phone: (956) 383-4928 Ext. 4  
Fax: (844) 496-7917

For fiscal year 2023, the average CPF funding level was about \$1.3 million. Please note that the total amount for Community Project Funding in House appropriations bills will not exceed one half of one percent of discretionary spending. However, projects requesting significantly more than that average may be more difficult to fund and funding will depend on program demand and other variables. Any future potential project caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

### **Department of Agriculture, Rural Development: ReConnect Program**

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grants funds 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.

The area must be rural and lack sufficient access to broadband service. A rural area is any area which is not located within a city, town, or incorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 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 25 Mbps downstream and 3 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 5 facilities are eligible if they are needed to bring sufficient broadband service to all premises in the area.

Members are strongly encouraged to include information in their requests, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms will be served in the area, what the performance of the service to be offered will be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served.

The USDA Rural Development Offices listed above are a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility.

For fiscal year 2023, the average ReConnect CPF award was nearly \$1.2 million. Please note the subcommittee will consider higher project requests for fiscal year 2024. However, projects requesting significantly more than that average may be more difficult to fund and funding will depend on program demand and other variables. Any future potential project caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

Additionally, when submitting a request, Members are reminded that all policies and procedures apply, including environmental and related reviews and the cost share requirement of 25% of the overall project cost. Policies and procedures can be found at <https://go.usa.gov/xexPT>.

## **Department of Agriculture, Rural Development: 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.

Competitive awards typically range from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 and the Committee will consider projects in this range. This a new account for the fiscal 2023 House process; in fiscal year 2022, the average Senate CPF in this account was \$359,000. Members are strongly encouraged to provide as much detail as possible on how the award will be utilized, what equipment of service will be acquired and any information on population(s) served. The program is intended to serve rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.

The USDA Rural Development Offices listed above are a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility.

## **Department of Agriculture, Rural Development: Water and Waste Disposal Grants**

The Water and Waste Disposal Grant Program may be used to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and disposal; sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal; solid waste collection, disposal and closure; and storm water collection, transmission, and closure.

Members are strongly encouraged to provide details on the number of households and businesses served and details of the exact work to be completed. Eligible entities include rural areas and towns with population of 10,000 or less and Tribal lands in rural areas.

The account has not been subject to CPFs in the previous years. Potential recipients will be required to provide a 25% non-federal cost share.

The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility.

Specific pieces of information needed for projects in 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. 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? 1
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.

# Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### **Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST): Scientific & Technical Research**

Purpose and 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.

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

Supplemental Questions for NIST Scientific and Technical Research project requests:

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'.

### **Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): Coastal Zone Management**

The National Coastal Zone Management Program comprehensively addresses the nation's coastal issues through a voluntary partnership between the federal government and coastal and Great Lakes states and territories. Authorized by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, the program provides the basis for protecting, restoring, and responsibly developing our nation's diverse coastal communities and resources.

Purpose and Federal Nexus: 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.).

Cost Share: Coastal Zone Management projects are subject to any applicable cost-share required by law under the Coastal Zone Management Program.

Supplemental Questions for NOAA Coastal Zone Management project requests:

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'.

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### **Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs: Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG)**

Byrne JAG Grants assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement efforts to prevent crime, improve the criminal justice 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 Justice Department guidance for the program.

In the event of limited funding, the Chair will prioritize projects focused on improving the effectiveness of law enforcement, increasing officer safety, curbing the opioid crisis, and other strategic priorities.

Purpose and 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 U.S.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, the 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.

Requirements:

- Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#).
- 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.

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>

The Committee encourages community project funding designed to help improve police-community relations. Historically, the Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account.

#### Supplemental Required Questions for Byrne JAG Grant 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? [yes/no]
4. Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? [yes/no]
5. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

## **Department of Justice, Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology & Equipment**

Funding will be provided for community project grants for State, local, and tribal law enforcement to develop and acquire effective technologies and interoperable communications that assist in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime, provided that such equipment meets the applicable requirements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLEES). This funding will allow recipients the opportunity to establish and enhance any of a variety of technical equipment and/or programs to encourage the continuation and enhancement of community policing efforts within their jurisdictions. These projects should help improve police effectiveness and the flow of information among law enforcement agencies, local government service providers, and the communities they serve.

Purpose and 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 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.

Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of COPS Technology and Equipment Community Project Funding.

