



*Congresswoman*  
**VERONICA ESCOBAR**  
*Texas' 16th Congressional District*

April 2022

# Community Project Funding Resource Guide

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16TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

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Dear El Pasoan,

I am pleased to share this resource guide regarding how to request Community Project Funding (CPF) through the annual appropriations process for fiscal year 2023. This guide is an effort to streamline the process and is a tool to empower you with the best information available. My team and I will do everything possible to work for projects that will be beneficial to our community.

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

I firmly believe that our local leaders, stakeholders, and advocates know exactly what our community needs and that is why I am excited to use Community Project Funding requests to ensure we support your priorities.

My team and I are looking for your recommendations on projects that will fill a clear and present need in the community, be administered by a local/state government entity or eligible nonprofit, be located in El Paso County, and enjoy significant support from the community. This year my office will be submitting 15 projects to the Appropriations Committee for consideration of funding. To see which projects were submitted by my office last year and were successfully funded, click [here](#). If you would other projects from across the country that were accepted in the final Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2022, click [here](#).

As you prepare your requests, please keep in mind that my office will receive far more Community Project Funding requests than can be fulfilled. As a result, many deserving, appropriate, and eligible projects will not be provided federal assistance in fiscal year 2023. That is why it is extremely important that every project and requestor continue to pursue other grant and federal/state/local funding opportunities where available. My team and I are here to help you secure this important funding as well. To learn more about other federal grants, please click [here](#).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Veronica Escobar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress

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## *Deadline and Staff Contact*

If you have any questions regarding the Community Project Funding process, please email TX16.Approps@mail.house.gov and a staffer will reach out as soon as possible. The deadline for submissions is April 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. MT. If you need more time, you must email us **immediately** and my staff will evaluate requests on a case-by-case basis.

# Overview of the Appropriations Process

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

You or your organization may submit programmatic or language requests. Programmatic requests include funding for specific federal programs that are important to you or your organization. Language requests include specific policy directives to federal agencies.

**We ask that you submit your programmatic or language requests by our April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 5pm MST deadline.** You and your organization should begin developing your request well in advance to ensure that your request is submitted properly and tailored to the needs of your project. As you develop your request, please feel free to contact my staff and use this resource guide to ensure your project request meets all requirements.

In order to submit a programmatic or language request, please complete the form at this [link](#). We will not consider requests that are received after the deadline. If you have problems or questions while completing these forms, please feel free to contact my staff through TX16.Approps@mail.house.gov. My staff is unable to forward request forms to other Congressional or Senate offices.

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

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



# Overview of the Community Project Funding Process

The House Appropriations Committee will be accepting Community Project Funding requests for Fiscal Year 2023. These requests will be funded through the numerous government funding bills.

My team and I are looking forward to recommending important local projects for federal funding this year. However, it is important that you know how this process will work this year.

First, you should know that my team and I expect to receive hundreds of requests for funding. While it's my goal to fund as many projects as possible, Members of Congress can only submit ten requests to fund Community Projects, and we cannot guarantee what will be funded.

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

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

Additional requirements are listed below:

- A financial disclosure statement from myself certifying that neither my immediate family nor I have any financial interest in the proposed project.
- No funds can be used by for-profit recipients.
- Matching funding must be available for each project from the state/local government (matching funding does NOT have to be in-hand, but officials must have a plan to fund in order to meet this requirement).
- Each project is funded only for FY 2023.

In the interest of transparency, all Members are required to post all Community Project Funding requests submitted to the committee on their website. The posting must include the name of the proposed recipient, the address, the amount of the request, and an explanation of the purpose and justification for the use of taxpayer funds.

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

## *Data and Lessons from FY 22*

For the FY22 Community Project Funding Process, the House Appropriations Committee included 2,723 total Member Requested Projects across the sub-committee spending bills. The total appropriated funding was **\$4,168,945,143**, with an average award of \$925,000.

