



Congresswoman

VERONICA ESCOBAR

Texas' 16th Congressional District

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Fiscal Year 2026 Community Project Funding Resource Guide

DISCLAIMER:

Please note my office has not received official guidance for the FY26 community project process from the Appropriations Committee. However, we do expect the guidance to be very similar to last years process. Please keep that in mind as you are reading this resource guide. Additionally, Congress has not completed funding for the FY25 cycle, which means the 15 projects my office submitted last year are still pending. My office will update this guide as soon as we have updated guidance.

VERONICA ESCOBAR
16TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE



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NEW DEMOCRAT COALITION
CONGRESSIONAL PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Dear El Pasoan,

I am pleased to share this resource guide regarding how to request Community Project Funding (CPF) through the annual appropriations process for fiscal year 2026. This guide is an effort to streamline the process and is a tool to empower you with the best information available to develop your ideas and submissions. Currently Congress is operating under a Continuing Resolution, which means the 15 projects I submitted during the FY25 cycle have not been funded yet. Unfortunately we do not have an update at this time as to whether or not these projects will be included in the final FY25 funding package. My team and I will do everything possible to work on projects that will be beneficial to our community. I firmly believe in the creativity of our local leaders, stakeholders, and advocates who know exactly what our community needs and that is why I am excited to continue to use Community Project Funding requests to ensure we support your priorities.

In this guide, you will find an overview of the appropriations process, the Community Project Funding process, answers to many frequently asked questions, and a brief overview of alternate federal funding sources. My team and I are looking for your recommendations on projects that will fill a clear and present need in the community, be administered by a local/state government entity or eligible nonprofit, be located in El Paso County, and enjoy significant support from the community. This year my office will be submitting 15 projects to the Appropriations Committee for consideration of funding. To see which projects have been submitted by my office in the past and have been successfully funded, click [here](#).

As you prepare your requests, please keep in mind that my office will receive far more Community Project Funding requests than can be fulfilled. As a result, many deserving, appropriate, and eligible projects will not be provided federal assistance in fiscal year 2026. That is why it is extremely important that every project and requestor continue to pursue other grant and federal/state/local funding opportunities where available. My team and I are here to help you secure this important funding as well. To learn more about other federal grants, please click [here](#).

Thank you again for your interest in this year's Community Project Funding process. As a new member of the House Appropriations Committee, I look forward to using my position to further our communities priorities. My team is available to answer your questions as needed. I look forward to working with you to bring needed federal resources to El Paso.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Veronica Escobar".

Member of Congress

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Deadline and Staff Contact

If you have any questions regarding the Community Project Funding process, please email TX16.Approps@mail.house.gov and a staffer will reach out as soon as possible.

We currently do not have a deadline for appropriations/community project requests.

However, as soon as a deadline is given by the House Appropriations Committee we will set our internal deadline.

[CPF Interest Form can be found here](#)

Overview of the Appropriations Process

Each year, the United States Congress considers and enacts twelve annual appropriations bills, which provide the federal government with the funding it needs to operate. These bills fund numerous activities, including government operations, medical research, national defense, infrastructure, and education.

You and your organization should begin developing your request well in advance to ensure that your request is submitted properly and tailored to the needs of your project. As you develop your request, please feel free to contact my staff and use this resource guide to ensure your project request meets all requirements.

If you have problems or questions while completing these forms, please feel free to contact my staff through TX16.Approps@mail.house.gov. My staff is unable to forward request forms to other Congressional or Senate offices.

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

Your patience during this lengthy and arduous process is greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in submitting a request for our programmatic/language process, please use this [form](#).

Overview of the Community Project Funding Process

This document will provide an overview of the request process and basic information required for all requests. My team and I are looking forward to recommending important local projects for federal funding this year. However, it is important that you know how this process will work this year.

You should know that my team and I expect to receive hundreds of requests for funding. While it's my goal to fund as many projects as possible, Members of Congress can only submit **15** requests to fund Community Projects, and even if submitted by our office, we cannot guarantee that they will be accepted by the House Appropriations Committee and funded.

Community Project Funding requests are narrowly tailored and are not comparable to City Council "discretionary fund" or State Legislature "Member Items." Only a particular set of federal funding streams are eligible for Community Project Funding requests, and only government agencies or non-governmental not-for-profit organizations may receive Community Project Funding. Additionally, our office must disclose publicly some basic information about the requests our office submits to the Appropriations Committee, including the name and address of the recipient, the amount requested, the intended use of the funds, and the justification of the project. If you are not comfortable with the public disclosure of this information, please refrain from submitting a request.

It is important that any request you make satisfies **every** requirement laid out by the House Appropriations Committee. Below are some important requirements for all submissions:

Guidance for All Community Project Funding Requests

- Requests must be for the fiscal year 2026 funds only and cannot include multi-year funding.
- You must include accurate recipient information when filling out the online request. The recipient's name provided should be the legal name of the organization that will be receiving these funds. Please do not include abbreviations, acronyms, or use a "The" before the recipient's name.
- **You must include a project description, which must be limited to 1,000 characters.**
- You must include an explanation of the request, including an explanation of why this is a good use of taxpayer funds—this information will be included on our official House website.
- You must indicate whether the grantee is a for-profit entity. Note that in FY 2024, Congress will not fund any for-profit entities.
- Memorials, museums, and commemoratives (i.e., projects named for an individual or entity) are not eligible for Community Project Funding.
- Please indicate whether you are aware of another member of Congress making a request for this same project (just Yes/No, not which Member(s)).
- **You must include letters of support.** Examples of these include but are not limited to letters from local community organizations, local elected officials, press articles highlighting the need for the requested Community Project Funding, and other materials that would document community support and community need, such as a newspaper editorial or a state/local intended use plan. The Appropriations Committee will use this information when determining whether to grant a request. These can be provided as attachments when you submit your form.

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.

As more information becomes available, this guide will be updated.

Data and Lessons from the Past

Since the start of Community Projects Funding in Fiscal Year 2022, I have been able to secure funding for 38 community projects, bringing back to El Paso close to \$56 million directly to our cities and towns, our schools, our universities, nonprofits, and companies.

In FY24, 15 of my 15 requests were funded, totaling \$19,223,573. We have not completed FY25 to date. If you would like to see a list of previously funded and selected projects, please use this [link](#).

The majority of projects requested committee-wide were in the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee (namely, Economic Development Initiative grants), Interior Subcommittee (namely, STAG Grants), and Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee.

