

# Community Project Funding Fiscal Year 2026 Resource Guide March 2025

\*\*Please note: The below information is reflective of guidance provided by the Appropriations Committee for FY 25. While we expect the FY26 guidance to largely reflect the guidance below, this webpage and supplemental documents may be updated as additional guidance on FY26 is provided by the House Committee on Appropriations.\*\*

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### **MI-05 Contact Information**

Please direct all questions and submissions by March 28, 2025 for community projects to: <u>MIO5TW Community Project Funding Requests@mail.house.gov</u>

### **Important Links**

**House Appropriations Committee** 

https://appropriations.house.gov/committee-activity/fy25-member-request-guidance

Rep. Walberg Submissions Page

https://walberg.house.gov/community-project-submissions

### Deadline - March 28, 2025

All submissions to the Office of Congressman Walberg for Community Projects must be submitted by close of business on March 28, 2025. Once submitted, your request will undergo a thorough review, during which time members of the Congressman's staff may follow up for additional information.

### **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. All federal funding is divided between twelve bills that each cover a subset of federal agencies.

As your Representative in Congress, Rep. Walberg is able to advocate for community related projects important to MI-05. We encourage constituents and local government agencies to share key priorities and areas of need.

# Overview of the Community Project Funding Process

For fiscal year 2026 the House Appropriations Committee will be accepting Community Project Funding requests. These requests will be funded through the numerous government funding bills.

Rep. Walberg is able to recommend important local projects for federal funding this year. However, it is important to note the details of how this process will work.

**First,** the Appropriations Committee has limited Members of Congress to fifteen Community Project requests. While there is great need for lots of individual projects to receive funding, the Committee has a relatively limited budget and cannot guarantee any project will be funded.

**Second,** it is important that any request must satisfy <u>every requirement laid out</u> <u>by the House Appropriations Committee</u>. Please carefully review the information located within this document and on the linked House Appropriations Committee guides for important requirements from each appropriations subcommittee that will be relevant to your submission. Requirements may differ from one subcommittee to another.

**Third,** most importantly, each request must include demonstrated community support. Submissions must have evidence of community support, including (but not limited to):

- Letters of support from elected community leaders
- Resolutions passed by local/county/state governments
- Projects listed on community development plans, state intended use plans, and other publicly available planning documents

#### Additional requirements are listed below:

- A federal nexus statement is required for each project.
- A financial disclosure statement from Rep. Walberg certifying that neither his immediate family nor he have any financial interest in the proposed project.
- Only requests made by state or local governmental and eligible nonprofits will be accepted.
- Matching funding may be required for some projects. Matching funding does NOT have to be in-hand, but officials must have a plan to fund in order to meet this requirement.
- Each project is funded only for FY 2026. Funds may not be requested for multiple years.

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. You can view previous projects submitted by Congressman Walberg <a href="here">here</a>.

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

### **Requirements for Submission**

- ✓ Eligible recipients can only be government and non-profit entities¹
- ✓ To be eligible, a project must reside within the fifth Congressional district of Michigan.
- ✓ Projects <u>MUST</u> have a federal nexus. To ensure a federal nexus exists for each funded project, the Committee will only fund projects that are tied to a federal authorization law. (Examples of nexus statements can be found within this document)
- ✓ Memorials, museums, and commemoratives are **NOT** eligible for funding.
- ✓ You <u>MUST</u> include no less than 3 letters of support from elected officials or community leaders in your area expressing support for the project. Examples include:
  - A resolution from local government entity.
  - o Letter signed by mayor, city council, township board, etc.
  - Letter signed by local community organizations.
    - Please note if you are a non-profit entity, one of these letters
       MUST come from a local government entity.
- ✓ Additionally, press articles about the project, documentation of the project being listed on community development plans or regional plans are also strongly encouraged.
- ✓ Requests with the following features may be given priority:
  - Funding from other sources such as state, local or non-government organizations.
  - o The requested amount can complete the project.
- ✓ The project must answer every supplemental question laid out by the House Appropriations Subcommittee of jurisdiction. More information on additional requirements can be found within this document.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Eligibility for recipients will vary depending on the subcommittee and the account.

### **Community Project Funding Eligible Accounts**

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

- Department of Agriculture-Farm Production and Conservation Programs
  - o Natural Resources Conservation Service (Conservation Operations)
- Department of Agriculture-Research, Education, and Economics
  - o Agricultural Research Service (Buildings and Facilities)
- Department of Agriculture-Rural Development
  - Rural Housing Service (Community Facilities)
  - Rural Utilities Service (ReConnect Program)
  - Rural Utilities Service (Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants)
  - o Rural Utilities Service (Rural Water and Waste Disposal Grants)

#### **Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies**

- Department of Commerce
  - NIST—Scientific and Technical Research
  - NOAA—Coastal Zone Management
- Department of Justice
  - COPS Technology and Equipment
  - o Byrne Justice
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
  - Safety, Security, and Mission Services

