Representative Laura Friedman

FY 2026 Community Project Funding Resource Guide

Updated March 2025

Dear Community Partner,

Thank you for your interest in the Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding (CPF) process. This resource guide is meant to provide helpful information regarding project eligibility and requirements. As you prepare your application, please know that my team and I are here to assist you in this process.

As you may know, the House Appropriations Committee Majority has not yet released official guidance for Fiscal Year 2026 CPF projects. However, we anticipate that program eligibility and submission guidance will be similar to Fiscal Year 2025 guidance, which is reflected in this document. I encourage applicants to ensure their projects are eligible under this guidance. Should Fiscal Year 2026 guidance deviate from the information outlined in this resource guide, my office will reach out to the relevant applicants to ensure that their projects reflect updated requirements.

While our office will receive a high volume of applications for CPF projects, I am likely only able to select **fifteen projects** to advance to the House Appropriations Committee. The Committee will then determine which of my requested projects will receive funding. It is important to note that there is no guarantee of full or partial funding for a submitted project.

Successful applications will be projects that have wide and significant benefits for our community. These projects should address a clear need in the community, be administered by a local government entity or eligible nonprofit and enjoy broad support from stakeholders.

My office will receive far more Community Project Funding requests than can be fulfilled, and many deserving, appropriate, and eligible projects will not receive this federal assistance through the appropriations process in Fiscal Year 2026. I encourage every applicant for CPF funding to pursue other grant and federal/state/local funding opportunities where available. Please know that if your project is not funded this year, you are still eligible to apply for CPF funding next year.

Thank you again for your interest in this year's Community Project Funding process. My team and I look forward to working with you to explore every available avenue to bring needed federal resources to CA-30.

Sincerely,

Sach

Laura Friedman Member of Congress

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IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING

The deadline to submit a Community Project Funding request to Rep. Friedman's office is 5pm ET/2pm PT on Tuesday, April 8.

The House Appropriations Committee Majority has not yet released official guidance for Fiscal Year 2026 CPF projects. However, eligible programs and guidance will likely be similar to Fiscal Year 2025. The Fiscal Year 2025 guidance is reflected in this document. Should Fiscal Year 2026 guidance deviate from the information outlined in this resource guide, my office will reach out to the relevant applicants to ensure their projects reflect updated requirements.

Overview of the Community Project Funding Process

Successful Community Funded Projects will be funded through government funding bills. It is important that applications satisfy **every** requirement laid out by the House Appropriations Committee. Each request must include demonstrated widespread community support. You will be required to submit evidence of community support, such as (but not limited to):

- 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

Additional requirements are listed below:

- No funds can be used by for-profit recipients.
- Matching funding must be available for each project that requires it (not all do) 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.
- Projects must be tied to existing federal authorization (more detail can be found in the account descriptions).
- Museums, Memorials, and "Commemorative" Projects are not eligible for funding.

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 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.

Please be advised that the Appropriations Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives makes the final decision regarding which projects are funded. As these are funded by taxpayer dollars, projects must show widespread community support to be funded. The Appropriations Committee will expect that applicants have a proven track record of successfully managing large projects in the past.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Community Project Funding?

Community Project Funding (CPF) 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. It provides, authorizes, or recommends a specific amount of federal 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 will often only serve as a partial contribution to the total cost of a project.

Community Project Funding (CPF) is known as Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) in the U.S. Senate.

How do I submit a Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding Request?

Please submit all FY26 Community Project Funding requests through our office's form on our website.

Is there a deadline for submitting a request?

Yes. The deadline to submit a CPF request for our office is April 8th at 5pm ET/2pm PT.

What if I miss a deadline? Are any exceptions made if the bill hasn't been passed?

Congressional offices review numerous requests in a short amount of time. As a result, deadlines are strictly enforced.

Are Community Project Funding requests publicly disclosed?

Yes. All requests for Community Project Funding submitted by the Member to the committee for consideration must be publicly listed on that Member's website, including the name and address of the requestor, the amount requested, and the justification for use of taxpayer funds no more than 20 days after requests are submitted.

How many Community Project Funding requests will the Representative make?

In FY 2026, Members of the House of Representatives are likely limited to submitting **15** requests for Community Project Funding across the entire House Appropriations Committee.

Are there limitations on what Community Project Funding can be used for?

Yes. Federal Programs have very specific restrictions on how federal funds can be used. It is recommended that you closely examine this guide for references to eligible uses or limitations on use. Generally, funding cannot be used for debt service, recurring or routine expenses, reimbursement of costs, or projects that cannot demonstrate value to the community.

Can I request funding for "bricks and mortar"?

Yes, in limited circumstances, if the project activities are eligible based on the statutory requirements of the appropriate account. Popular "bricks and mortar" accounts include EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants and HUD Economic Development Initiatives.

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

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

How much should I request?

This will vary by account based on guidance from the House Appropriations Committee. Generally, staff do not recommend requesting more than \$5,000,000. Staff can advise on an appropriate range, depending on the account. You should not request more assistance than you need or can realistically be spent in the upcoming fiscal year.

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

This guide has been prepared to outline information on available accounts. Requestors should use this guide to identify the appropriate account to identify one that meets the needs of your project or organization. It's important that you read through all the available FY26 CPF accounts, plus the accompanying guidance language, and narrow things down as best you can. Please call my office if you need additional information.

Please note that eligibility requirements are different between the House and the Senate, even within the same account.

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 possible to receive a portion of the requested amount. These decisions are made at the discretion of Committee leadership and can depend on the total amount of funding available for Community Project Funding

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 helpful.