Under the current Majority, the following rules have been adopted for the community project process. As of today, we are operating as if these will not change for FY26:

- The total amount of money available to spend has been cut to .5% of discretionary spending (in past years it has been 1%). Project costs could end up limited to partial funding of requests.
- Projects must now be tied to existing federal authorization law (more detail can be found in the account descriptions).
- Museums, Memorials, and “Commemorative” Projects are no longer eligible for funding.
- Eligibility for Non-Profits has been limited in certain cases (more details can be found in the account descriptions).
- Accounts previously available in **Labor, Health and Human Services, Financial Services and General Government, and Defense Subcommittees** are no longer available for use, and thus unable to be requested.
- **Non-Profits are no longer eligible for the Economic Development Initiative program under the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Account. This was a decision made by the Majority.**

Community Project Funding Eligible Accounts

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

OVERVIEW

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$483,944,580

Average Project Cost: \$1,225,176

Median Project Cost: 1,000,000

Number of Requests: 395

For each Community Project Funding request, 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 applicable underlying statutory and regulatory requirements (e.g., cost share). Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to USDA to receive the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award. To ensure your projects meet eligibility requirements for the Rural Development and Natural Resources Conservation Service accounts, you must consult with Colorado's State Rural Development or State Conservation office which can be found here:

Rural Development: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/tx>

Natural Resources Conservation Services: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/texas>

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

1. The website address of the proposed recipient.
2. If there are additional costs necessary to complete the project, have those been secured?
3. 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, 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

Community Facilities Grants (Rural Housing Service)

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$312,037,468

Average Project Cost: \$1,173,074

Median Project Cost: \$1,000,000

Highest Request: \$6,757,000

Lowest Request: \$20,000

Number of Requests: 266

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.

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).

The Member's request must demonstrate community support. Members should ensure that their request provides the most complete description of the project as possible. Submissions should include details on all proposed use of funds, activities that will occur, timeline, and detailed information on the complete service territory.

Such requests are also subject to cost share requirements specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Please review program regulations carefully. 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..

ReConnect Program (Rural Utilities Service)

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$9,385,000

Average Project Cost: \$1,173,125

Median Project Cost: \$1,000,000

Highest Request: \$4,224,000

Lowest Request: \$150,000

Number of Requests: 8

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.

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

Additionally, when submitting a request, Members 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 <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.

Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$6,972,570

Average Project Cost: \$581,048

Median Project Cost: \$418,393

Highest Request: \$1,750,000

Lowest Request: \$120,000

Number of Requests: 12

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. Members 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 Water and Waste Disposal Grants

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$120,101,362

Average Project Cost: \$1,482,733

Median Project Cost: \$1,000,000

Highest Request: \$5,437,000

Lowest Request: \$72,000

Number of Requests: 81

The Water and Waste Disposal Grant Program may be used to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and disposal; sewer

collection, transmission, treatment and disposal; solid waste collection, disposal and closure; and storm water collection, transmission, and closure.

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

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$16,700,000

Average Project Cost: \$1,670,000

Median Project Cost: \$1,100,000

Highest Request: \$3,000,000

Lowest Request: \$500,000

Number of Requests: 10

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.

Members are strongly encouraged to provide details on the research to be conducted, why the research is a high priority, as well as details on the modernization and why it is critical in carrying out the research.

Requested funding for new facilities that do not have an existing ARS tie will not be considered.

<https://www.ars.usda.gov/about-ars/>

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$18,748,000

Average Project Cost: \$1,041,556

Median Project Cost: \$1,000,000

Highest Request: \$3,000,000

Lowest Request: \$500,000

Number of Requests: 18

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.

Members are strongly encouraged to provide details on the work to be done, including if the project will conduct surveys, investigations, or research, and if there is a plan to publish the results of any such work.

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

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$595,552,210

Average Project Cost: \$923,337

Median Project Cost: \$900,000

Number of Requests: 645

Department of Justice

State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance - Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$213,220,632

Average Project Cost: \$742,929

Median Project Cost: \$726,000

Highest Request: \$4,500,000

Lowest Request: \$10,000

Number of Requests: 287

All projects submitted 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.

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

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

Byrne JAG Grants assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement efforts to prevent crime, improve the criminal justice system, provide victims' services, and other related activities. Community projects funded under this category must comply with the requirements cited in JAG statutes and be consistent with U.S. Department of Justice guidance for the program. Below are the links to the Department's guidance and frequently asked questions regarding Byrne-JAG:

<https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview>

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

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.

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.

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.

Requestors submitting Byrne JAG project requests are required to submit answers to the following additional questions. Failure to complete all required questions will result in an incomplete project request. Incomplete project requests will not be considered for community project funds.

- Please describe, with as much specificity as possible, the overall objectives of the proposed project and how the requested funds would be spent to achieve those goals.
- If a non-profit, is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986?
- Please provide the location of this project, in the format ‘City (or County), State’.
- Is the requested project currently authorized in law? If yes, please provide a specific legal citation of such authorization.
- Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]
- Are the proposed project activities consistent with the activities of the Federal agency? [yes/no]
 - If yes, please describe how these activities are consistent with the activities of the Federal Agency. If not, why is the project being requested?
- Has the project been funded in the past? [yes/no]
 - If the project has been funded in the past, how much funding has been provided to date?
 - If the project has been funded in the past, were such funds provided for discrete, severable activities?
- Please specify any non-Federal sources of funding that have been or are fully anticipated to be applied toward the project, including any dollar amounts and timelines for funding.
- Is the proposed recipient currently in material non-compliance of a prior grant award made by the proposed Federal funding agency? [yes/no]
- 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.
- Is this proposed project a priority for the local community? [yes/no]

- If the project is not a priority for the local community, why is it being requested?
- Please describe the current developmental status of this project.
- What is the estimated impact of this project, e.g. number of jobs created/sustained, number of community members served, other projected impacts?
- Is the intended recipient a for-profit entity? [yes/no]
- Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? Have you submitted this request to any other Member of Congress or Senator? [yes/no]
- Regarding this request, please provide any additional information that would be useful for the Appropriations Committee to have.
- Is this request consistent with all current statutory and regulatory requirements of Byrne Justice Assistance Grant recipients and subrecipients? [yes/no]
- Is this project intended to serve primarily youth under age 18? [yes/no]
- Is this request to fund the acquisition of property or the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]
- Has the intended recipient received any COPS or Byrne-JAG funds at any time in the past ten years? [yes/no]
 - If yes, in what fiscal years and for what purposes?

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) - Technology and Equipment

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$170,560,578

Average Project Cost: \$827,764

Median Project Cost: \$750,000

Highest Request: \$4,500,000

Lowest Request: \$38,000

Number of Requests: 206

All projects submitted 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.

This funding will allow recipients the opportunity to establish and enhance any of a variety of technical equipment and/or programs to encourage the continuation and enhancement of community policing efforts within their jurisdictions. These projects should help improve police effectiveness and the flow of information among law enforcement agencies, local government service providers, and the communities they serve.

The Committee will not fund vehicles or building construction/renovation projects. Recipients of community project funding under this account may *not* subgrant to other organizations or agencies.