#### **Energy and Water Development**

- Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works)
  - Investigations
  - Construction
  - o Mississippi River and Tributaries
  - Operation and Maintenance
- Department of the Interior/Bureau of Reclamation
  - Water and Related Resources

#### **Homeland Security**

- Federal Emergency Management Agency
  - o Federal Assistance—Emergency Ops. Centers
  - o Federal Assistance—Pre-Disaster Mitigation

#### Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- Environmental Protection Agency
  - STAG—Clean Water State Revolving Fund
  - o STAG—Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

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

- Army
- Army National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Navy & Marine Corps
- Navy Reserve
- Air Force and Space Force
- Air National Guard
- Air Force Reserve
- DoD, Defense-Wide

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

- Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - CDBG Economic Development Initiatives
- Department of Transportation
  - Airport Improvement Program
  - Highway Infrastructure Projects
  - Transit Infrastructure Projects
  - Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements
  - Port Infrastructure Development Program

### **Agriculture Subcommittee**

All CPF requests must meet applicable eligibility requirements for the program in which the request is made, including underlying statutory and regulatory requirements (most notably applicable cost share requirements and eligible activities). Any CPFs that are funded in an appropriations bill will need to apply to USDA for the award. The application will be reviewed for compliance prior to official award. To ensure your projects meet eligibility requirements for the Rural Development and Natural Resources Conservation Service accounts, you must consult with your respective State Rural Development or State Conservation office, which can be found below. Failure to confirm eligibility with the State Offices may result in a project not being considered.

Rural Development: <a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices">https://www.rd.usda.gov/about-rd/state-offices</a>

**Natural Resources Conservation Services:** 

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservationbasics/conservation-by-state/state-offices

For each Community Project Funding request, requesting entities 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. Please provide answers to the following questions in a separate Word Document for projects requested under the Agriculture subcommittee jurisdiction:

- 1. The website address of the proposed recipient.
- 2. If there are additional costs necessary to complete the project, have those been secured?
- 3. For Rural Development projects, is the project for an eligible purpose and does it meet all eligibility requirements under current law?
- 4. Does the entity plan to make grants to other entities from the funds provided and, if so, to whom?
- 5. Why is the project a priority for the district? Briefly explain the community benefits.
- 6. Has any funding for the project been included in any presidential budget and, if so, how much, in which fiscal year, and in which agency or agencies and program(s)?

- 7. Has the project received Federal funding before and, if so, how much, when, and from which agency or agencies and program(s)?
- 8. Have you contacted the State Rural Development Office/State Conservation Office to discuss the project and confirm eligibility?
- 9. For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated start date of the project? How soon could the feasibility/engineering design phase commence? [mm/yy]
- 10. For ARS B&F only, does the project have distinct and separable phases?
- 11.For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated completion date of the project? When does completion of construction occur? [mm/yy]
- 12.For ARS B&F only, have you verified that this facility is owned or operated by the Agricultural Research Service?
- 13. For ReConnect requests only, please provide relevant information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served, what the performance of the service to be offered will be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served.
- 14.For Conservation Operations requests only, briefly describe how the project will reduce soil erosion, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, or other objectives that will help conserve, maintain, and improve natural resources.
- 15. For Water and Waste requests only, provide relevant information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served.

#### **FEDERAL NEXUS STATEMENT**

The Subcommittee suggests referencing these statutes when making the Federal nexus statement for the following types of Community Project Funding requests:

Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities

• This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in 7 U.S. Code section 2250.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations

• This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized by the Soil Conservation and Allotment Domestic Act of 1935, 16 U.S. Code sections 590a-590d and 590f-g.

Rural Development, Rural Housing Service, Community Facility Grants

• This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service, ReConnect Grants

 This project has a Federal nexus as it is for the same purposes authorized in the pilot program established by section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115–141).

Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service, Water and Waste Grants

• This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a)(2).

Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service, Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

• This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 2331 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990, 7 U.S. Code section 950aaa.

### ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING REQUESTS FOR ELIGIBLE ACCOUNTS:

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

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

<u>Priority will be given to essential projects, such as those focused on public health and safety.</u>

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

The Member's request must demonstrate community support. Members should ensure that their request provides the most complete description of the project as

<u>possible</u>. 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 5 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 2023, the average Community Facilities CPF award was about \$1.3 million.

#### <u>Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, ReConnect Program</u>

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 2023, the average ReConnect CPF award was nearly \$1.2 million.

# <u>Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Distance Learning and Telemedicine</u> <u>Grants</u>

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

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

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 of service will be acquired and any information on population(s) served. The program is intended to serve rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less.

The 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.

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

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

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

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

#### <u>Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities</u>

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 that are already partnering with ARS. Universities seeking new agricultural and/or veterinary facilities or labs are not eligible.

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.

# <u>Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations</u>

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 FY24, the Subcommittee will only consider projects for funding recipients that are State, local, and Tribal organizations, or public conservation districts. Non-profit recipients will not be considered.

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

### Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee

The Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee is reviewing community project requests ONLY in the six categories listed below. Project requests that do not fit into one of these categories will not be eligible for community project funding. For each account, please see the specific guidelines below for additional information on eligible activities and submission criteria/questions.

