



Office of Representative George
Whitesides (CA-27)

**Community Project Funding
Resource Guide
Fiscal Year 2026**

Updated: March 2025

Dear Friend:

I am pleased to share this following resource guide regarding how to request Community Project Funding through the annual appropriations process. This guide is an effort to streamline the process and provide you with the best information available in a clear and concise format. My team and I are committed to creating a fair and equitable process that will be beneficial to California's 27th Congressional District.

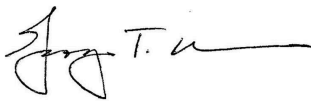
In this guide, you will find an overview of the appropriations process, the Community Project Funding process, answers to many frequently asked questions, contact information, and a brief overview of alternate federal funding sources, including language and programmatic sources.

My team and I are looking for your recommendations on Community Project Funding requests that will benefit those who live and work in California's 27th Congressional District. These projects should fill a clear and present need in the community, be administered by local government or eligible nonprofit leadership, and enjoy significant support from the community.

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 through this process. That is why it is extremely important that every project and requestor pursue other grant and federal/state/local funding opportunities where available. My team and I are here to help you secure this important funding.

Thank you again for your interest in this year's Community Project Funding process. My team is available to answer your questions as needed. I look forward to working with you to bring needed federal resources to California's 27th Congressional District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George T. Whitesides", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

George Whitesides
Member of Congress

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Contact Information

Please submit all **FY 2026 Programmatic or Language Appropriations requests** through my office's programmatic and language appropriations request form at <https://whitesides.house.gov/services/fy26-appropriations-requests>.

- ***The deadline to submit a programmatic or language request for FY 2026 is FRIDAY, April 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM ET.***

Please submit all **FY 2026 Community Project Funding requests** by completing my office's Community Projects Funding request form, which you can find at <https://whitesides.house.gov/services/fy26-appropriations-requests>.

- ***The deadline to submit a Community Project Funding request is FRIDAY, April 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM ET.***

For specific questions, please reach out to my staff by emailing shaefer.bagwell@mail.house.gov with Community Project Funding in the subject line of the email.

Overview of the Appropriations Process

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

It is critical that the federal government invests in the policies and programs that help move our communities, state, and country forward.

You or your organization may submit a community project, programmatic and/or language requests. Community Project Funding requests may include funding for projects such as a community center, senior center, recreation center or park, water infrastructure, transportation infrastructure, police services or equipment, and other local government projects. Programmatic requests include funding for specific federal programs that are important to you or your organization. Language requests include specific policy directives to federal agencies.

You and your organization should begin developing your request 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. We recognize that this is a short timeframe, but please understand that it is driven by the submission deadlines set by the House Appropriations Committee.

In order to submit a request, please complete the relevant request form on my website at <https://whitesides.house.gov/services/fy26-appropriations-requests>. We cannot guarantee that requests submitted after the deadline noted on my form will be considered. If you have problems or questions while completing these forms, please feel free to contact my staff. My staff is unable to forward request forms to other Congressional or Senate offices.

My team will review each request. The entire appropriations process can take several months. In order to take effect, appropriations bills approved by the House Appropriations Committees must be agreed to by both houses of Congress and signed into law by the President, typically before the end of the fiscal year on September 30th; however, the process often extends beyond this date. Each project request must be for fiscal year 2026 funds only and cannot include a request for multi-year funding. However, the performance period for a project funded with amounts provided in fiscal year 2026 will depend on the appropriations account from which it is funded, and may be longer than one year.

Please note that many of the Federal programs eligible for Community Project Funding requests require a State or local match for projects, either by statute or according to longstanding policy. The Committee will not waive these matching requirements for Community Project Funding requests, so it is important that project sponsors are aware of and able to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. Note that this does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that project sponsors must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable.

Finally, please note that any project requests selected and submitted by Rep. Sherrill must and will be publicly disclosed, both on our website and on the website of the House Committee on Appropriations. By submitting a request through this portal, you are authorizing our office to post and share the relevant project details.