Requestors submitting COPS project requests are required to submit answers to the following additional questions. Below are some questions you may be asked to answer:

- Is the recipient a State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency?
- Please describe, with as much specificity as possible, the overall objectives of the proposed project and how the requested funds would be spent to achieve those goals.
- Please provide the location of this project, in the format ‘City (or County), State’.
- Is the requested project currently authorized in law? If yes, please provide a specific legal citation of such authorization.
- Are the proposed project activities consistent with the activities of the Federal agency? [yes/no]
 - If yes, please describe how these activities are consistent with the activities of the Federal Agency. If not, why is the project being requested?
- Has the project been funded in the past? [yes/no]
 - If the project has been funded in the past, how much funding has been provided to date?
 - If the project has been funded in the past, were such funds provided for discrete, severable activities?
- Please specify any non-Federal sources of funding that have been or are fully anticipated to be applied toward the project, including any dollar amounts and timelines for funding.
- Is the proposed recipient currently in material non-compliance of a prior grant award made by the proposed Federal funding agency? [yes/no]
- 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.
- Is this proposed project a priority for the local community? [yes/no]
 - If the project is not a priority for the local community, why is it being requested?
- Please describe the current developmental status of this project.
- What is the estimated impact of this project, e.g. number of jobs created/sustained, number of community members served, other projected impacts?
- Is the intended recipient a for-profit entity? [yes/no]
- Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? Have you submitted this project to another Member of Congress or Senator? [yes/no]
- Regarding this request, please provide any additional information that would be useful for the Appropriations Committee to have.
- Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]
- Has the intended recipient received any COPS or Byrne-JAG funds at any time in the past ten years? [yes/no]
 - If yes, in what fiscal years and for what purposes?

Department of Commerce

NIST Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS)

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$118,511,000

Average Project Cost: \$1,463,099

Median Project Cost: \$963,000

Highest Request: \$4,500,000

Lowest Request: \$250,000

Number of Requests: 81

All projects submitted 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.

Funding must be for activities consistent with and supportive of NIST's mission and within its authorities, such as STEM education activities, scientific research, or other activities that support American manufacturing and industry. Note: Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of NIST Scientific and Technical Research Community Project Funding.

Below are some questions you may be required to answer throughout the process.

- Please describe, with as much specificity as possible, the overall objectives of the proposed project and how the requested funds would be spent to achieve those goals.
- If a non-profit, is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986?
- 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.
- Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.
- Is the requested project currently authorized in law? If yes, please provide a specific legal citation of such authorization. Are the proposed project activities consistent with the activities of the Federal agency? [yes/no]
 - If yes, please describe how these activities are consistent with the activities of the Federal Agency. If not, why is the project being requested?
- Has the project been funded in the past? [yes/no]
 - If the project has been funded in the past, how much funding has been provided to date?
 - If the project has been funded in the past, were such funds provided for discrete, severable activities?
- Please specify any non-Federal sources of funding that have been or are fully anticipated to be applied toward the project, including any dollar amounts and timelines for funding.

- Is the proposed recipient currently in material non-compliance of a prior grant award made by the proposed Federal funding agency? [yes/no]
- Is this proposed project a priority for the local community? [yes/no]
 - If the project is not a priority for the local community, why is it being requested?
- Please describe the current developmental status of this project.
- What is the estimated impact of this project, e.g. number of jobs created/sustained, number of community members served, other projected impacts?

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

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$56,999,000

Average Project Cost: \$1,295,432

Median Project Cost: \$963,000

Highest Request: \$4,500,000

Lowest Request: \$50,000

Number of Requests: 44

All projects submitted 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.).

Community project funding for NOAA will only be considered within the Coastal Zone Management account. This account does not fund construction projects, and as such, any such requests will not be considered. Requests for funding will be considered for research, demonstration, or education projects performed by external partners or for prioritizing NOAA internal funds for geographically specific projects. Any such project must be aligned with NOAA’s mission and within their existing authorities. The subcommittee will not entertain requests for the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.

Coastal Zone Management funds are distributed to states on a formula basis and will not be considered for community project funding.

Historically, the Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account.

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

Below are some questions you may need to answer during this process:

- Please describe, with as much specificity as possible, the overall objectives of the proposed project and how the requested funds would be spent to achieve those goals.
- If a non-profit, is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 a?
- Please provide the location of this project, in the format ‘City (or County), State’.

- 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.
- Is the requested project currently authorized in law? If yes, please provide a specific legal citation of such authorization.
- Are the proposed project activities consistent with the activities of the Federal agency? [yes/no]
 - If yes, please describe how these activities are consistent with the activities of the Federal Agency. If not, why is the project being requested?
- Has the project been funded in the past? [yes/no]
 - If the project has been funded in the past, how much funding has been provided to date?
 - If the project has been funded in the past, were such funds provided for discrete, severable activities?
- Please specify any non-Federal sources of funding that have been or are fully anticipated to be applied toward the project, including any dollar amounts and timelines for funding.
- Is the proposed recipient currently in material non-compliance of a prior grant award made by the proposed Federal funding agency? [yes/no]
- Is this proposed project a priority for the local community? [yes/no]
 - If the project is not a priority for the local community, why is it being requested?
- Please describe the current developmental status of this project.
- What is the estimated impact of this project, e.g. number of jobs created/sustained, number of community members served, other projected impacts?
- Is the intended recipient a for-profit entity? [yes/no]
- Are you aware of another Member of Congress making a request for this same project? Have you submitted this request to another Member of Congress or Senator? [yes/no]
- Regarding this request, please provide any additional information that would be useful for the Appropriations Committee to have.
- Has the intended recipient received any competitive grant funding or other funding from NOAA at any time in the past ten years? [yes/no]
 - If yes, in what fiscal years and for what purposes?
- For any science research project request, please provide the name of the individual who is anticipated to be the Principal Investigator for the research project, as well as a link to such person's curriculum vitae, and a list of this person's peer-reviewed publications related to the topic of the requested research project.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$36,261,000

Average Project Cost: \$1,343,000

Median Project Cost: \$963,000
Highest Request: \$9,953,000
Lowest Request: \$225,000
Number of Requests: 27

All projects submitted 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.

Funding for building construction or renovation projects, as well as Medical Research Projects will *not* be considered for community project funding.