- Department of Commerce; National Institute of Standards and Technology;
   Scientific and Technical Research and Services
- 2. Department of Commerce; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Zone Management
- 3. Department of Justice; Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG)
- 4. Department of Justice; Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Technology and Equipment

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

#### **NIST Scientific and Technical Research and Services (STRS)**

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

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

**Non-Profit Entities:** Projects with non-profit recipients, such as universities, are eligible recipients.

#### Questions for NIST STRS projects (Please submit on separate Word Document)

Requesting entities submitting NIST STRS community project requests are <u>required to submit answers to the following additional questions in a separate word document.</u>

Failure to complete all required questions will result in an incomplete project request. Incomplete project requests will not be considered for community project funds.

- 1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
- 2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
- 3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'. This location will be printed in the public disclosure table. Examples include: 'Hazard, KY' or if the project is not located within a city, but rather a county: 'Perry County, KY'..

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Operations, Research, and Facilities

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

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

# Questions for NOAA Operations, Research, and Facilities project (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

Requesting entities submitting NOAA Operations, Research, and Facilities community project requests are required to submit answers to the following additional questions in a separate Word Document. Failure to complete all required questions will result in an incomplete project request. Incomplete project requests will not be considered for community project funds.

- 1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
- 2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
- 3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

#### <u>Department of Justice- State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance - Byrne JAG</u>

Office of Justice Programs, 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. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.
- 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.

# Questions for Byrne Justice project requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

- 1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
- 2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
- 3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

#### <u>DOJ - Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) - Technology and Equipment</u>

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.

#### **Notes:**

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

# Questions for COPS Tech project requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

- 1. Is the recipient a State, Tribal, or local law enforcement agency?
- 2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
- 3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

# NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) Safety, Security, and Mission Services

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

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

# Questions for NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services project requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

- 1. Is the recipient entity a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986? [yes/no]
- 2. Can this project spend a smaller amount of appropriated funds within 12 months of the enactment of the appropriations act? [yes/no] If yes, please provide any details that may be helpful for understanding the scalability of the project.
- 3. Please provide the location of this project, in the format 'City (or County), State'.

### **Energy and Water Development Subcommittee**

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

The Subcommittee strongly recommends that applicants contact the relevant Corps of Engineers District Office or Bureau of Reclamation Regional Office to ask the following specific questions about the project of interest prior to submitting a Community Project Funding request. Entities must answer <u>all</u> the eligibility questions below in <u>a separate Word document</u> for a request to be considered.

# Questions for Energy and Water Development project requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

- 1. Is the project authorized? Is the scope of work to be funded within existing authorization? (If NO, STOP The project is not eligible as a Community Project Funding request).
- 2. What is the statutory citation?
- 3. What is the official project name?
- 4. What is the fiscal year 2026 capability?
  - This amount is the maximum funding level the subcommittee will consider for inclusion in the appropriations bill. The existence of a

- capability amount does not guarantee that funding level or any funding will be able to be accommodated in the appropriations bill; it simply indicates the maximum amount that can be considered for inclusion.
- For Fiscal Year 2026, the Corps will express capability by providing a range that represents a project's minimum and maximum possible capability.
- If the Corps provides a capability range prior to the release of the Fiscal Year 2026 President's budget request, any funding recommended in the budget request should be deducted from both numbers.
- If the Corps can provide only a capability range prior to the CPF submission deadline, Members should consider basing their requests on the higher of the two numbers. Eventually, the true Fiscal Year 2026 capabilities for projects will become known, and the Committee will not exceed those amounts regardless of the amount requested. However, requesting the higher number of the range allows the Committee to consider all funding options as the technical data are refined throughout the Fiscal Year 2026 cycle.
- Regular communication with the relevant Corps District is essential.
   Capability expressions could fluctuate throughout the fiscal year. Corps Districts and Members should be proactive in their outreach with each other to validate capability expressions.
- 5. For a Corps of Engineers project, what is the correct appropriations account in which to request funding?
- 6. For a Corps of Engineers project, is this project a new start?
- 7. For a Corps of Engineers project, is this project an environmental infrastructure (EI) project?
- 8. 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)?

### **Homeland Security Subcommittee**

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 <u>environmental and historic preservation requirements</u>, for these two grant programs to ensure proper consideration of the Member's request.

In the past, many CPF requests lacked the necessary details for FEMA to determine grant eligibility. While the database limits project summaries to 1,000 characters, offices are highly encouraged to upload detailed project descriptions for all PDM or EOC requests. Each project description should include a detailed budget describing how the requested federal funding will be spent and confirm the ability of the requesting entity to meet the cost-share requirement. While the subcommittee will try to provide the full federal cost-share for CPFs, overall demand may limit the ability to do so. Therefore, Member letters should clearly state the minimum amount of federal funding required for a project to move forward.