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

The Community Project Funding process is extremely targeted and competitive. While my team will look at all requests, it is strongly recommended you explore other grant and funding sources as well. An outline of the process is below:

Spring

• The deadline for applicants to submit CPF requests to our office is April 8th.

• The House Appropriations Committee requires all members to publicly disclose, and post on their website, a list of the 15 projects that they will submitting to the Appropriations Committee.

Summer

- The House Appropriations Committee will review and finalize all member-submitted Community Project Funding requests from across the country to be included in the relevant FY26 House spending bills. These bills typically pass the House in the late summer.
- The Senate Appropriations Committee simultaneously reviews and finalizes their list of Community Project Funding requests from across the country to be included in the FY26 Senate spending bills.

Fall and beyond

- Any differences between the House and Senate Appropriations bills must be resolved through a conference committee before passing final bills for FY26.
- Please remember, even if your project is supported in the House and/or Senate Appropriations bills, CPF projects are not finalized until their respective bills pass the House and Senate and are signed into law.
- <u>Though FY26 will begin on October 1, 2025, final negotiations may stretch beyond that date.</u>

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 appropriate 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, may surprise 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?

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, it is unlikely that Congress will support a project for more than one year. However, you should discuss the needs of your project with our office if you believe that federal support will be needed beyond a single fiscal year.

Do all accounts have matching or cost-share requirements?

It varies depending on the statutory requirements for each account, which all projects will be expected to meet. Account descriptions below include additional information about matching and cost-share requirements.

Are capital projects eligible for Community Project Funding?

In certain cases, yes. This guide outlines which programs do and don't include capital funding.

Can Community Project Funding be used for payroll and other operating expenses?

No. Community Project Funding is intended as a one-time infusion of resources to move a project forward that benefits the community and using it for operating expenses would potentially create a budget cliff.

Other Federal Funding Resources

The Community Project Funding process is highly competitive, and while many worthy projects deserve support, funding limitations will prevent most 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 you will find a number of useful resources to explore other federal funding opportunities. Our 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 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*—This site provides information about federal loans and their eligibility requirements.
- *Benefits.gov*—This tool will help you determine which government benefits you may be eligible for and provides information on how to apply for these programs.
- USA.gov—The official guide to U.S. Government Information and Services.

Community Project Funding Eligible Accounts

Agriculture Subcommittee

General Requirements

For each Community Project Funding request in this subcommittee, Requestors will be asked to respond to a series of questions intended to provide transparency and ensure the project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds.

All CPF requests must meet applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made, including underlying statutory and regulatory requirements (most notably applicable cost share requirements and eligible activities). Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to USDA for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award.

To ensure your projects meet eligibility requirements for the Rural Development and Natural Resources Conservation Service accounts, you must consult with your respective State Rural Development or State Conservation office which can be found here:

Rural Development: https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices

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

For each CPF request, applicants will be asked to respond to a series of questions intended to provide transparency and ensure the project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds.

All Agriculture CPF applications must provide the following information:

- 1. The website address of the proposed recipient.
- 2. Has the recipient secured all necessary funds to complete the project, including non-federal cost share requirements?
- 3. *For Rural Development projects*, is the project for an eligible purpose and does it meet all eligibility requirements, with the exception of any Median Household Income 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? (If not, it is strongly advised to ensure project eligibility.)
- 9. For ARS B&F only, is it an existing USDA owned and operated facility? (It must be, in order to be eligible.)
- 10. *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]
- 11. For ARS B&F only, does the project have distinct and separable phases?
- 12. *For ARS B&F only*, what is the estimated completion date of the project? When does completion of construction occur? [mm/yy]
- 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.

Department of Agriculture

Rural Development, Community Facilities Grants

Grants to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities, to purchase equipment, and pay other related project expenses. Examples of eligible projects include but are not limited to: medical or dental clinics, healthcare facilities, police or fire departments, and public works vehicles.

<u>Project requests for non-essential facilities such as community gardens or museums will not be considered.</u> Priority will be given to essential projects, such as those focused on public health and safety.

Any project <u>must</u> 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 project must demonstrate community support and applications must include <u>the most</u> <u>complete description of the project as possible</u>. Project 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. In-kind contributions and other Federal formula or grant resources cannot be counted towards match requirements.

Community Facilities grants <u>cannot</u> 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 2024, the average Community Facilities CPF award was about \$1.2 million.

Rural Development, ReConnect Program

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grant 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, defined as 25 Mbps downstream and 3 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 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 facilities are eligible if they are needed to bring sufficient broadband service to all premises in the area.

Applicants 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.

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

USDA's Rural Development office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. For fiscal year 2024, the average ReConnect CPF award was nearly \$1.2 million.

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 programming.

Any requests are subject to all 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. Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide as much detail as possible on how the award will be utilized, what equipment or 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 State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. For fiscal year 2024, the average DLT CPF award was \$600,000.

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.

Applicants 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. 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. For fiscal year 2024, the average Water and Waste CPF award was nearly \$1.5 million.

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. 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. Facility requests must be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that are already partnering with ARS.

Applicants 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. Requested funding for new facilities that do not have an existing ARS tie will <u>not</u> be considered.

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. Examples of specific objectives include reducing soil erosion, improving soil health, enhancing water supplies, improving water quality, increasing wildlife habitat, and reducing damage caused by floods and other natural disasters.

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

The Subcommittee will only consider projects for funding recipients that are State, local, and Tribal organizations, or conservation districts. Non-profit recipients <u>will not</u> 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 FY24.

Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee

General Requirements

Project Amounts. After reviewing all project requests received for fiscal year 2025, the Chairman will determine what, if any, caps to place on project amounts. Targeted projects of modest size can have meaningful impact for communities and likely have a greater chance of being funded.

 \Rightarrow One-year projects only. Each project request must be for fiscal year 2025 funds only and cannot include multi-year funding.

Project Title. This should be a short name by which the project may be identified. The project title should clearly indicate how the funds will be used.

Project Description. You must include a brief project description. In this description, provide:

- \Rightarrow the cost
- \Rightarrow the recipient
- \Rightarrow the nature of the project.

Do not specify brand names for equipment and technology requests. Avoid using abbreviations and acronyms.

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

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

Project Location. The location of the project's activities may be different from the mailing address of the recipient organization. You will be asked to provide the full address, and later, in the supplemental questions, just the city and state.

- \Rightarrow Please provide the location where the project activities will be taking place.
- \Rightarrow In the supplemental question, use the format 'City (or County), State', using the postal abbreviation for the state.

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

- ⇒ NOTE: Applicants are strongly encouraged to provide a detailed budget breakdown for how the funding is anticipated to be spent (e.g., what types of gear or services the funds will be used to buy; or how research dollars will be spent).
- \Rightarrow Do not specify brand names for equipment and technology requests.

Evidence of Community Support. Applicants must describe or include compelling evidence of community support. This may include relevant links or other documents including:

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

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

Department of Commerce

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

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

Purpose & Federal Nexus

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

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

Supplemental Questions for NIST Scientific and Technical Research 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 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Zone Management

NOAA Coastal Zone Management projects support the protection, restoration, and responsible development of our nation's diverse coastal communities and resources.

Purpose & 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 Requirements

NOAA 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 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'.

Department of Justice

Department of Justice (DOJ) Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (Byrne Justice Grants)

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

Purpose & Federal Nexus

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

Prohibited Uses

- 34 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 Chairman will not support the use of Byrne Justice Grants Community Project Funding for the following:

- Initiatives that involve the distribution of drug paraphernalia.
- Initiatives that undermine the 2nd Amendment or infringe upon rights guaranteed by the Constitution without due process of law.
- Initiatives that appear to be anti-law enforcement or unrelated to criminal justice.
- Larger projects for the construction or renovation of penal or correctional institutions that will exceed the capability of single-year funding.

Prioritization of Projects

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

Non-Profit Entities

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

Requirements

Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the DOJ Grants Financial Guide.

Below are the links to the Department's guidance and frequently asked questions regarding the Byrne Justice Grants program, which may help guide you in gauging the eligibility of a proposed Byrne Justice Grants project:

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

Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program's authorizing legislation.

Supplemental Questions for Byrne Justice Grants 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 (DOJ) Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment

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

Purpose & Federal Nexus

Funding must be aligned with the purposes of section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)). As such, the Chairman will consider projects to develop and/or acquire technologies and equipment, including interoperable communications technologies, modernized criminal record technology, and forensic technology, to assist State, Tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, including by reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime and training law enforcement officers to use such technologies.

Notes:

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

Supplemental Questions for COPS Technology and Equipment project requests:

- 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

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Safety, Security and Mission Services

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

Purpose & Federal Nexus

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

Note: The following projects <u>will not</u> be considered for NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services Community Project Funding:

- \Rightarrow Building construction or renovation projects.
- \Rightarrow Medical research projects.

Supplemental Questions for NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services 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'.

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

The Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies will accept project requests in only the following accounts and only in accordance with existing authorizations:

Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works) Investigations Construction Mississippi River and Tributaries Operation and Maintenance

Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation

Water and Related Resources

Not all programs within these accounts will be open for Community Project Funding requests.

• If the project is <u>not</u> an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, please contact our office for further information prior to submitting a request.

To support the funding level and scope of a project included in the President's budget request, please submit a programmatic request. [Please note that funding for projects in the budget request may not be automatic, and therefore, the Committee strongly recommends applicants submit a program request in support of each budget request project the applicant supports, especially any new project.]

A Community Project Funding request is only necessary to request an increment of funding or scope above and beyond the President's budget request.

For Example:

- Program request to support the President's budget request of \$10 for Project A.
- Community Project Funding request to support \$5 in addition to the President's budget request for Project A.

NOT:

1. Program request or Community Project Funding request to support \$15 for Project A.

Within the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, the Committee will accept program requests for additional funding above the budget request for categories of projects (e.g., navigation maintenance, flood control studies, etc.), but applicants should be aware that this funding may be extremely limited in fiscal year 2025. For specific projects of particular interest, applicants are <u>strongly encouraged</u> to submit Community Project Funding requests for amounts above the budget request.

After the official Community Project Funding requests have been received, the Subcommittee will ask the federal agencies for technical assistance on each requested project, including the

information described in the suggested questions below. The Subcommittee will evaluate project requests based on the information provided to the Subcommittee directly from the federal agency.

Supplemental Questions for Corps of Engineers of Bureau of Reclamation Projects:

Applicants should contact the relevant Corps of Engineers District Office or Bureau of Reclamation Regional Office to ask the following specific questions about the project of interest prior to submitting a Community Project Funding request.

1. Is the project authorized? Is the scope of work to be funded within existing authorization?

- If **YES**, the project may be eligible as a Community Project Funding request in the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill.
 - What is the statutory citation?
 - 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.
 - If the project is authorized in a manner other than an individual project authorization or under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, please contact the Subcommittee for further clarification of eligibility prior to submitting a request.
- If NO, **STOP** the project is not eligible as a Community Project Funding request in the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill.