Some of the questions below may need answers throughout the process:

- Please describe, with as much specificity as possible, the overall objectives of the proposed project and how the requested funds would be spent to achieve those goals.
- If a non-profit, is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986?
- Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.
- Is the requested project currently authorized in law? If yes, please provide a specific legal citation of such authorization.
- Are the proposed project activities consistent with the activities of the Federal agency? [yes/no]
 - If yes, please describe how these activities are consistent with the activities of the Federal Agency. If not, why is the project being requested?
- Has the project been funded in the past? [yes/no]
 - If the project has been funded in the past, how much funding has been provided to date?
 - If the project has been funded in the past, were such funds provided for discrete, severable activities?
- Please specify any non-Federal sources of funding that have been or are fully anticipated to be applied toward the project, including any dollar amounts and timelines for funding.
- Is the proposed recipient currently in material non-compliance of a prior grant award made by the proposed Federal funding agency? [yes/no]
- 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.
- Is this proposed project a priority for the local community? [yes/no]
 - If the project is not a priority for the local community, why is it being requested?
- Please describe the current developmental status of this project.
- What is the estimated impact of this project, e.g. number of jobs created/sustained, number of community members served, other projected impacts?
- Is the purpose of this request the construction or renovation of a building? [yes/no]
- Is the intended recipient a for-profit entity? [yes/no]

- Are you aware of another Member making a request for this same project? Have you submitted this project to any other Member of Congress or Senator? [yes/no]
- Regarding this request, please provide any additional information that would be useful for the Appropriations Committee to have.
- Is the project intended to serve primarily youth under age 18? [yes/no]
- Has the intended recipient received any competitive grant funding or other funding from NASA at any time in the past ten years? [yes/no]
 - If yes, in what fiscal years and for what purposes?
- For any science research project request, please provide the name of the individual who is anticipated to be the Principal Investigator for the research project, as well as a link to such person's curriculum vitae, and a list of this person's peer-reviewed publications related to the topic of the requested research project.

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$1,761,593,000

Average Project Cost: \$19,793,180

Median Project Cost: \$2,000,000

Number of Requests: 89

In FY 23

Total Funding: \$784,070,652

Average Project Cost: \$5,407,384

Median Project Cost: \$1,500,000

Number of Requests: 145

The subcommittee will only be considering requests in the following accounts:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

- Water and Related Resources

Not all programs within these accounts will be open for requests. If the project is **not** an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, please let my team know prior to submitting your request.

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

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation

All requests for the Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) accounts listed above should reflect a funding amount that can be realistically utilized in FY24. This is referred to as the project's "capability" for FY24. All projects will be sent to the relevant agency for technical assistance, including regarding project capability. It is possible that approved Community Project Funding requests will be funded at a level lower than the requested level.

If the scope of the request varies from the President's budget request (i.e. the Member is seeking an amount above the budget request amount), then the request must be submitted as a CPF request.

If the project is not included in the President's budget request, the Member must submit it as a CPF request.

Please note that for the Corps, the Subcommittee may provide funding for a very limited number of new start projects, if any, in the Investigations, Construction, and Mississippi River and Tributaries accounts. While requests for new starts in these accounts will be accepted, please consider this limitation when making requests.

Please note that for the Corps, the Subcommittee may provide funding for a limited number of Environmental Infrastructure (EI) projects and Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) projects, if any, in the Construction account. While requests for specific projects will be accepted, please consider these limitations when making requests. Please note that for Reclamation, projects authorized under sections 4007, 4009(a), and 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements Act for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-322) will not be accepted.

Requestors are encouraged to keep in mind that only a very limited number of new start projects will be considered, if any, in the Investigations, Construction, and Mississippi River and Tributaries accounts. Similarly, requestors are encouraged to keep in mind that only a very limited number of Environmental Infrastructure projects, if any, will be considered in the Construction account. A very limited number of Continuing Authorities Program projects will be considered in the Construction account. Projects authorized under sections 4007, 4009(a), and 4009(c) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements Act for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-322) will not be accepted.

Supplemental Questions:

1. Please provide the official project name as assigned by the Corps or Reclamation. You can find the project name from the previously mentioned lists of authorized projects or

through working in consultation with your local Corps District or Reclamation Region office.

- a. If the project is an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, include the statutory citation.
2. Please provide the project authorization. You can contact your local Corps District or Reclamation Region office for this information.
 - a. If making a request for a Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) project, please provide the specific Continuing Authorities Program section applicable to your project request (i.e. “204”, “1135”, etc.).
 - b. If making a request for an Environmental Infrastructure (EI) project, please provide the EI program authorization, including the Public Law and specific section number (i.e. Section 595 of Public Law 106-53).
3. If making a Corps request, please provide the name of the Corps District where the project is located. If making a Reclamation request, please provide the name of the Reclamation Region where the project is located.

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)?

Investigation in FY 24

Total Funding: \$13,737,000
Average Project Cost: \$686,850
Median Project Cost: \$625,000
Highest Request: \$1,200,000
Lowest Request: \$100,000
Number of Requests: 20

Construction in FY 24

Total Funding: \$1,444,021,000
Average Project Cost: \$32,818,659
Median Project Cost: \$2,875,000
Highest Request: \$425,000,000
Lowest Request: \$100,000
Number of Requests: 44

Mississippi River and Tributaries in FY 24

Total Funding: \$28,000,000
Number of Requests: 1

Operation and Maintenance in FY 24

Total Funding: \$260,737,000
Average Project Cost: \$14,485,389
Median Project Cost: \$4,450,000

Highest Request: \$84,367,000
Lowest Request: \$250,000
Number of Requests: 18

Section 205 in FY 23
Total Funding: \$400,000
Average Project Cost: \$200,000
Number of Requests: 2

Homeland Security Subcommittee

In FY 24
Total Funding: \$181,223,612
Average Project Cost: \$1,473,363
Median Project Cost: \$1,383,069
Number of Requests: 123

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 Member's request.

Over the past two fiscal years, FEMA found that many CPF requests lacked the necessary details to determine grant eligibility. Requestors are highly encouraged to upload detailed descriptions of each project submitted. 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 (42 U.S.C. § 5133(a),(h)(2)).

Department of Homeland Security

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Projects

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$115,596,349

Average Project Cost: \$1,834,863

Median Project Cost: \$1,383,069

Number of Requests: 63

Highest Request: \$10,000,000

Lowest Request: \$75,000

All projects submitted must be for purposes authorized by section 203 of the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. 5133), as amended by Section 1234, National Public Infrastructure Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation, of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) of 2018.

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 \(NOFO\)](#). The subcommittee encourages offices to consult with their [State Hazard Mitigation Officers](#) when answering the questions in the database.

For any PDM projects designated for funding in the FY 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). CPF funding in the FY 2024 House bill ranged between \$75,000 and \$10,000,000 for individual PDM grants. 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.