#### **Cost-Share Requirements**

The PDM and EOC grant programs have cost-share requirements. Federal funding is available for up to 75 percent of the eligible activity costs. The remaining 25 percent of eligible activity costs must generally be derived from non-federal sources. **The non-federal cost-share contribution is calculated based on the <u>total</u> 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 <u>Stafford Act</u> (42 U.S.C. § 5133(a),(h)(2)).** 

#### **Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants**

FEMA's PDM grants assist state, local, tribal, and territorial governments with planning and implementing sustainable, cost-effective measures to provide long-term, permanent risk reduction to individuals and property from future natural hazards,

such as floods and wildfires, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters.

For PDM grant requests, 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. Applicants must answer all the eligibility questions below in a separate Word document for a request to be considered.

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

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

# **Questions for Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant requests (Please submit on separate Word Document)**

- 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?

- 5. If less than the requested amount is provided as the federal share, would additional state, local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
- 6. Can the requesting jurisdiction provide a Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) or other documentation that validates cost-effectiveness, which is defined by FEMA as having a BCA of 1.0 or greater? A non-FEMA BCA methodology may only be used if pre- approved by FEMA in writing.
- 7. Consistent with the NOFO for PDM grants, is the proposed activity consistent with the goals and objectives in both the state or tribal hazard mitigation plan (44 CFR Part 201) and the local hazard mitigation plan of the jurisdiction in which the project is located?
- 8. If so, what is the FEMA approval date and when will the plan expire?
- 9. Can you confirm the funding request does not include unallowable activities for PDM grants (e.g., dredging waterways; the purchase of emergency vehicles and equipment)?
- 10. Describe how the proposed activity expands mitigation capacity rather than repair and maintenance of existing capacity.
- 11. How will the project provide long-term, permanent risk-reduction, as opposed to simply supporting Short-term, temporary emergency protective measures?
- 12. Describe how the activity supports the needs of people disproportionally at risk of harmful impacts of natural disasters?
- 13. Does the recipient specifically encourage the adoption and enforcement of the latest disaster resistant building codes?
- 14. Provide a clear and detailed description of the proposed mitigation activity.
- 15. How will the mitigation activity be implemented?
- 16. Who will manage and complete the mitigation activity?
- 17. What risks will remain from natural hazards after project implementation (i.e., residual risk)?

- 18. How does the activity reduce the risk to individuals and property for future natural hazards, while reducing reliance on federal funding for future disasters?
- 19. Has the project been submitted, selected, or awarded funding in current or previous Pre- Disaster Mitigation (PDM), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), or Hazard Mitigation Grant Program fiscal year grant cycles?
- 20.If so, what is the subgrant ID, or which grant program and fiscal year was the application submitted, selected, or awarded funding?
- 21. Have you consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
- 22.If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

#### **Emergency Operations Center Grants**

FEMA's EOC grants improve emergency management and preparedness capabilities by supporting flexible, sustainable, secure, strategically located, and fully interoperable <u>EOCs</u> 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 the competitive EOC Grant Program. Entities must answer all the eligibility questions below in a separate Word document for a request to be considered.

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.

# Questions for Emergency Operations Center Grant requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

- 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?
- 6. If less than the requested amount is provided as the federal share, would additional state, local, or other eligible funding sources be available to support the project?
- 7. Have you reviewed the funding restrictions and allowable costs section of the NOFO for EOC grants?
- 8. Can you confirm the funding request does not include unallowable activities for EOC grants (e.g., personnel costs; replacement radios for police, fire, and other response personnel; generators for emergency shelters; any equipment

- that is portable and does not directly support the functional and operational capabilities of an EOC)?
- 9. Is the proposed project related to a structure or facility that meets the definition of an EOC, to include supporting incident management (on-scene) operations across multiple functional disciplines and/or jurisdictions?
- 10. For EOC projects that involve construction or upgrading of multipurpose facilities, such as public safety facilities, police/fire stations, etc., EOC grants may only be used for those parts of the facility that are directly associated with the EOC. Does the requested federal funding amount reflect the proportionate facility construction cost, which is generally based on the square footage (floor space) of the EOC compared to the square footage of the entire facility?
- 11. Have you consulted with state, county, or local emergency management officials, or with FEMA about the proposed project?
- 12.If so, please provide the name of the official, the agency they represent, and their contact information.

### **Interior and Environment Subcommittee**

#### **Environmental Protection Agency – 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.
- 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.
  - It is important that Member offices discuss with their State and local officials the ability for localities to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable.
- One-year funding: Each project request must be for FY 2026 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.
- **Project Amounts.** In FY 2023, most EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from \$45,000 \$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.
- **Eligibility Questions.** Applicants must answer <u>all</u> the eligibility questions in a separate Word document for a request to be considered including the below supplemental questions:

Questions for STAG project requests (Please submit on separate Word Document)

- 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. Has the project received Federal funds previously? If so, please describe.
- 4. Does the project have (or expects to have within 12 months) its 20% cost share requirement?
- 5. Given the Federal nexus requirement, does the project help meet or maintain Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act standards? If so, please describe.