Overview of the Community Project Funding Process

The House Appropriations Committee will be accepting Community Project Funding requests for Fiscal Year 2026. These requests will be funded through the numerous government funding bills.

I am looking forward to recommending important local projects for federal funding this year. There are a few specific points about this process that I want to highlight.

First, we expect to receive numerous requests for funding. Only 15 of those requests may be submitted by each Member of Congress to the Appropriations Committee; of those submitted, there is no guarantee that any will be included in the final bill to receive funding. These requests are all subject to review by the House Appropriations Committee and the budget process outlined in the prior section. Please consider whether your project is scalable and whether you would be able to move forward with it at a lower dollar amount than requested.

Second, it is important that any request you make satisfies **every** requirement laid out by the House Appropriations Committee. Most importantly, each request must include demonstrated community support. You will be required to submit evidence of community support, including (but not limited to):

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

Community Project Funding requests must include the Appropriations bill, the Agency and the Account information from which the project could be funded. Accounts can be found in the applicable Agency, within the applicable Appropriations bill on the following pages.

Please consider your organization's capacity to administer a federal grant. If you will need outside consultants or professionals to meet requirements such as an Environmental Review, you may need to consider these costs as part of your project budget.

Additional requirements are listed below:

- A financial disclosure statement from myself certifying that neither my immediate family nor I have any financial interest in the proposed project.
- No funds can be used by for-profit recipients.
- Several Federal programs eligible for Community Project Funding requests require a State or local match for projects either by statute or according to longstanding policy. The Committee will not waive these matching requirements for Community Project Funding requests, so it is important that State and local officials have the ability to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. Note: This does not mean that

matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable

- Each project would be funded only for federal FY 2026, which begins on October 1st, 2025. However, due to the unpredictable nature of this process, it is possible that the final bill will become law after many FY 2026 budgets for local governments have been enacted. The FY 2024 budget, for example, was not enacted until March 9, 2024.

Additional information for each specific account is detailed below.

Appropriations Bill: Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration

All Community Project Funding requests must meet all applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made, including all underlying statutory and regulatory requirements (e.g., cost share). Any recipients of CPFs that are funded in the bill will need to apply to USDA for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award, but will not be competitively scored against other applications.

Department of Agriculture

Account: Community Facilities Grants

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

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), and the request must demonstrate community support.

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

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

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

The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility and non-federal cost share requirements. **For fiscal year 2024, the average Community Facilities CPF award was about \$1.4 million.**

Account: ReConnect Program

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grants funds can be used for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access, 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.

Sponsors 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, sponsors 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.**

Account: Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program (DLT) helps rural residents better utilize the enormous potential of modern telecommunications and the internet for education and healthcare, two critical components of economic and community development. The DLT program helps rural communities acquire the technology and training necessary to connect educational and medical professionals with students, teachers, and patients in rural areas.

Grants may be used for audio and video equipment, broadband facilities that support distance learning or telemedicine (not actual broadband), computer hardware or network components/software, and acquisition of instructional programming.

Any requests are subject to all the regulations governing the program which can be found at 7 CFR Part 1734. **The program requires a 15% match** that cannot come from another federal source.

Sponsors 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.**

Account: Water and Waste Disposal Grants

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

Sponsors are strongly encouraged to provide details on the number of households and businesses served and details of the exact work to be completed.

Eligible entities include rural areas and towns with population of 10,000 or less and Tribal lands in rural areas. The account has not been subject to CPFs in the previous years. Potential recipients will be required to provide a 25% non-federal cost share.

The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility. **For fiscal year 2024, the average Water and Waste CPF award was nearly \$1.5 million.**

Account: Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) owns and operates laboratories and facilities across the United States. Many of these laboratories/facilities are decades old, have outlived their functional lifespan, and are badly in need of major repairs, renovation, or replacement. Requests can assist in the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture. Requests must be for ARS-owned or operated facilities.