Please pay careful attention to FEMA's eligibility requirements when answering the following questions:

1. Did you upload a letter from the appropriate State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, confirming project eligibility and their willingness to administer the grant?
2. Did you 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?
 - a. If less than the requested amount is provided as the federal share, would additional state, local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
 5. 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.
 6. 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?
 7. If so, what is the FEMA approval date and when will the plan expire?
 8. Has your office confirmed the funding request does not include unallowable activities for PDM grants (e.g., dredging waterways; the purchase of emergency vehicles and equipment)?
 9. Describe how the proposed activity expands mitigation capacity rather than repair and maintenance of existing capacity.
 10. How will the project provide long-term, permanent risk-reduction, as opposed to simply supporting Short-term, temporary emergency protective measures?
 11. Can the recipient describe how the activity supports the needs of people disproportionately at risk of harmful impacts of natural disasters?
 12. Does the recipient specifically encourage the adoption and enforcement of the latest disaster resistant building codes?
 13. Provide a clear and detailed description of the proposed mitigation activity.
 14. How will the mitigation activity be implemented?
 15. Who will manage and complete the mitigation activity?
 16. What risks will remain from natural hazards after project implementation (i.e., residual risk)?
 17. How does the activity reduce the risk to individuals and property for future natural hazards, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters?
 18. Has the project been submitted, selected, or awarded funding in current or previous PreDisaster Mitigation (PDM), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), 7 Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), or Hazard Mitigation Grant Program fiscal year grant cycles?
 - a. If so, what is the subgrant ID, or which grant program and fiscal year was the application submitted, selected, or awarded funding?
 19. Has your office or the community consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
 - a. If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

Emergency Operations Center Grant Program

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$65,627,263

Average Project Cost: \$1,093,788

Median Project Cost: \$637,195

Number of Requests: 60

Highest Request: \$3,000,000

Lowest Request: \$89,208

All projects submitted must be for purposes authorized by section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c), as amended by section 202 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (9/11 Act).

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, the database includes specific eligibility questions for EOC grants to ensure the proposed project meets FEMA's requirements as detailed in the most recent [NOFO](#).

For any EOC projects designated for funding in the FY 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, must 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). CPF funding in the FY 2024 House bill ranged between \$89,000 and \$3,000,000 for individual EOC grants.

Please pay careful attention to FEMA's eligibility requirements when answering the following questions:

1. Did you upload a letter from the appropriate State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, confirming project eligibility and their willingness to administer the grant?
2. Did you 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?
 - a. 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. Has your office reviewed the funding restrictions and allowable costs section of the NOFO for EOC grants?
7. Has your office confirmed the funding request does not include unallowable activities for EOC grants (e.g., personnel costs; replacement radios for police, fire, and other response personnel; generators for emergency shelters; any equipment that is portable and does not directly support the functional and operational capabilities of an EOC)?
8. 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?
9. 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?
10. Has your office or the community consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
 - a. If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

Interior and Environment Subcommittee

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$880,449,270

Average Project Cost: \$1,147,913

Median Project Cost: \$959,752

Number of Requests: 767

Department of the Interior

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.

Environmental Protection Agency

State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

**Clean Water State Revolving Fund
in FY 24**

Total Funding: \$470,139,493

Average Project Cost: \$1,146,682

Median Project Cost: \$959,752

Number of Requests: 410

Highest Request: \$5,000,543

Lowest Request: \$132,000

**Drinking Water State Revolving
Fund in FY 24**

Total Funding: \$410,309,777

Average Project Cost: \$1,149,327

Median Project Cost: \$959,752

Number of Requests: 357

Highest Request: \$5,000,000

Lowest Request: \$200,000

All projects submitted must be for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq. [Clean Water Projects] OR Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j-12. [Drinking Water Projects].

The vast majority of requests made to the Interior Subcommittee are for STAG infrastructure grants. These grants fund local wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. This includes construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Similar to past practice, the Committee will be limiting STAG infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly-owned or owned by a non-profit entity and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs. Members should use the range of House and Senate project amounts funded in FY22 as a general guide when making requests. In FY22, the majority of EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from \$60,000 - \$3,500,000, though there were a handful of exceptions. Note that the Committee may consider higher project amounts for FY23, and any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program. 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. The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that are listed on a state's most recent Intended Use Plan.

Non-profits will be considered on a limited basis at the discretion of the Chairman. If a Member requests that funding be directed to a non-profit organization, the Member will need to provide evidence that the recipient is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Many water projects often partner with non-profit entities to complete projects. Therefore, the Chairman will consider, on a limited basis, projects that are directed to non-profits with an inherently governmental function.

There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant. For example, a \$1 million project could receive a maximum of \$800,000 from the Federal government, with the remaining \$200,000 the responsibility of the grantee. In almost all cases, other federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. Ability to fund the 20% cost share is required before EPA can award a STAG grant. Please note that assistance provided by a SRF counts towards the project's matching requirement.

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

Projects that generally **ARE NOT** eligible for STAG Grants include:

Clean Water/Wastewater

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

Drinking Water

1. Dams or rehabilitation of dams.
2. Operations and Maintenance Costs.
3. Water Rights, except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA's DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019.
4. Reservoirs, except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located.
5. Laboratory Fees for Monitoring.
6. Projects needed mainly for fire protection.
7. Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.

8. Projects for systems in significant noncompliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.
9. Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.

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

Clean Water/Wastewater

1. Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities - new, upgraded (increase in treatment level) or expanded (increase in treatment capacity) facilities, including biological facilities, mechanical, a lagoon system, a land treatment system, or individual on-site systems.
2. Collector Sewers - Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.
3. Interceptor Sewers - Large sewers that convey wastewater from collector sewers directly to a wastewater treatment facility.
4. Sewer Pipes - Rehabilitation is eligible only if pipes are publicly owned.
5. Outfall Sewer - A sewer that conveys treated wastewater from a wastewater treatment facility to the receiving waters (i.e., a river, stream, lake, ocean, etc.).
6. Stormwater Management - Measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water (i.e. storm sewers, green infrastructure, etc.).
7. Combined sewer overflow (CSO) control and sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) control - Combined sewers are sewers that convey both wastewater and storm water and may overflow during periods of heavy rain. The costs to correct CSO and SSO overflow problems are eligible.
8. Infiltration/Inflow Correction - Construction activities that prevent surface water or groundwater from entering the sewer system.
9. Water Security - These projects include installation or upgrade of physical security infrastructure such as lighting, fencing, monitoring and access control. Also, cybersecurity measures, installation of safer treatment technologies, and more secure storage of on-site treatment.
10. Septic Tanks - Remediation, rehabilitation, removal and replacement of failing tanks are eligible, as well as installation of new tanks where none had previously existed.
11. Land - The leasing and fee-simple purchase of land, including surface and subsurface easements, needed to locate eligible municipal or tribal projects, and land integral to the treatment process (e.g., land for effluent application or recharge basins), and a place to store equipment and material during POTW construction. Municipal purchase of land and/or conservation easements for source water protection are also eligible.
12. Water Reuse - Projects involving the municipal reuse or recycling of wastewater, stormwater, or subsurface drainage water. This includes but is not limited to the purchase and installation of treatment equipment sufficient to meet reuse standards, distribution systems to support effluent reuse, recharge transmission lines, injection wells, and equipment to reuse effluent (e.g., gray water, condensate, and wastewater effluent reuse systems).
13. Capital Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Projects – e.g., river or streambank restoration, agricultural best management practices (i.e., buffer strips, manure containment structures), wetlands restoration, etc.