### 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? [yes/no]
4. Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? [yes/no]
5. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

## **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (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, renovation or medical research projects will not be considered for 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? [yes/no]
4. Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? [yes/no]
5. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

# Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies

## U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Army Corps of Engineers Eligible Accounts:

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

To be considered, projects must be authorized or in the scope of work to be funded within existing authorization. If the project is an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, include the statutory citation in the statement of federal nexus.

The Subcommittee may provide funding for a very limited number of new starts, if any. While new start requests will be accepted, Members should consider this limitation when making requests.

## DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

### **Bureau of Reclamation: Water and Related Resources**

All requests for the Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) accounts listed above should reflect a funding amount that can be realistically utilized in FY24 and must be authorized projects. In the event the Subcommittee cannot fully fund your request, the Subcommittee may reach out to the Corps and Reclamation regarding useful increments of funding. 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.

### Supplemental Required Questions for Energy & Water Projects

- What is the official project name and authorization?
- Please provide contact information for the relevant Corps District Project Manager and Corps District Name or the relevant Reclamation staff name and Region name. Please include the cell phone number and email address for the contact.
- Is this a Corps request for an authorized Environmental Infrastructure project? [yes/no] If yes, please provide specific Public Law and section number.
- Is this a Corps request for a Continuing Authorities Program project? [yes/no] If yes, please provide specific section of that authority (i.e. 204, 206, 1125, etc.).

- If making a Corps request, please provide the name of the Corps Division and Corps District where the project is located.
- If making a Reclamation request, please provide the name of the Reclamation Region where the project is located.
- Please include detailed information about the non-federal sponsor of the project or the non-federal project partner, if applicable.

## Subcommittee on Homeland Security and Related Agencies

### **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grants**

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.

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 \(NOFO\)](#). 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 submit an application to FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the entities responsible for the project (grant subrecipients). 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.

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

#### Supplemental Required Questions for Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants:

- Is the requesting jurisdiction a state, Indian tribal government, local government, or territory as defined by section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)?
- Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant program?
- 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?
- If less than the requested amount were provided as the federal share, would additional state local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
- Can the requesting jurisdiction provide a Cost-Benefit Analysis or other documentation that validates cost-effectiveness, which is defined by FEMA as having a Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCA) of 1.0 or greater? A non-FEMA BCA methodology may only be used if pre-approved by FEMA in writing.
- Is the entity that will benefit from the proposed activity covered by the current FEMA approved multi-hazard mitigation plan in compliance with 44 CFR Part 201? If so, what is the Final FEMA Approval date and when will the plan expire?
- Please confirm the funding request does not include unallowable activities for PDM grants (e.g., dredging waterways; the purchase of emergency vehicles and equipment), yes or no?

- Describe how the proposed activity expands mitigation capacity rather than repair and maintenance of existing capacity.
- How will the project provide long-term permanent risk-reduction, as opposed to simply supporting emergency protective measures?
- Can the recipient describe how the project supports the needs people disproportionately at risk of harmful impacts of natural disasters?
- Does the recipient specifically encourage the adoption and enforcement of the latest disaster resistant building codes?
- Provide a clear and detailed description of the proposed mitigation activity.
- How will the mitigation activity be implemented?
- Who will manage and complete the mitigation activity?
- What risks will remain from all hazards after project implementation (i.e., residual risk)?
- How does the activity reduce the risk to individuals and property for future natural hazards, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters?
- Has the project been submitted, selected, or awarded funding in current or previous PreDisaster Mitigation (PDM), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), 7 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), or Hazard Mitigation Grant Program fiscal year grant cycles?
  - If so, what is the sub-grant ID, or which grant program and fiscal year was the application submitted, selected, or awarded funding?
- Has your office or the community consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
  - If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity ([NOFO](#)) 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 EOC projects designated for funding in the FY 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, must submit an application to FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the entities responsible for the project (grant sub-recipients). Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SSA affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

CPF funding in the FY 2023 House bill ranged between \$158,176 and \$3,000,000 for individual EOC grants.

#### Supplemental Required Questions for Emergency Operations Center Projects:

- Is the requesting jurisdiction a state, Indian tribal government, or local government as defined by section 102 or 602 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5122, 5195a?