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

#### Projects that are **NOT** generally eligible for STAG Grants

Clean Water / Wastewater		Dr	inking Water
1.	<b>Land,</b> 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.
<b>5.</b>	Flood Control Projects, unless the project is otherwise managing, reducing, treating, or recapturing stormwater.	6.	Projects needed mainly for fire protection.
7.	Privately owned sewer pipes.	7.	Projects for systems that lack adequate technical, managerial, and financial capability, unless assistance will ensure compliance.
		8.	Projects for systems in significant non- compliance, unless funding will ensure compliance.
		9.	Projects primarily intended to serve future growth.

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

Projects that ARE generally eligible for STAG Grants			
	Clean Water / Wastewater		Drinking Water
1.	Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities: Upgraded (increase in treatment level) or expanded (increase in treatment capacity) facilities, including biological facilities, mechanical, a lagoon system, a land treatment system, or individual on-site systems.	1.	Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e., PFAS).
2.	Collector Sewers: Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.		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.	<b>Sewer Pipes:</b> 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.		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.	<b>Septic Tanks:</b> 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.	

# Military Construction, Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

Applicants must include a statement regarding the project's Federal nexus. For military construction Community Project Funding requests, 10 U.S.C. Chapter 169 should be cited on Federal nexus statements, in addition to specific project authorizations provided in previous National Defense Authorization Acts, if applicable. For example,

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 10 U.S.C. Chapter 169 and the FY22 National Defense Authorization Act.

**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 FY24-FY28 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 FY24.
- Submitted to the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) for inclusion in the FY24 National Defense Authorization Act or previously authorized.
- Have a DD Form 1391, which is DoD's justification for military construction projects. The Armed Services' Congressional Liaison Offices can help provide these documents.

# **Construction- Active Components**

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

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

### **Construction- Reserve Components**

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

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

# Sources of Eligible Community Project Funding Projects

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

#### Sources include:

- Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFR/UPL) –
   UFRs/UPLs are lists that the Services and Combatant Commanders provide
   to Congress identifying priority projects that were not included in the
   President's budget request. UFRs/UPLs are available to Congress within
   ten days of the release of the President's budget and can be found by
   contacting the Armed Services' Congressional Liaison Offices.
- Future Year Defense Program (FYDP) The FYDP is a projection of the forces, resources, and programs needed to support DoD operations over a five-year period. The FYDP is released simultaneously with the President's budget request. The FY24-28 FYDP listing the military construction projects that may be eligible for Community Project Funding in FY24 can be obtained through the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) website: <a href="https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/">https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/</a>.

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

# Questions for military construction project requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

For military construction Community Project Funding requests, the following information will be needed. Entities must answer <u>all</u> the eligibility questions below in <u>a separate Word document</u> for a request to be considered.

- 1. Which Service is the project for?
- 2. Project Title.
- 3. Amount Requested.
- 4. Program (Is the funding request for construction, unspecified minor construction, or planning and design?).

- 5. Project Location (State/Territory Title).
- 6. Installation Name (Location Title).
- 7. Is the project on the FY24-FY28 FYDP? If so, which fiscal year?
- 8. Is the project on a FY24 Service or Combatant Command unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFRs/UPLs)?
- 9. Does the project have a DD Form 1391?
- 10. If a Reserve Component project, does it require a State funding match?
- 11. Is this project at or above 35% design complete?
- 12. Can the project funds be obligated in FY24?
- 13. 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.

# Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development Subcommittee

# <u>Department of Transportation – Transit Infrastructure Projects</u>

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:

- 1. 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; and
- 3. Sponsored by designated recipients, States (including territories and the District of Columbia), local governmental authorities, and/or Indian tribes.

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

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

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

# Questions for Transit Infrastructure Project requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

For each Transit Infrastructure Project request, applicants must answer <u>all</u> the eligibility questions below in <u>a separate Word document</u> for a request to be considered.

### 1. Project Name.

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

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

**EXAMPLE:** \$1,200,000

- 5. Total project cost.
  - Provide the total estimated cost of the project. If outlined in the STIP or TIP, provide that amount unless estimated project costs have increased. If project costs have increased, provide a justification.

- 6. Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?
- 7. 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 yes, list sources and amounts of funds.
  - The cost-share requirements are defined in statute. In general, transit capital projects typically require 20 percent non-federal share.
  - EXAMPLE: Local sales taxes are committed for 25 percent of the project.
- 8. If the project receives less than requested for the transit infrastructure projects, will the project proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?
  - EXAMPLE: Yes, however, the project will not be able to proceed immediately without the total amount. The West Elm Public Transportation Authority anticipates using FY24 formula funds to make up the shortfall if there are no other federal grant opportunities available.
- 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?
  - EXAMPLE: Yes, the transit agency anticipates submitting an application for the FY23 Low or No Emission Grant Program before the April NOFO deadline. If they are not selected as a grant awardee for the Low or No Emission Grant Program, the West Elm Public Transportation Authority will still proceed using their formula funds.
- 10. Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.