Drinking Water

1. Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e. PFAS).
2. Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.
3. Install or upgrade treatment facilities.
4. Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.
5. Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe, or improve water pressure to safe levels.
6. Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example, when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons – are eligible for DWSRF assistance.
7. Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection.
8. Project planning, design and other related costs.

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](#)

Supplemental Questions:

1. Is this a Clean Water SRF project or a Drinking Water SRF project?
2. Is the project on your State's most recently finalized Clean Water/Drinking Water SRF Intended Use Plan (IUP)?
3. Does the project have (or expects to have within 12 months) its 20 percent matching fund requirement?
4. Has the project received Federal funds previously? If so, please describe.
5. Does the project help meet or maintain Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act standards? If so, please describe.

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$294,558,000

Average Project Cost: \$12,273,250

Median Project Cost: \$7,100,000

Number of Requests: 24

All Projects must be for purposes authorized by 10 U.S.C. Chapter 169 and the FY22 National Defense Authorization Act.

*NOTE: Most of these requests **MUST** be included in the President's FY23 Budget to be requested as a CPF

The following types of projects are eligible to be considered for community project funding, provided that they comply with the specified guidelines listed below. The subcommittee will not consider requests for community

projects unless they appear on a list provided to Congress by the Secretary of Defense or his/her designee. More detail regarding such lists can be found below.

Department of Defense - Military Construction Accounts

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

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. The types of projects under this heading include construction, installation, equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, and facilities for the accounts listed below:

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force
- Space Force
- Defense-Wide Agencies (SOCOM, 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. 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. The types of projects under this heading include construction, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for training and administration for the accounts listed below:

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

- Navy Reserve

Future Year Defense Program (FYDP)

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

Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFRs/UPLs)

UFRs/UPLs are lists that each Service provides to Congress that identify priority projects that were not included in the President's budget request. These lists must be approved by the Secretary of Defense. UFRs/UPLs become available to Congress within ten days of the President's full budget release and can be found by contacting the Congressional Liaison Offices of the Armed Services.

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.

- Which Service is the project for?
- State/territory where project is located.
- Installation Name.
- Project Name and Amount.
- Is the funding request for major construction, minor construction, or planning and design?
- Is the project on the FY 2024-2028 FYDP? If so, for what fiscal year?
- Is the project on a FY24 Service or Combatant Command unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFRs/UPLs)?
- Does the project have a DD Form 1391?
- If a Reserve Component project, does it require a State funding match?
- Is the project at 35 percent design and shovel-ready in FY 2024?
- Can the project funds be obligated within 12 months of enactment of the bill?
- If a construction funding request, has the Environmental Impact Study been initiated?
- Can the project funds be obligated in FY24?
- Has a corresponding request been submitted to HASC for inclusion in the FY24 NDAA? If a project was previously authorized in a NDAA, please provide the fiscal year.
- Who is the point of contact in the requesting office?

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$3,959,036,647

Average Project Cost: \$1,487,800

Median Project Cost: \$1,000,000

Number of Requests: 2661

In FY 23

Total Funding: \$3,687,750,629

Average Project Cost: \$2,018,473

Median Project Cost: \$1,800,000

Number of Requests: 1827

Department of Transportation

Transit Infrastructure Projects

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$130,828,124

Average Project Cost: \$1,030,143

Median Project Cost: \$850,000

Highest Request: \$4,880,000

Lowest Request: \$300,000

Number of Requests: 127

In FY 23

Total Funding: \$267,428,324

Average Project Cost: \$2,756,993

Median Project Cost: \$2,500,000

Highest Request: \$8,000,000

Lowest Request: \$428,000

Number of Requests: 97

All Projects must be for purposes authorized by chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code.

Transit Infrastructure Projects are public transportation capital projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code. Eligible capital projects are described under Section 5302(4) of title 49, United States Code, and Section 5339(b)(1) and (c)(1)(B) of title 49, United States Code.

All projects must be:

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

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

The Subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses, and activities authorized under sections

5303, 5304, and 5305 of title 49, United States Code. Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. The Committee strongly encourages Members' offices to reach out to the project sponsor (i.e., transit agency) to determine the eligibility and viability of their projects.

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

For each Transit Infrastructure Projects request, Members will need to provide specific information through the electronic database. The database will include the following questions to assist the Subcommittee in vetting and selecting projects. Several of them will require additional information from your office. Please ensure community project funding requests are not duplicative of requests to another Committee or Subcommittee.

Supplemental Questions:

1. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
2. What is the total cost of the project and what is the amount requested through community project funding?
3. What is the anticipated start/completion date?
4. What is the total project cost, and what is the amount requested for this project?
5. Has this project been requested by another Member of Congress or Senator? Has this request been submitted to another Committee this Fiscal Year? (If yes, which one(s))?
6. Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds? NOTE: The cost-share requirements are defined in statute. In general, transit capital projects typically require 20 percent local share.
7. Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) category of action (if applicable)?
8. If the project receives less than requested for the transit infrastructure projects, will the project proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?
9. Does the project intend to apply for any DOT discretionary programs before proceeding? If yes, will the project sponsor still proceed if not selected?
10. Where is the project in the construction process? NOTE: Options include: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Capital purchase or lease (including bus purchases), Construction, and Other (please specify).
11. Is the project on a state, tribal or territorial transportation improvement plan (STIP) or a transportation improvement plan (TIP) as of 12/31/2022? If yes, provide a link to the plan.
12. Please provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan (ex. North Carolina STIP, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council TIP) the ID Number comes from.
13. Please provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include both formula funds and any discretionary grants.

Highway Infrastructure Projects

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$1,202,427,349

Average Project Cost: \$2,255,961
Median Project Cost: \$1,000,000
Highest Request: \$45,000,000
Lowest Request: \$145,335
Number of Requests: 533

In FY 23

Total Funding: \$1,273,060,641
Average Project Cost: \$2,785,691
Median Project Cost: \$2,500,000
Highest Request: \$7,000,000
Lowest Request: \$160,000
Number of Requests: 457

All Projects must be for purposes authorized by 23 USC 133, or 23 USC 201 or, 23 USC 202, or 23 USC 165

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

All projects must be:

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

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

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

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

Supplemental Questions:

1. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
2. What is the total cost of the project and what is the amount requested through community project funding?
3. What is the anticipated start/completion date?
4. Can the project obligate appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? If not, what would be the expected date of obligation?