Sponsors 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.

Account: Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) supports private landowners, conservation districts, and other organizations to conserve, maintain, and improve the Nation's natural resources. Examples of specific objectives include reducing soil erosion, improving soil health, enhancing water supplies, improving water quality, increasing wildlife habitat, and reducing damage caused by floods and other natural disasters.

Sponsors 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. Sponsors 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 public conservation districts. Non-profit recipients will not be considered.

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

Appropriations Bill: Commerce, Justice, and Science

Department of Commerce

Account: NIST Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS)

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

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

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

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

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

Funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NOAA's mission and aligned with one or more of the purposes described in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

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

Department of Justice

Account: Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

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

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

Prohibited Uses:

34 US.C. 10152(d) provides:

(d) Prohibited uses

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

(1) Any security enhancements or any equipment to any nongovernmental entity that is not engaged in criminal justice or public safety.

(2) Unless the Attorney General certifies that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist that make the use of such funds to provide such matters essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order-

(A) vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats), or aircraft (excluding police helicopters);

(B) luxury items;

(C) real estate;

(D) construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions); or

(E) any similar matters.

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

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

Prioritization of Projects

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

Non-Profit Entities

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

Requirements

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

Account: Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment

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

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

Note:

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

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Account: NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services

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

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

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

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

Appropriations Bill: Energy and Water Development

If you believe that your project may be funded through this account, please contact our office by email at RepSherrillAppropriations@mail.house.gov so that we may confirm your eligibility and communicate with appropriate Subcommittee staff.

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

- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works)**
 - **Investigations**
 - **Construction**
 - **Mississippi River and Tributaries**
 - **Operation and Maintenance**
- **Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation**
 - **Water and Related Resources**

Please note that not all programs within these accounts will be open for Community Project Funding requests. If the project is not an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, the submitting office must contact the Subcommittee for further information prior to submitting a request.

To support the funding level and scope of a project included in the President's budget request, please submit a program 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.**

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

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

Please reference the eligibility checklist provided in Subcommittee guidance [here](#).

Appropriations Bill: Homeland Security

Department of Homeland Security

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

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

Cost-Share Requirements

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

Account: Pre-Disaster Mitigation Projects

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

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

For any PDM projects designated for funding in the FY 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, must submit an application to FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the entities responsible for the project (grant subrecipients).

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

Account: Emergency Operations Center Grant Program

FEMA's EOC grants improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully interoperable [EOCs](#) with a focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs. According to the National Fire Protection Association, an EOC is defined as a "facility or capability from which direction and control is exercised in an emergency. This type of center or capability is designated to ensure that the capacity exists for leadership to direct and control operations from a centralized facility or capability in the event of an emergency."

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 2026 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government, must submit an application to FEMA and serve as the administrative agent for the grant on behalf of the entities responsible for the project (grant subrecipients).

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

Appropriations Bill: Interior and Environment

Environmental Protection Agency

Account: State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

For FY 2026, the Interior Subcommittee will accept Community Project Funding requests in the Environmental Protection Agency – State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) account for certain clean water and drinking water infrastructure projects. The Subcommittee will not accept project requests in any other account.

These projects include construction of and modifications to municipal sewage treatment plants and drinking water treatment plants. Similar to past practice, the Committee will be limiting STAG infrastructure grants only to projects that are publicly owned or owned by a non-profit entity and that are otherwise eligible for the funding from that state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs.