- EXAMPLE: FY22 FTA Buses and Bus Facilities Discretionary Grant: \$100,000; FY23 FTA Formula Funds: \$25,000.
- 11. Where is the project in the construction process?
  - Options include: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, RFP/IFB Issued, Contract Awarded, Capital Purchase or Lease, Construction, and Other (please specify).
- 12. Estimated start and completion dates.
- 13.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.
- 14. Provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID Number comes from.
  - EXAMPLE: See below the North Carolina STIP, ID Number R-5809 H141741.



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

# <u>Department of Transportation – Highway Infrastructure Projects</u>

Highway Infrastructure Projects are capital projects eligible under title 23 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code, as amended by title III of division A of the Infrastructure

Investment and Jobs Act. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under chapters 1 and 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible.

## All projects must be:

- 1. Capital projects or project-specific design for a capital project.
- 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.
- 3. 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 planning activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

Applicants should be aware that Highway Infrastructure Projects have a non-Federal cost share calculated on a sliding scale. The <u>cost-share requirements</u> are defined in statute and vary based on activity, location, and other factors.

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

# **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.

# Questions for Highway Infrastructure Project requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

For each Highway Infrastructure Project request, applicants must answer <u>all</u> the eligibility questions below in <u>a separate Word document</u> for a request to be considered.

- 1. Project Name. A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location (city, county, State, Tribe, Congressional District).
  - EXAMPLE: Main Street widening and resurfacing, City, State, Congressional District.
  - NOTE: The project name and location will be used to list the project in the House Report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding goes to the correct project and location. Any changes after enactment will require additional legislative actions.
- 2. General description and benefits of the project and why it is needed.
  - EXAMPLE: Widening and resurfacing Main Street will allow the local government to add a turn lane to reduce congestion. It will also allow for safety upgrades at Avenue D where there is a high level of safety incidents.
  - NOTE: Benefits may include safety, environmental, economic, equity, mobility, etc.
- 3. Amount requested for the project.
- 4. Total project cost.
  - NOTE: Provide the amount of the total cost of the project as outlined in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), if applicable.
- 5. 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).

- 6. Estimated start and completion dates.
  - NOTE: Appropriated funds for these projects cannot be used for costs incurred prior to project authorization, which occurs when a project sponsor signs a grant agreement with or receives an allotment by a federal agency.
- 7. Has the request been submitted to a federal agency for non-earmarked funds, or to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
- 8. Please provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include both formula funds and any discretionary grants.
  - EXAMPLE: FY20 TIGER/BUILD Grant: \$10 million; FHWA Formula Funds: \$5 million.
- 9. Does the project have other public (state, local) and/or private funds committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?
- 10.If the request does not fully fund the project, describe where the remaining funding comes from to complete the project.
  - EXAMPLE: State funds will compose 10 percent of the remaining cost and previously identified federal formula funds (STBG) will make up the rest.
- 11. Is the project on a STIP or a TIP? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.
- 12. Please provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan the ID Number comes from.

### <u>Department of Transportation – Airport Improvement Program (AIP)</u>

AIP Community Project Funding requests are intended to enhance airport safety, capacity, and security, and 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.

### **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.

# Questions for Airport Improvement Project requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

For each Airport Improvement Project request, applicants must answer <u>all</u> the eligibility questions below in <u>a separate Word document</u> for a request to be considered.

- 1. Airport Recipient and Project Name.
  - EXAMPLE: Rehabilitate runway. Airport Name (3 letter or number airport code), City, State (2 letter postal code).
  - NOTE: This description may be used to list the project in the House report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding is provided to the correct project and location.
- 2. General description of the project and why it is needed.
- 3. Has the airport sponsor provided assurances that the project is eligible under AIP statutes? Airport sponsors should engage with their Federal Aviation Administration Airport District Offices to ensure eligibility under statutory requirements.
- 4. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
- 5. Amount requested for the Community Project Funding for fiscal year 2026, and the total project cost.
- 6. Estimated start and completion dates.

- 7. Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds for the required cost-share and committed for the forecasted operations and maintenance costs? What is the source and amount of those funds?
- 8. Has the airport submitted a grant application for this same project to FAA?

# <u>Department of Transportation – Port Infrastructure Development Program</u> Port Infrastructure Development Program projects are projects eligible under Section 54301 of title 46. United States Code, as amended by title XXXV of division

<u>Section 54301 of title 46</u>, United States Code, as amended by title XXXV of division C of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

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 must comply with federal requirements such as Buy America and the National Environmental Policy Act. The Committee strongly encourages Member offices and potential funding recipients to reach out to their local port authorities to help 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 that demonstrate public support for the project.

# Questions for Port Infrastructure Development Program requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

For each Port Infrastructure Development Program request, applicants must answer all the eligibility questions below in a separate Word document for a request to be considered.