5. Has this project been requested by another Member of Congress or Senator? Has this request been submitted to another Committee this Fiscal Year? (If yes, which one(s))?
6. Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?
7. Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) category of action (if applicable)?
8. Type of project eligible under 23 USC 133(b) (Surface Transportation Block Grant Program); 23 USC 201 (Federal Lands and Tribal Transportation Programs); 23 USC 202 (Tribal Transportation Program); or 23 USC 165 (Territorial and Puerto Rico Highway Program).
9. Has the request been submitted to a federal agency for non-earmarked funds, or to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
10. Where is the project in the construction process? Options include: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Capital purchase or lease, Construction, and Other (please specify).
11. Was the project on a State, Tribal or territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or a transportation improvement plan (TIP) as of 12/31/2023? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.
12. Please provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan (ex. North Carolina STIP, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council TIP) the ID Number comes from.
13. Please provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include both formula funds and any discretionary grants.
14. If the request does not fully fund the project, describe where the remaining funding comes from to complete the project.

Airport Improvement Program (AIP)

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$303,921,257

Average Project Cost: \$3,414,846

Median Project Cost: \$2,500,000

Highest Request: \$36,457,732

Lowest Request: \$300,000

Number of Requests: 89

In FY 23

Total Funding: \$172,604,000

Average Project Cost: \$3,256,679

Median Project Cost: \$3,000,000

Highest Request: \$7,000,000

Lowest Request: \$600,000

Number of Requests: 53

All Projects must be for purposes authorized by 49 U.S.C. 47100 et seq.

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

All projects must be:

- AIP eligible in accordance with 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.

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.

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

Supplemental Questions:

1. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
2. What is the total project cost, and what is the requested amount for Community Project Funding?
3. Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? If not, what would be the expected date of obligation?
 - a. Obligation occurs when a project sponsor signs a grant agreement with a federal agency.
4. Estimated start and completion dates.
5. Has the project been requested by any other Member of Congress or Senator?
6. 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? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?
7. Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) category of action (if applicable)?
8. How will the project contribute to the airport’s [disadvantaged business enterprise](#) goals?
9. Has the project received previous Federal funding? If so, how much and which public law (e.g., appropriations act or authorization act) provided it?
10. Is the project [AIP-eligible](#)?
11. Has the airport submitted a grant application for this same project to FAA? If so, when?
12. Would the project increase or decrease air traffic?
13. Would the project increase or decrease aviation safety?
14. Would the project increase or decrease environmental risks?
15. Does the airport and airport sponsor support the project?
16. Are there any stakeholders - such as residents that live near the airport, state or local officials, state department of transportation officials - that oppose the project?

Port Infrastructure Development Program

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$69,727,566

Average Project Cost: \$3,169,435

Median Project Cost: \$2,501,766

Highest Request: \$10,000,000

Lowest Request: \$800,000

Number of Requests: 22

All projects must be for purposes authorized by 46 USC 54301.

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

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

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

Additionally, these projects may be subject to various Federal requirements such as Buy America and the National Environmental Policy Act. 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.

Supplemental Questions:

1. What is the project name?
2. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
3. Total Project Cost and Amount requested through Community Project Funding.
4. Who is the recipient? Provide a website address if available.
5. Is the project at a small port, as described under 46 USC 54301(b)?
6. 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?
7. Estimated start and completion dates.
8. Has the request been submitted to a federal agency for non-earmarked funds, or to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
9. Please provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any.
10. 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?
11. If the request does not fully fund the project, describe where the remaining funding comes from to complete the project.

Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$28,864,439

Average Project Cost: \$1,603,580

Median Project Cost: \$990,000

Highest Request: \$5,000,000

Lowest Request: \$334,439

Number of Requests: 18

All projects must be for purposes authorized by section 22907 of title 49 of the United States Code.

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

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

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

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

Supplemental Questions:

1. Project Name
2. Project Recipient
3. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
4. Total Project Cost and Amount requested for Community Project Funding.
5. Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction? if so, what is the source and amount of those funds?
6. If the project receives less than requested, will the project still proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?
7. Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.
8. Where is the project in the construction process?
 - a. Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Contract Awarded, Capital Purchase or Lease, Construction, and Other (please specify)
9. Estimated start and completion dates.
10. Is the project on a state rail plan as of 12/31/2022? If yes, provide a link to the plan and specify page number.
11. Is the project included in a grade crossing action plan? If yes, provide a link to the plan and specify page number.

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Community Development Fund (CDBG) (Economic Development Initiative (EDI))

In FY 24

Total Funding: \$2,223,267,912

Average Project Cost: \$1,187,643

Median Project Cost: \$850,000

Highest Request: \$20,000,000

Lowest Request: \$45,000

Number of Requests: 1872

In FY 23

Total Funding: \$1,974,657,664

Average Project Cost: \$1,618,572

Median Project Cost: \$1,118,500

Highest Request: \$7,160,828

Lowest Request: \$10,000

Number of Requests: 1220

NOTE: Non-profits are no longer eligible for the Economic Development Initiative Account. This was a decision made by the Majority.

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

Project requests for the FY24 Economic Development Initiative program must be eligible under one or more of the following criteria of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), 5305(a)(5); which are as follows—but limited to—land or site acquisition, demolition or rehabilitation; blight removal; and construction and capital improvements of public facilities, except for “buildings used for the general conduct of government.” (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.”)

Programmatic and operational expenses are not eligible

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EDI projects are not eligible for the reimbursement of expenses for soft costs (planning, administrative) incurred prior to the completion of a grant agreement between HUD and the grantee; a grant agreement and a completed environmental review are necessary for reimbursement of hard costs (construction activities).

Supplemental Questions:

1. Project Name.
2. General Project Description.
3. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority? Benefits could include safety, environmental, economic, equity, mobility, etc.
4. What is the total project cost, and what is the requested amount for Community Project Funding?
5. Is this project consistent with the primary objective of the community development program? Please describe who the project is intended to benefit.
6. Who are the community partners participating in this project? Have local community development organizations with prior experience with HUD programs been consulted?
7. Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? If not, what would be the expected date of obligation?
 - a. Obligation occurs when a project sponsor signs a grant agreement with a federal agency.
8. What is the estimated start/completion date?
9. Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds? NOTE: EDI community project funding does not have a match requirement.
10. Has this project been requested by any other Member of Congress/Senator?
11. Has the request been submitted to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
12. Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) category of action (if applicable)?
13. Is the project purpose primarily for services, new construction, rehabilitation, land or site acquisition, planning, or economic development?
14. Does the project primarily benefit persons of low-income or Tribal communities? If yes, please describe who the project is intended to benefit.
15. Who are the community partners participating in this project?
16. If the project purpose is for new construction or land or site acquisition, does it comply with local zoning requirements?
17. Is the project included or supported by an identified priority area within a state or local HUD Consolidated Plan? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.