2. What is the official project name?

3. What is the fiscal year 2026 capability?

• This amount is the maximum funding level the Subcommittee will consider for inclusion in the appropriations bill. The existence of a capability amount does not guarantee that funding level – or any funding – will be able to be accommodated in the appropriations bill; it simply indicates the maximum amount that can be considered for inclusion.

4. For a Corps of Engineers project, what is the correct appropriations account in which to request funding?

• The Community Project Funding request will be submitted under this account.

5. For a Corps of Engineers project, is this project a new start?

• The Subcommittee may need to focus resources on making progress on ongoing projects, in order to maximize federal benefits. If so, new starts may be very limited, if included at all. While new start requests will be accepted, applicants should consider this limitation when making requests.

- 6. For a Corps of Engineers project, is this project an environmental infrastructure (EI) project?
 - The Subcommittee may need to focus resources on projects in the main mission areas of the Corps (navigation, flood and storm damage reduction, environmental restoration), in order to maximize federal benefits. If so, EI projects may be very limited, if included at all. While EI requests will be accepted, applicants should consider this limitation when making requests.
- 7. 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)?
 - If **YES**, the project is <u>not</u> eligible as a Community Project Funding request in the Energy and Water Development appropriations bill.

Homeland Security Subcommittee

General Guidance

Please review the purpose and eligibility requirements, including any environmental and historic preservation requirements, for these two grant programs to ensure proper consideration of you request.

Over previous fiscal years, FEMA found that many CPF requests lacked the necessary details to determine grant eligibility. Applicants are highly encouraged to submit detailed project descriptions for each PDM or EOC request.

For each project description, please include a <u>detailed budget</u> describing how the requested federal funding will be used and confirm the ability of the requesting entity to meet the cost-share requirement. While the subcommittee will try to provide the full federal cost share for funded Community Project Funding, overall demand may limit the ability to do so.

Applicants are encouraged to make clear the <u>minimum</u> amount of federal funding for a project required in order for it to move forward.

Cost-Share Requirements

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 costshare for their mitigation planning and project sub-applications in accordance with the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5133(a),(h)(2)).

FEMA

Pre-Disaster Mitigation 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, there are specific eligibility questions to ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant program.

Applicants should consult with their State Hazard Mitigation Officers when answering the questions. All eligibility questions must be answered for a request to be considered.

For any PDM projects designated for funding in the FY 2026 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).

Each project request must be accompanied by a letter from the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, in order to be considered for funding. C

PF funding in the FY 2024 House bill ranged between \$75,000 and \$10,000,000 for individual PDM grants.

PDM Grant CPF Application Check List:

- ⇒ Letter from the appropriate State or Territorial Administrative Agency (e.g., Nevada Division of Emergency Management), or Tribal government, confirming project eligibility and their willingness to administer the grant.
- \Rightarrow Letters of support from local entities (e.g., Lake County and/or City of Mentor) demonstrating community support for the project(s)?
- \Rightarrow Confirm the requesting jurisdiction is a state, tribal government, local government, or territory as defined in the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5122(4),(6),(8))? Have you confirmed that the proposed activity is consistent with the current FEMA-approved multi-hazard mitigation plan in compliance with 44 CFR Part 201.
- ⇒ Confirm that the requesting entity can provide a Benefit-Cost Analysis that validates the cost-effectiveness of the request.
- \Rightarrow Confirm total project cost reflects federal and non-federal resources.
- \Rightarrow Confirm the requesting jurisdiction provide the required non-federal cost-share (25 percent of the total project cost, or 10 percent of the total project cost for small, impoverished communities as detailed in the NOFO).
- \Rightarrow Indicate the minimum amount of federal funding needed for the project to advance if it is not feasible to fund the full federal cost-share of the total project cost.

Supplemental Questions for PDM Grant Projects:

- 1. 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. Upload 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. Confirm 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 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 Grants

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."

Similar to CPF requests for PDM grants, there are specific eligibility questions for EOC grants to ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent NOFO for the competitive EOC Grant Program. Applicants must answer all the eligibility questions for a request to be considered.

For any EOC projects designated for funding in the FY 2025 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).

Each project request must be accompanied by a letter from the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, in order to be considered for funding.

CPF funding in the FY 2024 House bill ranged between \$89,000 and \$3,000,000 for individual EOC grants.

EOC Grant Checklist:

- ⇒ Letter from the appropriate State or Territorial Administrative Agency (e.g., Nevada Division of Emergency Management), or Tribal government, confirming project eligibility and their willingness to administer the grant
- ⇒ Letters of support from local entities (e.g., Lake County and/or City of Mentor) demonstrating community support for the project(s)
- \Rightarrow Confirm the requesting jurisdiction is a state, tribal government, local government, or territory as defined in the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5122(4),(6),(8))
- ⇒ 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 confirm the CPF request limits costs to only the square footage directly associated with the EOC and <u>not</u> the entire facility
- ⇒ Confirm that the requesting jurisdiction provide the required non-federal cost-share (25 percent of the total project cost)
- \Rightarrow Determine and indicate the minimum amount of federal funding needed for the project to advance if it is not feasible to fund the full federal cost-share of the total project cost

Supplemental Questions for EOC Projects:

- 1. 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. Upload 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 Emergency Operations Center (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 applicant reviewed the funding restrictions and allowable costs section of the NOFO for EOC grants?
- 8. Confirm 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 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 information.

Interior and Environment Subcommittee

General Guidance

Community engagement and support is crucial in determining which projects are worthy of Federal funding. Only projects with demonstrated community support will be considered. To demonstrate evidence of community support, Applicants must also submit community support letters as part of their requests. Applicants may submit the following:

- ⇒Letters of support from elected community leaders (e.g., mayors or other officials) or newspaper editorial boards;
- ⇒ Press articles highlighting the need for the requested Community Project Funding projects;
- ⇒ Projects listed on State intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents; or
- \Rightarrow Resolutions passed by city councils or boards.