- Is the proposed project eligible under the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program?
- Can the requesting jurisdiction provide the required 25 percent non-federal cost share?
- If less than the requested amount were provided as the federal share, would additional state local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
- Is the requestor in a position to enhance their emergency management capabilities and address their Emergency Operations Center needs?
- 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?
- Is the facility (or will the facility) be the primary Emergency Operations Center for the jurisdiction?
- Does the EOC request involve the construction or upgrading of a multipurpose facility, such as a public safety building or police/fire station? If yes, does the CPF request limit costs to only the square footage directly associated with the EOC and not the entire facility?
- Community engagement and support is crucial in determining which projects are worthy of federal funding. Please describe or include evidence of community support that were compelling factors in the Member's decision to submit this project request, including letters of support and any relevant links to information posted on the Member's website or other online sources.
- Has your office or the community consulted with state/county/local emergency management officials or with FEMA about the proposed project?
- If the answer to the previous question is yes, please provide name agency and contact information.
- Is there or will there be a letter from the appropriate state officials confirming that should the project be approved the appropriate state agency is willing and able to serve as the recipient for the grant?

# Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### **Environmental Protection Agency, State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)**

STAG grants fund local wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. This includes 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. **Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program.** The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that are listed on a state's most recent Intended Use Plan.

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.

### Supplemental Required Questions for STAG Projects

- Is this a Clean Water SRF project or a Drinking Water SRF project?
- Please confirm the request is limited to FY 2024 funds only and does not include a request for multiyear funding.
- Does the project have (or expects to have within 12 months) its 20 percent matching fund requirement?
- Is the project on your state's most recently finalized Clean Water/Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan (IUP)?
- Has the project received federal funds previously? If so, please describe.
- Given the Federal nexus requirement, does the project help meet or maintain Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act standards? If so, please describe.

# Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The subcommittee will not consider requests for community projects unless they appear 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). Each project request must be for fiscal year 2024 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.

Projects suggested by an installation or unit commander will not be accepted.

Projects must 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.

Projects must be submitted to the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) for inclusion in the FY24 National Defense Authorization Act or previously authorized. Projects must also have a DD Form 1391, which is DoD's justification for military construction projects.

### **Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction– Active Components**

Eligible community project requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for active components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$9,000,000. The types of projects under this heading include construction, installation, equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, and facilities for the accounts listed below:

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

### **Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction– Reserve Components**

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. Please 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 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
- Navy Reserve
- Air Force Reserve

## **Planning and Design**

The types of projects under this heading include improving facility resilience, study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services for the accounts listed below:

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force
- Defense-Wide Agencies (SOCOM, DHA, etc.)
- Army National Guard
- Air National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Navy Reserve
- Air Force Reserve

### Sources of Eligible Community Project Funding Projects

Eligible Community Project Funding requests are those that are 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/>.

The Committee may limit the number and amount of any Community Project Funding in FY24, based upon the availability of funds. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

### Supplemental Required Questions for DoD Military Construction Projects

- Which Service is the project for?

- Please provide the project location including state/territory.
- Please provide the Installation Name, Project Name and Amount requested for FY2024.
- Is the funding request for major construction, minor construction, or planning and design?
- Is the project on the FY FY24-FY28 FYDP? If so, for what fiscal year?
- Is the project on a FY24 Service or Combatant Command unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFRs/UPLs)?
- Does the project have a DD Form 1391?
- 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?

# Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### **Airport Improvement Program:**

AIP community project funding requests shall 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.

Requirements: Projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. The potential grantee should reach out to FAA Regional District Offices to ensure that projects will be in compliance with these mandates.

Cost Share: For large and medium primary hub airports, the grant covers 75 percent of eligible costs (or 80 percent for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports, the grant covers a range of 90-95 percent of eligible costs, based on statutory requirements. Specific cost share requirements should be understood by the grantee, and verified by the FAA Regional District Office, along with other requirements to receive FAA funding.

### Supplemental Required Questions for Airport Improvement Program Projects

- Project Name. 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 is provided to the correct project and location.
- General description of the project and why it is needed.
- 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.
- What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
- Amount requested for the Community Project Funding for fiscal year 2024, and the total project cost.
- Estimated start and completion dates.

- 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?
- Has the airport submitted a grant application for this same project to FAA?

## **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.

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. The Committee strongly encourages Members' offices and potential funding recipients to reach out to their state departments of transportation to determine the eligibility and viability of projects.