- 1. Project Name. A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location (city, county, State, Tribe, Congressional District).
  - <u>EXAMPLE</u>: Terminal 2 Expansion and Emissions Reduction Project,
     City, State, Congressional District.
  - NOTE: The project name and location will be used to list the project in the House Report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding goes to the correct project and location. Any changes after enactment will require additional legislative actions.
- 2. General description and benefits of the project and why it is needed.
- 3. Amount requested for the project.
- 4. Total project cost.
- 5. Who is the recipient? Provide a website address if available.
- 6. Is the project at a small port, as described under 46 USC 54301(b)?

- 7. Is the project in a rural area, as described under 46 USC 54301(a)(12) an area that is outside of a Census-designated urbanized area?
- 8. Estimated start and completion dates.
- 9. Has the request been submitted to a federal agency for non-earmarked funds, or to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
- 10. Please provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any.
- 11.If the request is for a phase of a larger project, describe all other phases and how this request relates to the entire project.
- 12. Has the recipient engaged in discussions with the local port authority and received assurances that the project is eligible under applicable statutes?
- 13. 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?
- 14. If the request does not fully fund the project, describe where the remaining funding comes from to complete the project.

# <u>Department of Transportation – Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety</u> <u>Improvements (CRISI)</u>

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 <u>will not fund</u> activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include but are not limited to general operating expenses, rail-related research, and workforce activities. Please note that while planning projects are eligible, projects that are solely planning in nature will be highly scrutinized.

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.

# **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.

# Questions for CRISI Program requests (*Please submit on separate Word Document*)

For each CRISI Program request, applicants must answer all the eligibility questions below in a separate Word document for a request to be considered.

# 1. Project Name.

 A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location. This description may be used in the House

- report and must be accurate to ensure funds are provided to the correct project and location.
- EXAMPLE: West Elm Track and Railroad Bridge Improvements, City, State, Congressional District.

# 2. Project Recipient.

- As a reminder, <u>for-profit entities are not eligible for CPF funding</u>. The recipient <u>must</u> be a public entity such as a state department of transportation, public agency, or not-for-profit rail carrier that provides intercity rail passenger transportation, etc.
- 3. General description and scope of project, including benefits and explanation for why project is a priority.
  - EXAMPLE: The West Elm Track and Railroad Bridge Improvements Project will replace an aging railroad bridge and rehabilitate 11 sidings and wye tracks that can handle increased traffic along the main rail route between the cities of Green Bay and Pembine. The improvements will increase the efficiency of the route by eliminating slow-orders along 32 miles of track and help mitigate congestion along the track to increase safety. It is a priority for both cities given the limited resources they have to fully fund the project.
- 4. Amount of CPF funding requested for project.
- 5. Total project cost.
  - Provide the total estimated cost of the project.
- 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? if so, what is the source and amount of those funds?
  - The cost-share requirements are defined in statute. Rail capital projects under the CRISI program require a minimum 20 percent non-federal share.

- EXAMPLE: Local sales taxes are committed for 20 percent of the project.
- 7. If the project receives less than requested, will the project still proceed without waiting for additional funding sources?
- 8. Provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include formula funds and any discretionary grants.
  - EXAMPLE: FY20 BUILD Discretionary Grant of \$7.5 million.
- 9. Where is the project in the construction process?
  - Drop down options in the database will include: Planning and Environmental Review, Final Design, Right of Way, Contract Awarded, Capital Purchase or Lease, Construction, and Other (please specify).
- 10. Estimated start and completion dates.
- 11.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.
- 12. Is the project included in a grade crossing action plan? If yes, provide a link to the plan and specify page number.

# <u>Department of Housing and Urban Development – Economic Development Initiative (EDI)</u>

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. Eligible recipients for Community Project Funding in the Economic Development Initiatives account are the following types of entities:

- States and the District of Columbia
- Territories
- Tribal governments

- Counties
- Cities, towns, parishes, or other local government entities, such as public water districts or public redevelopment authorities
- Public colleges and universities, including community colleges, all Historically Black Colleges and Universities defined as a "part B institution" in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061), and all Tribal Colleges and Universities as defined in section 316 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c)

Project requests for the FY26 Economic Development Initiative program must be eligible under one or more of the following criteria of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), 5305(a)(5); which are as follows—but limited to—land or site acquisition, demolition or rehabilitation; blight removal; and construction and capital improvements of public facilities, except for "buildings used for the general conduct of government." Programmatic and operational expenses are not eligible.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The following types of projects are not eligible for funding under this account: Healthcare facilities:

- Museums, commemoratives, and memorials;
- Swimming pools, water parks, ski slopes, and golf courses;
- Venues strictly for entertainment purposes, such as theaters, amphitheaters, fairgrounds, and performing arts centers;
- Strictly research, operational, or planning activities
- 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.

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

Reminder on Environmental Review Requirements: EDI projects, like all projects funded by HUD, are subject to requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HUD's NEPA-implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 50 or 24 CFR Part 58, and all applicable federal environmental and historic preservation laws, regulations, and executive orders. An environmental review must be completed before HUD funds and non-HUD funds can be committed to or spent on a project (24 CFR 58.22). If the project will be under construction (or complete) at the time of enactment, the recipient will not likely be able to meet the environmental review requirements.