Environmental Protection Agency

State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

The Interior Subcommittee will accept Community Project Funding requests in the Environmental Protection Agency – State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) account for certain clean water and drinking water infrastructure projects.

The Subcommittee will not accept project requests in any other account. These projects include construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Similar to past practice, the Committee will be limiting STAG infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly owned or owned by a non-profit entity and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs.

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

- \Rightarrow **Ban on for-profit recipients and privately-owned projects**. The Committee will not fund projects to for-profit entities and privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program. Additionally, the Committee will not fund projects for resorts, golf courses, gardens, or similar projects.
- ⇒ State, municipal, local, territorial, or Tribal governmental entities as grantees. Public entities should be considered as the primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project. For STAG water infrastructure projects, States have Intended Use Plans (IUPs) with drinking water and wastewater projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials.

- \Rightarrow Non-profits as grantees. Non-profits will be considered on a limited basis at the discretion of the Chairman. If an applicant requests that funding be directed to a non-profit organization, the applicant must provide evidence that the recipient is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Many water projects often partner with non-profit entities to complete projects. Therefore, the Chairman will consider, on a limited basis, projects that are directed to non-profits with an inherently governmental function.
- ⇒ Federal Nexus. The Committee will only fund projects with purposes authorized by Federal law and that can meet all underlying Federal requirements:
 - Clean water/wastewater projects: Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.
 - Drinking water projects: Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j12.
- ⇒ Matching requirements. There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant and the Committee will not waive matching requirements:
 - 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. However, assistance provided by a SRF does count towards the project's matching requirement.
 - It is important that applicants discuss with their State and local officials the ability for localities to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements for such a project to be viable.
- \Rightarrow **One-year funding:** Each project request must be for FY 2026 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.
- ⇒ Project Amounts. Applicants should use the range of project amounts funded in FY 2024 as a general guide when making requests. In FY 2024, most EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from \$100,000 \$5,000,000. Note that the Committee may consider higher project amounts for future fiscal years, and any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests.
- ⇒Contact information. It is very important to include accurate contact information for the prospective grantee when filling out the online request. This includes a point of contact, phone number, email information, and address. The grantee name entered into the online database must match the grantee name on the signed disclosure of financial interest certification letter.
- \Rightarrow Eligibility Questions. Applicants must answer all the eligibility questions in the database for a request to be considered including the below supplemental questions:
 - O Is this a Clean Water SRF project or a Drinking Water SRF project?

- Is the project on your State's most recently finalized Clean Water/Drinking Water SRF Intended Use Plan (IUP)?
- O Has the project received Federal funds previously? If so, please describe.
- O Does the project have (or expects to have within 12 months) its 20% cost share requirement?
- Given the Federal nexus requirement, does the project help meet or maintain Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act standards? If so, please describe.

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

Projects that are NOT generally eligible for STAG Grants

	Projects that are NOT generally engible for STAG Grants						
Clean Water / Wastewater			Drinking Water				
1.	Land, except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11.	1.	Dams or rehabilitation of dams.				
2.	Operations and maintenance costs.	2.	Operations and maintenance costs.				
3.	Non-municipal point source control.	3.	Water rights, except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA's DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019.				
4.	Acid rain drainage correction.	4.	Reservoirs, except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located.				
5.	Ambient water quality monitoring.	5.	Laboratory fees for monitoring.				
6.	Flood Control Projects , unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.	6.	Projects needed mainly for fire protection.				
7.	Privately owned sewer pipes.	7.	Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.				
		8.	Projects for systems in significant non- compliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.				
		9.	Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.				

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

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

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

For additional eligibility information, please consult:

EPA's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Eligibility Handbook EPA's Overview of Clean Water State Revolving Fund Eligibilities

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

General Guidance

All Community Project Funding requests must meet the eligibility requirements for the specific account in which the project is funded. Only certain Department of Defense (DoD) accounts in the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies bill are in this category.

Community Project Funding requests must follow the guidelines included in this section. Each project request must be for fiscal year (FY) 2026 funds only and cannot be for multiyear funding.

In addition, requested projects must meet the following criteria:

- Be included on an unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFR/UPL) from a military service or combatant command or the FY25-FY29 Future Years Defense Program (FYDP).
 - Projects suggested by an installation or unit commander will not be accepted.
- Have at least 35 percent of its design completed.
 - For projects that have not reached 35 percent design, planning and design funding can be requested.
- Able to be obligated in FY26.
- Submitted to the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) for inclusion in the FY26 National Defense Authorization Act or previously authorized.
- Have a DD Form 1391, which is DoD's justification for military construction projects.

Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Active Components

Eligible Community Project Funding requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for active components in the accounts listed below. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$9,000,000.

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

Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Reserve Components

Eligible Community Project Funding requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for Reserve Components in the accounts listed below. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$9,000,000. *Note: Some Reserve Component projects require a State funding match*. Applicants must determine whether the proposed project requires such a match and if so, confirm that the project has current State matching funds. The Committee will not waive match requirements.
- \Rightarrow Army National Guard
- \Rightarrow Air National Guard
- \Rightarrow Army Reserve
- \Rightarrow Navy Reserve
- \Rightarrow 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 FY25-29 FYDP listing the military construction projects that may be eligible for Community Project Funding in FY25 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 FY25, based upon the availability of funds. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

Supplemental Questions for UFR/UPL or FYDP Projects:

For military construction Community Project Funding requests, the following information will be needed. This information is specific to the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies. Please contact our office if you need assistance.