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

- **Ban on for-profit recipients and privately-owned projects.** The Committee will not fund projects to for-profit entities and privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program. Additionally, the Committee will not fund projects for resorts, golf courses, gardens, or similar projects.
- **State, municipal, local, territorial, or Tribal governmental entities as grantees.** Public entities should be considered as the primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project. For STAG water infrastructure projects, States have Intended Use Plans (IUPs) with drinking water and wastewater projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials.
- **Non-profits as grantees.** 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.
- **Federal Nexus.** The Committee will only fund projects with purposes authorized by Federal law:
 - Clean water/wastewater projects: Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.
 - Drinking water projects: Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j-12.
- **Matching requirements.** There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant and the Committee will not waive matching requirements:
 - For example, a \$1 million project could receive a maximum of \$800,000 from the Federal government, with the remaining \$200,000 the responsibility of the grantee.
 - In *almost* all cases, other Federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. However, assistance provided by a SRF does count towards the project's matching requirement.
- **One-year funding:** Each project request must be for FY 2026 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.
- **Project Amounts.** Members should use the range of project amounts funded in FY 2024 as a general guide when making requests. In FY 2024, most EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from \$100,000 - \$5,000,000. Note that the Committee may consider higher project amounts for fiscal year 2026, and any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests.
- **Contact information.** It is very important to include accurate contact information for the prospective grantee when filling out the online request. This includes a point of contact, phone number, email information, and address. The grantee name entered into the online database must match the grantee name on the signed disclosure of financial interest certification letter.
- **Eligibility Questions.** Member offices must answer all the eligibility questions in the database for a request to be considered including the below supplemental questions:

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

The following list (on the next page) provides some examples of the types of projects that are eligible for STAG grant funding, and which are usually funded:

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

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

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

Projects that are NOT generally eligible for STAG Grants

Clean Water / Wastewater		Drinking Water	
1.	Land , except for projects described in the subsequent table under eligibility #11.	1.	Dams or rehabilitation of dams.
2.	Operations and maintenance costs.	2.	Operations and maintenance costs.
3.	Non-municipal point source control.	3.	Water rights , except if the water rights are owned by a system that is being purchased through consolidation as part of a capacity development strategy or if the water rights purchase is covered by EPA's DWSRF Class Deviation for Water Rights 2019.
4.	Acid rain drainage correction.	4.	Reservoirs , except for finished water reservoirs and those reservoirs that are part of the treatment process and are located on the property where the treatment facility is located.
5.	Ambient water quality monitoring.	5.	Laboratory fees for monitoring.
6.	Flood Control Projects , unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.	6.	Projects needed mainly for fire protection.
7.	Privately owned sewer pipes.	7.	Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.
		8.	Projects for systems in significant non-compliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.
		9.	Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.

Appropriations Bill: Military Construction, Veterans Affairs

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) 2026 funds only and cannot be for multiyear funding. In addition, requested projects must meet the following criteria:

- Be included on an unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFR/UPL) from a military service or combatant command or the FY25-FY29 Future Years Defense Program (FYDP).
 - Projects suggested by an installation or unit commander will not be accepted.
- Have at least 35 percent of its design completed.
 - For projects that have not reached 35 percent design, planning and design funding can be requested.
- Able to be obligated in 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.

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

Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction– Reserve Components

Eligible Community Project Funding requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for Reserve Components in the accounts listed below. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$9,000,000. **Note: Some Reserve Component projects require a State funding match.** Requesting offices must determine whether the proposed project requires such a match and if so, confirm that the project has current State matching funds. The Committee will not waive match requirements.

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

Sources of Eligible Community Project Funding Projects

Eligible Community Project Funding requests are those that are submitted to Congress by DoD, the Services, and Combatant Commanders.

Sources include:

- **Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFR/UPL)** – UFRs/UPLs are lists that the Services and Combatant Commanders provide to Congress identifying priority projects that were not included in the President’s budget request. UFRs/UPLs are available to Congress within ten days of the release of the President’s budget and can be found by contacting the Armed Services’ Congressional Liaison Offices.
- **Future Year Defense Program (FYDP)** – The FYDP is a projection of the forces, resources, and programs needed to support DoD operations over a five-year period. The FYDP is released simultaneously with the President’s budget request. The FY25-29 FYDP listing the military construction projects that may be eligible for Community Project Funding in FY24 can be obtained through the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) website: <https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/>.