Reminder on Buy America Preference: The "Buy America Preference" 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 be produced in the United States. If the project will be under construction (or complete) at the time of enactment, the recipient will not likely be able to meet the BABA requirements.

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

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

Planning and administrative costs: These costs can be incurred after the date of enactment. However, if the recipient incurs these costs after enactment, but before the grant agreement is signed, they do so at their own risk. If the project is found to be ineligible by HUD or the grant agreement is never signed, HUD cannot reimburse those costs. Hard costs, such as construction, can only be incurred after the successful completion of the required environmental review.

# Questions for EDI project requests (Please submit on separate Word Document)

For each EDI Project request, applicants must answer all the eligibility questions below in a separate Word document for a request to be considered.

- 1. Project Name. A short name by which the project may be identified, including a very brief description of what the funds will be used for and the project's location (city, county, State, Congressional District, or Tribe).
  - NOTE: This description may be used to list the project in the House report and should be as accurate as possible to ensure that the funding goes to the correct project and location.
  - EXAMPLE: Sturgis Downtown Revitalization. City of Sturgis, St. Joseph County, Michigan, 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District).
- 2. General description of the project and why it is needed.

- EXAMPLE: This project will provide infrastructure needed to support downtown expansion, including housing developments in downtown Sturgis. Core components include parking lot reconstruction, alleyway accessibility/beautification upgrades (including a trailhead for a future non-motorized trail), storm sewer improvements, and electrical utility work (moving electrical lines underground). The project is located in a Qualified Census Tract, traditional downtown, and will lessen financial burden on downtown property owners hit hard by economic circumstances that would otherwise have to cover higher project costs for parking lot work by way of a special assessment. The project is aligned to the city's recent placemaking efforts (added downtown firepit, public art, plaza/streetscape walkway, etc.). The City of Sturgis is confident the project is shovel ready and could be completed within the identified project period.
- 3. What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
  - EXAMPLE: Downtown Sturgis is at a critical tipping point. Despite the challenges over the past two years related to the pandemic, the downtown is seeing an uptick in potential development projects, including a large-scale housing development. These projects will create an increased demand for parking and public amenities to make downtown Sturgis a destination of choice. The city is seeking to capitalize on this momentum to not only address needed infrastructure but also to create a vibrant central business district with the inclusion of a food truck court and trailhead.
- 4. Amount requested for the Community Project Funding and the total project cost.
- 5. Who are the community partners participating in this project? Have local community development organizations with prior experience with HUD programs been consulted?
- 6. Has the request been submitted to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?

- 7. Is this project consistent with the primary objective of the community development program? Please describe who the project is intended to benefit.
- 8. What is the entity's TIN/EIN?
- 9. What is the entity's UEI?
- 10. What is the ZIP code of the project location? If the project spans multiple ZIP codes, provide the ZIP code where most of the appropriation would be spent.
- 11. Does the grantee have a Community Project Funding (CPF)/Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) project that has not yet secured a signed grant agreement with HUD? This should include projects for which appropriations were made since FY2022. If yes, please provide:
  - The title of the project;
  - the fiscal year the CPF/CDS was enacted;
  - The awarding Member(s) and/or Senator(s);
  - The grant number as provided by HUD; and
  - The grant's status ("No Materials Submitted" or "Grant Review in Progress").

# **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.

# 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 to Rep. Walberg's office is March 28, 2025.

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

After the deadline, Rep. Walberg office will be required to vet each proposed project and submit to the Appropriations Committee. In addition, there are numerous disclosures and other requirements that accompany each request. As a result, Rep. Walberg will not accept requests after the deadline.

# Are Community Project Funding requests publicly disclosed?

Yes. All requests for Community Project Funding submitted by the Rep. Walberg to the Committee for consideration will be publicly listed on Rep. Walberg's website, including the name and address of the requestor, the amount requested, and the justification for use of taxpayer funds. This is a requirement of the process.

### 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 and the links to the House Appropriations Committee website 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 building construction or renovation?

In general, no. 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. Please review any account closely for any prohibitions.

# 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. Some of the account descriptions listed in this resource guide provide recommendation or examples of previously authorized amounts and requesters are strongly encouraged to follow previous examples.

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?

All accounts available for Community Project Requests have been outlined above. If your project does not fit into one of those accounts, it is likely not eligible for funding.

### 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. The Appropriations Committee will be receiving similar requests from all Members of Congress and will prioritize accordingly.

# 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, on the importance and necessity of the project are all important.

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

Any project submitted to the Committee will be posted on Rep. Walberg's website. Once submitted, the House Appropriations Subcommittee Chairs and Ranking Members will determine which projects are included in the appropriation bills. The bill must then be approved by the House, Senate, and signed into law by the President. Please know this is a lengthy process but our office will respond to any questions you may have throughout the process.

# 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 may discuss the needs of your project with your our office if you believe that federal support will be needed beyond a single fiscal year.