- 1. Which Service is the project for?
- 2. Project Title.
- 3. Amount Requested for FY25.
- 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 FYDP? If so, which fiscal year?
- 8. Is the project on a FY26 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 FY26?
- 13. Has a corresponding request been submitted to HASC for inclusion in the FY26 NDAA? If a project was previously authorized in a NDAA, please provide the fiscal year.
- 14. Who is the point of contact in the requesting office?

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee

Department of Transportation (DOT)

Transit Infrastructure Projects

Transit Infrastructure Projects are public transportation capital projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code.

All projects must be:

1. Transit capital projects or project-specific planning for a transit capital project;

Note: For capital projects, eligible planning expenses are limited to preconstruction activities such as final design, engineering, location surveying, mapping, and acquiring right of way (ROWs)

- 2. Supported by the state, local governmental authority, or Tribal government that would administer the project. Inclusion in a Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this requirement; and
- 3. Sponsored by designated or direct recipients, States (including territories and the District of Columbia), local, or tribal governmental authorities.

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 <u>will not fund</u> activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include but are not limited to general operating expenses, joint development projects, and planning activities authorized under sections 5303, 5304, and 5305 of title 49, United States Code.

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

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

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

Supplemental Questions for Transit Infrastructure Projects:

1. **Project Name.** A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location. The project name and location will be used to list the project in the House Report and must be accurate to ensure funds are provided to the correct project and location. Any changes after enactment will require additional legislative action.

EXAMPLE: West Elm Paratransit Fleet Replacement.

2. Project Recipient.

EXAMPLE: West Elm Public Transportation Authority

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

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

4. 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.

5. Has the project completed the required review(s) under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)? If yes, what is the status and/or outcome of the NEPA review?

Projects must complete NEPA before beginning construction/procurement to receive federal funding, including CPFs.

6. Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for capital projects?

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

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

7. If the project receives less than requested for the transit infrastructure projects, are there additional sources of Federal or non-Federal funding available to deliver the full scope presented in the submitted application? If not, and the full scope cannot be completed with that reduced award, please describe the revised version of the project with a reduced scope, including revised costs.

EXAMPLE: Yes, however, the project will not be able to proceed immediately without the total amount. The West Elm Public Transportation Authority anticipates using FY25 formula funds to make up the shortfall if there are no other federal grant opportunities available.

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

EXAMPLE: Yes, the transit agency anticipates submitting an application for the FY25 Low or No Emission Grant Program before the April NOFO deadline. If they are not selected as a grant awardee for the Low or No Emission Grant Program, the West Elm Public Transportation Authority will still proceed using their formula funds.

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

EXAMPLE: FY23 FTA Buses and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant: \$100,000; FY24 FTA Formula Funds: \$25,000.

10. Where is the project in the construction process?

- a. Options include: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, RFP/IFB Issued, Contract Awarded, Capital Purchase or Lease, Construction, and Other (please specify).
- **11. Estimated start and completion dates.**
- 12. Is the project currently on a state, tribal or territorial transportation improvement plan (STIP) or a transportation improvement plan (TIP) as of 12/31/2024? If yes, provide a link to the plan.

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

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



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

Highway Infrastructure Projects

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

All projects must be:

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

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

Applicants should be aware that Highway Infrastructure Projects have a non-Federal cost share calculated on a sliding scale. The <u>cost-share requirements</u> 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 Appropriations Committee strongly encourages potential funding recipients to reach out to their state departments of transportation to determine the eligibility and viability of projects.

For each Highway Infrastructure Projects request, applicants will need to provide specific information.

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

Supplemental Questions for Highway Infrastructure Projects:

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

<u>EXAMPLE</u>: Main Street widening and resurfacing, City, State, Congressional District. <u>NOTE</u>: 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. <u>If the</u> <u>project is already in the STIP or TIP, use that project name</u>.

- General description and benefits of the project and why it is needed. <u>EXAMPLE</u>: Widening and resurfacing Main Street will allow the local government to add a turn lane to reduce congestion. It will also allow for safety upgrades at Avenue D where there is a high level of safety incidents. NOTE: Benefits may include safety, environmental, economic, mobility, etc.
- Type of project eligible under <u>23 USC 133(b)</u> (Surface Transportation Block Grant Program); <u>23 USC 201</u> (Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Programs); <u>23 USC 202</u> (Tribal Transportation Program); or <u>23 USC 165</u> (Territorial and Puerto Rico Highway Program).
 <u>NOTE</u>: Choose from subsections 1-24 of 23 USC 133(b); or 23 USC 201, 23 USC 202, or 23 USC 165.
- 4. If the request is for a phase of a larger project, describe all other phases and how this request relates to the entire project.
- 5. Has the recipient engaged in discussions with the Federal Highway Administration and received assurances that the project is eligible under applicable statutes?
- Please provide a history of any federal funding already received or approved for the project. Include both formula funds and any discretionary grants.
 <u>EXAMPLE</u>: FY20 TIGER/BUILD Grant: \$10 million; FHWA Formula Funds: \$5 million.
- 7. 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?

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

Airport Improvement Program (AIP)

AIP community project funding requests are intended to enhance airport safety, capacity, and security, and address environmental issues.

All projects must be:

- AIP eligible in accordance with <u>49 U.S.C. 47100 et seq</u>., 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.

Federal 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.