18. Is the project intended to address climate change, resiliency, mobility, or equitable access to housing or services?

Frequently Asked Questions

The process of requesting and submitting requests for Community Project Funding can be confusing. Here are some of the most frequently asked questions about the process. Please check this section for answers to many of your questions before following up with my staff.

What is Community Project Funding?

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

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

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

Community Project Funding is known as Congressionally Directed Spending in the U.S. Senate.

Is there a deadline for submitting a request?

Yes, there will be a deadline once the Appropriations Committee announces further guidance. Please stay aware of emails from our office with any updates.

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

Congressional offices review numerous requests in a short amount of time. As a result, deadlines are strictly enforced. Once our office submits my requests to the full committee, I am unable to change or add requests. That is why it's important to submit your request before the deadline.

Are Community Project Funding requests publicly disclosed?

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

What if my project's location is just outside Rep. Veronica Escobar's district?

As long as your project is within El Paso County my office will consider them.

How many Community Project Funding requests will the Congresswoman make?

I am limited to submitting **15** requests for Community Project Funding across the entire House Appropriations Committee for FY 2026.

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”?

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

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

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

Yes. It is strongly recommended that you submit your request to all of your federal representatives if they are participating in the Community Project Funding process.

How much should I request?

It depends on the account from which you are requesting funds. You should request the amount you need and can realistically use in the time frame laid out for use in the grant (generally one year from when funds are received.) Receiving funds from Community Project Funding in one Fiscal Year is not a guarantee for Community Project Funding in future Fiscal Years. You should only use last year’s funding data as general information, and should not be dissuaded from requesting an amount larger than average for the account you’re requesting for. You should not, though, request more funds than you need or that can be realistically spent in the Fiscal Year for which you receive the funds. Many accounts have information from the committee on the maximum level of funding that will be considered.

How should I determine how much funding to request?

The level of funding request should be justified by the project proposal, budget plan, and community support. Data on the range of projects can be found in this guide, though you should request what you can realistically use and spend in the Fiscal Year of award. In FY 24, the committee awarded well outlined and high quality projects with the requested amount generally.

A helpful indication may be to look at what a typical grantee may receive for a one-year allocation of funding for the specific program you are interested in requesting a Community Project Funding request for.

Is there a minimum amount one should request for Community Project Funding?

No, there is no minimum amount of funding to request.

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. Please call my office if you need additional information.

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. In FY22, most projects were funded at the requested level, though we expect that could change. Please keep this in mind when requesting support for your project.

Do I need letters of support?

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

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

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

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

The Committee requires all members to publicly disclose and post their final requests to the Appropriations Committee once the requests are made. Please remember, even if your project is supported in the House and/or Senate Appropriations bills, the funding level is subject to change until the final bill is signed into law.

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

If my Community Project Funding request is granted, what is the process for getting the assistance and how quickly will I receive it?

In general, 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, surprises many recipients who expect the money to be provided immediately.

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

Can I depend on receiving Community Project Funding for the same project more than once?

Generally, no. Most successful requests are one-time infusions of funding, generally used to launch a project or partially contribute towards the total cost of a project.

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

Are all non-profits eligible?

501(c)(3)’s are eligible for Community Project Funding. Some 501(c)(6)’s may be eligible on a case by case basis. These include Chambers of Commerce, Farm Bureau’s, or Veterans Service Organizations.

What is the anticipated timing for disbursement of Community Project Funding relative to passage of the legislation?

When Community Project Funding is secured in the final spending bill, this will create a grant program for which the requester is the only eligible applicant. The requester will need to apply for the grant that is their Community Project Funding before funds will be disbursed. In terms of timeline, this will vary by federal department/agency as this will be a new process to implement. For context, regular grants usually take between 6-10 months.

Does Fiscal Year 2026 refer to the federal fiscal year or the state fiscal year?

This refers to the Federal Fiscal Year; Fiscal Year 2026 begins on October 1, 2025. Many states have a fiscal year that begins in July. It is not an issue if the state FY 2026 overlaps with federal FY 2025

If the FY26 spending bill isn't finalized until much later (i.e. December 2026), will Community Project Funding requests still need to be fully obligated and spent by September 30, 2027, or will they have 12 months after enactment to obligate funds?

The question on our Community Project Funding form regarding 12 months is primarily for planning purposes and to assess whether the recipient is ready to access the funds. If approved, Community Project Funding will be available for the same "period of availability" as other federal funds in the same account. That could be for one-year, two-years, or five-years depending on the project type.

Will Community Project Funding be taken from the overall funding pot for specific agencies?

For FY 2025, no more than 0.5% of discretionary spending will be allocated to fund all Community Project Funding. We anticipate something similar for FY26.

What limitations are there on non-federal matching funds? Can this come from private donations or is it limited to state and local funding sources? Would in-kind matches be determined at the programmatic level or is there a general rule?

Some programs allow for in-kind matches. The criteria differ based on what the laws for each agency and program allows.

If a non-profit did a membership campaign or donation drive and is able to show the number of donors, as well as that donors were predominantly local residents, would that be considered acceptable community support?

The House Appropriations Committee has recommended publicly available documents such as letters from community leaders, press articles, resolutions passed by local governments, and public planning documents.

Are capital projects eligible for Community Project Funding?

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

Is there a preference for programmatic funding or Community Project Funding?

There is no preference, but the distinction between the two should help guide whether your request is programmatic in nature or a Community Project Funding request. Community Project Funding is for a specific governmental entity or non-profit to carry out a specific program or project in the spending bill at a specified level.

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 budgeting cliff. There's no guarantee that if one receives Community Project Funding in one fiscal year that there will be subsequent funding in later fiscal years for the same project.

When will we hear back about our request?

This will be a long and competitive process. First, my office will publicly post the requested Community Project Funding requests I will submit to the House Appropriations Committee. Then, the House Appropriations Committee will review and finalize a list of Community Project Funding requests from across the country to be included in the FY 26 House spending bill, which is expected to pass the House in the late summer. Any differences between the House and Senate Appropriations bills will need to be resolved in the early fall before passing and enacting a final spending bill for FY 26.

Other Federal Funding Resources

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

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

Key Resources

Grants.gov

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

SAM.gov

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

GovLoans.gov

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

Benefits.gov

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

USA.gov

The official guide to US Government Information and Services.

Rep. Escobar's Website and Staff

For more grant resources, visit my [website](#) or email Kayley Castillo, at Kayley.castillo@mail.house.gov

Feedback

I hope this guide is helpful to you in compiling your Community Project Funding requests. My team has spent many hours putting our process and this guide together. Your feedback is essential to ensuring that this guide and process remain user-friendly. Please share any feedback you have with my staff. Please share any feedback you have directly with my staff at TX16.approps@mail.house.gov.

Thank you.