Appropriations Bill: Transportation, Housing and Urban Development

Department of Transportation

Account: Airport Improvement Program (AIP)

AIP community project funding requests shall be used for enhancing airport safety, capacity, and security, and addressing environmental issues.

All projects must be:

- AIP eligible in accordance with sections 49 U.S.C. 47101 et seq., and [FAA policy and guidance](#).
- Included in the FAA’s National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS).
- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.

- Administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor.

Federal Requirements:

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

Cost Share:

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

Demonstration of Community Support:

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

Account: Highway Infrastructure Projects

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

All projects must be:

- Capital projects or project-specific 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.

Demonstration of Community Support:

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

Account: Transit Infrastructure Projects

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

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.

Demonstration of Community Support:

Demonstration of community support for a project is crucial for determining whether it should receive funding. Projects must have substantial evidence of community support to be considered for funding. Community support documentation can include: letters from elected officials and community groups, local transportation or community development plans,

publications (including news articles), and any other documents that demonstrate public support for the project.

Account: Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI)

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

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

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. For more on 49 U.S.C. 22905(c) Rail Improvement Grant Conditions, see FAQ [here](#).

The Committee also strongly encourages Members' offices to review the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) [Capital Project Guidance](#) and share this document with the project sponsor to ensure the lifecycle stage of the project matches the requirements.

Demonstration of Community Support:

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

Account: Port Infrastructure Development Program

Port Infrastructure Development Program projects are projects eligible under Section 54301 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by title XXXV of division C of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024.

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

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

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

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

Demonstration of Community Support:

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

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Account: Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

Please note: In a change from FY24, the only eligible recipients for Community Project Funding in the Economic Development Initiatives account are the following types of governmental entities and public institutions of higher education:

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

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.” Similar to FY24, 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.

The following types of projects are not eligible for CPF funding:

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

Demonstration of Community Support:

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

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

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

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

- Administered by state, local, or tribal governmental entities or non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations.
- As a reminder, for-profit entities are not eligible for Community Project Funding.
 - Members are advised that projects for governmental entities to improve *private* properties pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4) will be highly scrutinized and possibly not funded.
- Members are advised that projects submitted under 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1)(C) will be disfavored if the only or primary purpose of the project is “beautification” or historic preservation, without evidence of other community development or economic development benefits.

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

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.

Is there a deadline for submitting a request?

Yes. The deadline to submit a Community Project Funding request for our office is **FRIDAY, April 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM ET.**

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 my office submits our 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.

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. You should review this Guidebook for examples.

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

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

How much should I request?

It depends on the account from which you are requesting funds. You should not request more funds than you need or that can be realistically spent in the Fiscal Year for which you receive the funds. While you should request the amount that can be expended in the upcoming Fiscal Year that you need, please remember that projects are rarely funded fully due to budgetary restraints. Receipt of funds from Community Project Funding in one Fiscal Year is not a guarantee for Community Project Funding in future Fiscal Years.

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 contact 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. It is very likely that you will only receive a portion of your request, if funded at all. This is mostly due to budgetary restraints. Please keep this in mind when requesting support for your project.

Do I need letters of support?

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

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

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

In order for my team and I to properly examine all requests, my office's deadline is **FRIDAY, April 25, 2025, at 6:00 PM ET.**

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

The entire appropriations process can take several months. In order to take effect, appropriations bills approved by the House Appropriations Committees must be agreed to by both houses of Congress and signed into law by the President, typically before the end of the fiscal year on September 30th; however, the process often extends beyond this date. Each project request must be for fiscal year 2026 funds only and cannot include a request for multi year funding. However, the performance period for a project funded with amounts provided in fiscal year 2026 will depend on the appropriations account from which it is funded, and may be longer than one year.

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

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

In general, recipients of Community Project Funding will be contacted by the 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.

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.