Demonstration of Community Support:

Demonstration of community support for a project is crucial for determining whether it should receive funding. Projects that are not accompanied by substantial evidence of community support will not be considered for funding. Community support documentation can include: letters from elected officials and community groups, local transportation or community development plans, publications (including news articles), and any other documents that demonstrate public support for the project.

Supplemental Questions for AIP Projects:

 Airport Recipient and Project Name. <u>EXAMPLE</u>: Rehabilitate runway. Airport Name (Include three letter or number airport code). <u>NOTE</u>: 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.

- 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 for fiscal year 2026, 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 <u>Section 54301 of</u> <u>title 46</u>, United States Code, as amended by title XXXV of division C of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024.

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 forprofit 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. The Committee strongly encourages funding recipients to reach out to their local port authorities and the Maritime Administration's <u>Gateway</u> <u>Offices</u> to help determine the eligibility and viability of projects. For each Port Infrastructure Development Program project request, applicants will need to provide specific information.

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

Supplemental Questions for Port Infrastructure Development Projects:

- Project Name. A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of how the funds will be used.
 <u>EXAMPLE</u>: Terminal 2 Expansion and Emissions Reduction Project, City, State, Congressional District.
 <u>NOTE</u>: The project name and location will be used to list the project in the House Report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding goes to the correct project and location. Any changes after enactment will require additional legislative actions.
- 2. General description and benefits of the project and why it is needed.
- 3. Is the project at a small port, as described under 46 USC 54301(b)?
- 4. 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?
- 5. If the request is for a phase of a larger project, describe all other phases and how this request relates to the entire project.
- 6. Has the recipient engaged in discussions with the Maritime Administration and received assurances that the project is eligible under applicable statutes?
- 7. Please provide a history of any federal funding already received or approved for the project.
- 8. 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?

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 intercity passenger rail and freight rail transportation systems.

All projects must be:

- Rail capital projects, systems planning for a rail capital project, or project development for a rail capital project (e.g., NEPA and preliminary engineering);
- 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.

Projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, non-federal share requirements, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. For more on 49 U.S.C. 22905(c) Rail Improvement Grant Conditions, see FAQ <u>here</u>.

The Committee also strongly encourages applicants to review the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) <u>Capital Project Guidance</u> to ensure the lifecycle stage of the project matches the requirements.

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

Supplemental Questions for CRISI Projects:

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

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

2. **Project Recipient.** As a reminder, for-profit entities are not eligible for CPF funding. The recipient must be a public entity that is eligible under the CRISI Program such as a state department of transportation, political subdivision of a state, public agency or publicly chartered authority established by one or more states, or not-for-profit rail carrier that provides intercity rail passenger transportation.

3. Please select the eligible project type that best describes the project:

Please note that CRISI projects are required to primarily benefit intercity passenger rail or freight rail service.

- a. Deployment of railroad safety technology, including positive train control and rail integrity inspection systems.
- b. A capital project as defined in section 22901(2), except that a project shall not be required to be in a State rail plan developed under chapter 227.
- c. A capital project necessary to address congestion or safety challenges affecting rail service.
- d. A capital project necessary to reduce congestion and facilitate ridership growth in intercity passenger rail transportation along heavily traveled rail corridors.
- e. A highway-rail grade crossing improvement project, including installation, repair, or improvement of grade separations, railroad crossing signals, gates, and related technologies, highway traffic signalization, highway lighting and crossing approach signage, roadway improvements such as medians or other barriers, railroad crossing panels and surfaces, and safety engineering improvements to reduce risk in quiet zones or potential quiet zones.
- f. A rail line relocation or improvement project.

- g. A capital project to improve short-line or regional railroad infrastructure.
- h. The preparation of regional rail and corridor service development plans and corresponding environmental analyses.
- i. Any project necessary to enhance multimodal connections or facilitate service integration between rail service and other modes, including between intercity rail passenger transportation and intercity bus service or commercial air service.
- j. The development and implementation of measures to prevent trespassing and reduce associated injuries and fatalities (e.g., trespass-related Capital Projects such as physical barriers, fencing, or equipment; trespassing enforcement activities; and outreach campaigns resulting in trespasser deterrence and prevention).
- k. Rehabilitating, remanufacturing, procuring, or overhauling locomotives, provided that such activities result in a significant reduction of emissions

4. General description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is apriority.

If the CPF is requested to cover only one phase or segment of a larger project, be clear about how the CPF funds will be used.

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

5. Total project cost.

Provide the total estimated cost of the project. The estimated total cost must be based on the best available information, including engineering studies, studies of economic feasibility, and environmental analyses. See FRA's <u>cost estimate guidance</u>.

Please note the amount requested should not exceed 80 percent of the total project costs. Rail capital projects under the CRISI program require a minimum 20 percent non-federal share.

6. Does the project have non-federal and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements? What is the source and amount of those funds?

The minimum 20 percent non-Federal share may be comprised of public sector funding (e.g., State or local) or private sector funding. FRA will not consider any Federal financial assistance or any non-Federal funds already expended (or otherwise encumbered) toward the matching requirement, unless compliant with <u>2 CFR part 200</u>.

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

- 7. If the project receives less than requested, will the project still proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?
- 8. Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any.

Include prior CRISI or other DOT grant program applications, formula funds and any awarded discretionary grants.

EXAMPLE: Awarded FY20 BUILD Discretionary Grant of \$7.5 million.

9. Where is the project in the construction process? Options will include: Systems Planning, Project Planning, Project Development, Final Design, or Construction. Please note that funding for Operations is not eligible.

10. Estimated start and completion dates.

Project sponsors may view the FRA recorded webinar "<u>From Selection to Award—The</u> <u>PostSelection Process for FRA Grants</u>" for a better understanding of the requirements for funding to be obligated.

