



Rep. Brittany Pettersen (CO-07)

Community Project Funding Guidelines

Fiscal Year 2025

Deadline: April 30th, 2024 at 5:00pm MT

Eligible Subcommittees:

- Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies (p. 2)
- Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (p. 6)
- Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies (p. 9)
- Homeland Security and Related Agencies (p. 10)
- Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies (p. 12)
- Military, Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies (p. 15)
- Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies (p. 17)

Note: All guidance is based on information disseminated by the House Appropriations Committee.

Please reach Colin Anonsen (colin.anonsen@mail.house.gov) and Katy Foley (kathleen.foley@mail.house.gov) with specific questions.

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

USDA: 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, health care facilities, police or fire departments, and public works vehicles.

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

Any project must serve a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53 (rural areas including cities, villages, townships and Federally Recognized Tribal lands with no more than 20,000 residents).

Funding requests must demonstrate community support. Members should ensure that their request provides the most complete description of the project as possible. Submissions should include details on all proposed use of funds, activities that will occur, timeline, and detailed information on the complete service territory. Such requests are also subject to cost share requirements specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Please review program regulations carefully. In-kind contributions and other Federal formula or grant resources cannot be counted towards match requirements.

Community Facilities grants cannot be used to pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring expenses, refinance existing debt, pay interest, build or repair facilities in non-rural areas, or pay for construction costs of facilities that will be used for commercial rental space.

The [State Rural Development Office](#) is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility and non-federal cost share requirements. For fiscal year 2024, the average Community Facilities CPF award was about \$1.2 million.

USDA: 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.

Requesting organizations 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 health care or educational facilities will be served.

Additionally, when submitting a request, all applicable 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 <https://go.usa.gov/xexPT>.

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.

USDA: 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. Requesting organizations 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.

USDA: 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.

Requesting organizations 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 a 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.

USDA: 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.

Potential recipients 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 not be considered.

USDA: 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.

Potential recipients 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. Potential recipients should also describe any preventive measures to be taken, such as engineering operations, methods of cultivation, or changes in use of land.

For FY25, the Subcommittee will only consider projects for funding recipients that are State, local, and Tribal organizations, or conservation districts. *Non-profit recipients will not be considered.*

The State Conservationist is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. House CPFs in the account averaged about \$1.3 million in FY24.

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

Department of Commerce: NIST, Scientific and Technical Research

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

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

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

Department of Commerce: NOAA, Coastal Zone Management

Coastal Zone Management projects support the protection, restoration, and responsible development of our nation's diverse coastal communities and resources. Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NOAA's mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

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

Department of Justice: Byrne Justice

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

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).

34 U.S.C. 10152(d) provides:

(d) Prohibited uses

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, no funds provided under this part may be used, directly or indirectly, to provide any of the following matters:

- (1) Any security enhancements or any equipment to any nongovernmental entity that is not engaged in criminal justice or public safety.
- (2) Unless the Attorney General certifies that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist that make the use of such funds to provide such matters essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order;
 - (A) vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats),

- or aircraft (excluding police helicopters);
- (B) luxury items;
- (C) real estate;
- (D) construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions); or (E) any similar matters.

In addition, the Chair will *not* support the use of Byrne Justice Community Project Funding for the following:

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

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

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

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

Department of Justice: COPS Technology and Equipment

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.

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.

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.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration: Safety, Security, and Mission Services

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

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

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

Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies

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
- Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works): Construction
- Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works): Mississippi River and Tributaries
- Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works): 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.

For a Bureau of Reclamation project, a project is *ineligible* if 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 the project is not an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, *please contact Katy Foley* (kathleen.foley@mail.house.gov)

Homeland Security

There are two Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant programs within the Subcommittee on Homeland Security's jurisdiction that are open to CPF requests: Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) grants and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) grants. Please review the purpose and eligibility requirements, [including any environmental and historic preservation requirements](#), for these two grant programs to ensure proper consideration of the request.

Over the past two fiscal years, FEMA found that many CPF requests lacked the necessary details to determine grant eligibility. While the database will limit project summaries to 1,000 characters, potential recipients are highly encouraged to separately upload detailed project descriptions for each PDM or EOC request. For each project description, please include a detailed budget describing how the requested federal funding will be used and confirm the ability of the requesting entity to meet the cost-share requirement.