### Supplemental Required Questions for Highway Infrastructure Projects:

- Provide project name and location. 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.
- General description and benefits of the project and why it is needed. NOTE: Benefits may include safety, environmental, economic, equity, mobility, etc.
- Amount requested for the project and the 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.
- 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).

- Estimated start and completion dates.
- 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.
- 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? NOTE: The [cost-share requirements](#) are defined in statute and vary based on activity, location, and other factors.
- If the request does not fully fund the project, describe where the remaining funding comes from to complete the project.
- Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) category of action (if applicable)?
- Where is the project in the construction process? NOTE: Drop down options will include: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Capital purchase or lease, Construction, and Other (please specify).
- Is the project on a STIP or a TIP? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.
- 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. 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, consistent with the fiscal year 2022 process.

Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. The Committee strongly encourages Members' offices to reach out to the project sponsor (i.e., transit agency) to determine the eligibility and viability of their projects.

Supplemental Required Questions for Transit Infrastructure Projects:

- Project name and location.
- Project recipient.
- General description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is a priority.
- Amount requested and 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.
- 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? NOTE: The cost-share requirements are defined in statute. In general, transit capital projects typically require 20 percent local share. *EXAMPLE: Local sales taxes are committed for 25 percent of the funds.*
- If the project receives less than requested for the transit infrastructure projects, will the project proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?
- Does the project intend to apply for any DOT discretionary programs before proceeding? If yes, will the project sponsor still proceed if not selected?
- Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) category of action?
- Where is the project in the construction process?
  - NOTE: Drop down options will include: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Capital purchase or lease (including bus purchases), Construction, and Other (please specify).
- 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 and the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID Number comes from.
- 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; FTA Formula Funds: \$5 million.*

## **Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)**

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 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.

### Supplemental Required Questions for CRISI Projects:

- Project name and location.
- Project recipient.
- General description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is a priority.
- Amount of funding requested for the project.
- Total cost of the project.
- 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? The cost-share requirements are defined in statute. Rail capital projects under the CRISI program require a minimum 20 percent non-federal share.
- If the project receives less than requested, will the project still proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?
- Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.
- Where is the project in the construction process? Drop down options in the database will include: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Contract Awarded, Capital Purchase or Lease, Construction, and Other (please specify).
- Estimated start and completion dates.
- 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.
- 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 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 Port Infrastructure Development Projects:

1. Project name and location.
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 HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

### **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 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 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.

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 Members 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.

In addition to meeting the above eligibility criteria, all projects must meet these 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.
  - Members 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.
- Members are advised that 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).

The average award in this account for fiscal year 2022 was \$1.5 million. Note that the Committee may consider project amounts of up to \$4 million for FY23, but any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests.

### Supplemental Required Questions for Economic Development Initiative Projects

- Project Name and location. 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.
- General description of the project and why it is needed.
- What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
- Amount requested for the Community Project Funding and the total project cost.
- Who are the community partners participating in this project? Have local community development organizations with prior experience with HUD programs been consulted? 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.
- If the project purpose is for new construction or land or site acquisition, does it comply with local zoning requirements?
- Is the project included or supported by an identified priority area within a state or local HUD Consolidated Plan? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.

## Staff Contact List

For specific questions, please reach out to my staff below:

- Louise Bentsen, Chief of Staff:
  - Email: [Louise.Bentsen@mail.house.gov](mailto:Louise.Bentsen@mail.house.gov), Phone: (202) 285-5920
- Chandler Mills, Legislative Director:
  - Email: [Chandler.Mills@mail.house.gov](mailto:Chandler.Mills@mail.house.gov), Phone: (202) 377-9719
- Jocelyne Barajas, Legislative Assistant:
  - Email: [Jocelyne.Barajas@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jocelyne.Barajas@mail.house.gov), Phone: (202) 394-7199
- Laura Matamoros, District Director:
  - Email: [Laura.Matamoros@mail.house.gov](mailto:Laura.Matamoros@mail.house.gov), Phone: (956) 322-0401

Please submit all programmatic and language requests for FY 2024 online [here](#).

Please submit all Community Project Funding requests for FY 2024 online [here](#).

***The deadline to submit a programmatic, language and Community Project Funding requests for FY 2024 is Friday, March 17, 2023, at 6 PM CT.***

## 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 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 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.