- 11. Is the project on a state rail plan as of 12/31/2024? If yes, provide a link to the plan and specify page number.
- 12. Is the project included in a grade crossing action plan or other planning document? If yes, provide a link to the plan and specify page number.

Housing and Urban Development

Community Development Fund - Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

The only eligible recipients for Community Project Funding in the Economic Development Initiatives account are the following types of governmental entities and public institutions of higher education:

- \Rightarrow States and the District of Columbia
- \Rightarrow Territories
- \Rightarrow Tribal governments
- \Rightarrow Counties
- \Rightarrow Cities, towns, parishes, or other local government entities
- \Rightarrow Public colleges and universities, including community colleges

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. Programmatic and operational expenses are <u>not</u> eligible.

Project requests for the Economic Development Initiative program must be consistent with the goals of one or more of the following eligible uses of the Community Development Fund (CDF): 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4), and 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(5). These statutory eligibilities focus on 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 government¹."

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 be consistent with authorized purposes, the Committee expects to prioritize funding for the following types of projects:

- ⇒ Water or sewer infrastructure projects, which are not otherwise eligible to be funded as CPF sin EPA STAG (Interior bill) or Rural Water and Waste Disposal (Agriculture bill);
- ⇒ Local road infrastructure, which is not otherwise eligible as a CPF in Highways (in this bill);

¹ 42 U.S.C. 5302(a)(21) provides: "The term 'buildings for the general conduct of government' means city halls, county administrative buildings, State capitol or office buildings, or other facilities in which the legislative or general administrative affairs of the government are conducted. Such term does not include such facilities as neighborhood service centers or special purpose buildings located in low- and moderate-income areas that house various non-legislative functions or services provided by government at decentralized locations."

- \Rightarrow Streetscape improvements;
- \Rightarrow Housing rehabilitation or construction, 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 for a community or region, such as workforce training centers; and
- ⇒ Projects that meet a compelling local need consistent with statutory purposes. For example, food banks in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, youth and senior centers, and multipurpose community centers would be strong submissions.

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

The following types of projects are <u>not</u> eligible for CPF funding:

- \Rightarrow Museums, commemoratives, and memorials;
- \Rightarrow Swimming pools, water parks, ski slopes, and golf courses;
- \Rightarrow Healthcare facilities;
- ⇒ Venues strictly for entertainment purposes e.g., theaters, amphitheaters, fairgrounds, and performing arts centers;
- \Rightarrow Strictly research or planning activities; and
- \Rightarrow Buildings for the general conduct of government (courthouses, post office, city halls), which are not allowed under the statute.

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

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

Reminder on Buy America Preference (BAP): The "Buy America Preference" (BAP), in the Build America Buy America (BABA) Act within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58), requires that all iron and steel, construction materials, and manufactured products used in federally funded infrastructure projects are produced in the United States. Effective February 22, 2024, BAP applies to iron and steel for all EDI grantees, and effective August 23, 2024, this will extend to construction and manufacturing materials as well.

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

- Applicants 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.
- Applicants are required to provide a valid Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and/or Employer Identification Number (EIN) for each potential EDI recipient, as well as the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), which is an entity's official identifier for conducting business with the federal government. If an entity does not presently have a UEI, they can register for one at SAM.gov. Applicants should have this information readily available to provide to your office.

NOTE: Political subdivisions and school districts/boards may not have their own unique TIN or UEI. In this case, we recommend naming the recipient as the legal entity under which they are formed and naming the political subdivision in the project description (e.g., "City of Alexandria/For the Department of Public Works' roadway improvements").

Soft costs (planning, administrative) for EDI projects can be incurred after the date of final enactment. However, if the recipient incurs soft costs after enactment, but before the grant agreement is executed, they do so at their own risk. If the project is found to be ineligible by HUD or the grant agreement is never signed, HUD cannot reimburse for those soft costs. Hard costs (construction activities) can <u>only</u> be incurred after the successful completion of the required environmental review.

Supplemental Questions for HUD-EDI:

1. **Project Name.** A short name by which the project may be identified. <u>EXAMPLE</u>: Sturgis Downtown Revitalization

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

<u>EXAMPLE</u>: This project will provide infrastructure needed to support downtown expansion, including housing developments in downtown Sturgis. Core components include parking lot reconstruction, alleyway accessibility/beautification upgrades (including a trailhead for a future non-motorized trail), storm sewer improvements, and electrical utility work (moving electrical lines underground). The project is located in a Qualified Census Tract, traditional downtown, and will lessen financial burden on downtown property owners hit hard by economic circumstances that would otherwise have to cover higher project costs for parking lot work by way of a special assessment. The project is aligned to the city's recent placemaking efforts (added downtown firepit, public art, plaza/streetscape walkway, etc.). The City of Sturgis is confident the project is shovel ready and could be completed within the identified project period.

3. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?

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

- 4. Is the project on a state or local jurisdiction's consolidated plan with HUD? If yes, please link and provide the page number where it can be found. If not, please explain how the project is consistent with CDF statute.
- 5. Amount requested for the Community Project Funding and the total project cost.
- 6. Are there community partners participating in this project?
- 7. Does the grantee have experience executing a federal grant?
- 8. Has the request been submitted to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
- 9. Is this project consistent with the primary objective of the community development program? Please describe who the project is intended to benefit.
- 10. What is the entity's TIN/EIN?
- 11. What is the entity's UEI?
- 12. What is the ZIP code of the project location? If the project spans multiple ZIP codes, provide the ZIP code where most of the appropriation would be spent.