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

FEMA: Federal Assistance—Pre-Disaster Mitigation

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

For PDM grant requests, the database includes specific eligibility questions to ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities grant program.

For any PDM 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 \$75,000 and \$10,000,000 for individual PDM grants.

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

EPA: STAG—State Revolving Fund

For FY 2025, 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:

- 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 must have Intended Use Plans (IUPs) with drinking water and wastewater projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials.
- Nonprofits as grantees. Non-profits *will* be considered on a limited basis at the discretion of the Chairman. If potential project funding is intended to be directed to a non-profit organization, the requesting organization 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 nonprofit 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 localities retain the ability to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements for such a project to be viable.

- One-year funding: Each project request must be for FY 2025 funds only and cannot include a request for multi-year funding.

- Project Amounts. Potential recipients 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 fiscal year 2025, 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.
- Eligibility Questions. Potential recipients must answer all the eligibility questions in the database for a request to be considered including the below supplemental questions:
 - 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)?
- Has the project received Federal funds previously? If so, please describe.
- 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.

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

Community Project Funding requests must follow the guidelines included in this section. Each project request must be for fiscal year (FY) 2025 funds only and cannot be for multi year 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 FY25.
- Submitted to the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) for inclusion in the FY25 National Defense Authorization Act or previously authorized.
- Have a DD Form 1391, which is DoD's justification for military construction projects.

DOD: 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.

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

DOD: 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.* Requesting offices must determine whether the proposed project requires such a match and if so, confirm that the project has current State matching funds. The Committee will not waive match requirements.

- Army National Guard

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

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.
- 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/>

Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

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

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

The Subcommittee will continue to treat the Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program as programmatic requests and will not fund CIG projects under Transit Infrastructure Projects. Any projects for which the sponsor is seeking or will seek a CIG grant will *not* be considered. For capital projects, eligible planning expenses are limited to pre-construction activities such as final design, engineering, location surveying, mapping, and acquiring right of way (ROWS).

For each Transit Infrastructure Project request, potential recipients will need to provide specific information through the electronic database.

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.

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

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

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

For each Highway Infrastructure Projects request, potential recipients will need to provide specific information through the electronic submission process.

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.

DOT: Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Projects

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 49 U.S.C. 47100 et seq., 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 potential recipient, 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.

DOT: Port Infrastructure Development Program Projects

Port Infrastructure Development Program projects are projects eligible under Section 54301 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by title XXXV of division C of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 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 for profit recipients.* Due to the limited amount of total CPF funding, priority will be given to projects at small inland river and coastal ports and terminals, as described in 46 U.S.C. 54301(b), and to discrete, smaller-scale projects at larger ports and intermodal connections to ports.

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

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

For each Port Infrastructure Development Program project request, Members will need to provide specific information through the electronic submission process. The database will include the questions below to assist the Subcommittee in vetting and selecting projects.

Demonstration of Community Support:

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

DOT: 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 here.

The Committee also strongly encourages potential recipients to review the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Capital Project Guidance to ensure the lifecycle stage of the project matches the requirements.

For each CRISI request, potential recipients will need to provide specific information through the electronic database.

HUD: Community Development Fund, Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

Please note: In a change from FY24, 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:

- States and the District of Columbia
- Territories
- Tribal governments
- Counties
- Cities, towns, parishes, or other local government entities

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.

Project requests for the FY25 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 government.” Similar to FY 2024, programmatic and operational expenses are not eligible.

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

- Streetscape improvements;
- 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 not eligible for CPF funding:

- Museums, commemoratives, and memorials;
- Swimming pools, water parks, ski slopes, and golf courses;
- Health care facilities;
- Venues strictly for entertainment purposes – e.g., theaters, amphitheaters, fairgrounds, and performing arts centers;
- Strictly research or planning activities; and
- 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:

- 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.
- Requesting offices 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 our staff.

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 only be incurred after the successful completion of the required environmental review.

For each EDI request, potential recipients will need to provide specific information through the electronic submission process. Please ensure Community Project Funding requests are not duplicative of requests to another Subcommittee.