A government spending bill for the remainder of the year including our Community Project Funding requests was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on March 11, and the final spending bill was signed into law on March 15 by President Biden.

9 of my requests were funded, totaling **\$11,584,000**.

These requests included:

- El Paso Makes Contract Support for El Paso Manufacturers , \$964,000
- Cotton Valley Broadband Expansion, \$2,850,000
- El Paso Police Department Body-Worn Camera Program, \$525,000
- The Crisis Intervention Team, \$2,015,000
- Paso del Norte Trail, \$1,000,000
- Casitas Community Project, \$1,000,000
- County of El Paso for First-Time Water and Wastewater Connection Projects, \$1,105,000
- Centro De Salud Familiar La Fe, Inc., El Paso, TX for facilities and equipment, \$925,000
- El Paso County Hospital District/University Medical Center of El Paso, El Paso, TX for purchase of equipment, \$1,200,000

Included in this guide will be the total funding, average funding, median of funding, and number of requests for each subcommittee and account.

Our team learned that the House Appropriations Committee values quality projects, so requests that are of high quality and well put together will have a higher chance of being included.

As you will see, we also learned that the House Appropriations Committee is willing to fund higher dollar requests than originally thought. When making a request, please request the amount you can conceivably use, even if that number seems higher than the average award for that account.

# Community Project Funding Eligible Accounts

## Agriculture Subcommittee

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$195,341,506

**Average Project Cost:** \$1,759,833.39

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,000,000

**Number of Requests:** 111

For each Community Project Funding request, Members 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.

## *Department of Agriculture*

### Community Facilities Grants

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$112,036,714

**Average Project Cost:** \$1,302,752

**Median Project Cost:** \$911,969

**Highest Request:** \$7,000,000

**Lowest Request:** \$16,800

**Number of Requests:** 86

Grants to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities, to purchase equipment, and pay other related project expenses. Essential community facilities include, but are not limited to, healthcare facilities, public facilities, public safety measures, educational services, or other community support services. Examples of eligible projects include medical or dental clinics, towns halls, courthouses, childcare centers, police or fire departments, public works vehicles, or distance learning equipment. Any project must serve a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53 (rural areas including cities, villages, townships and Federally Recognized Tribal lands with no more than 20,000 residents), and the Member's request must demonstrate community support. Requests should ensure that their request provides the fullest description of the project as possible. Submissions should include details on all proposed uses of funds, activities that will occur, timeline, and detailed information on the complete service territory, including median household income of the proposed project.

Please review all program regulations carefully, most notably:

- Cost share requirements. The Community Facilities program has a cost share calculated on a graduated scale. The applicant should be aware of any cost share as documented in 7 CFR 3570.63(b).
- Credit Elsewhere Test. Applicants shall certify they cannot finance the project from their own resources and credit is not otherwise available on reasonable terms from non-Federal sources.

Community Facilities grants generally 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.

For fiscal year 2022, the average CPF funding level was just over \$1 million. Please note that the Committee will consider higher project requests for fiscal year 2023. However, projects requesting significantly more than that average may be more difficult to fund and funding will depend on program demand and other variables. Any future potential project caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## ReConnect Program

### In FY 22

**Total Funding:** \$36,604,792

**Average Project Cost:** \$1,926,568

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,500,000

**Highest Request:** \$4,000,198

**Lowest Request:** \$212,022

**Number of Requests:** 19

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grant funding 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, which is defined as 10 Mbps downstream and 1 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: (1) A city, town, or incorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants; or (2) an urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 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 10 Mbps downstream and 1 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.

It is strongly recommended that Community Project Funding requests include specific information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served in the area, what the performance of the service to be offered would be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities would be served.

USDA's Rural Development is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility.

For fiscal year 2022, the average ReConnect CPF award was nearly \$2 million. Please note the subcommittee will consider higher project requests for fiscal year 2023. However, projects requesting significantly more than that average may be more difficult to fund and funding will depend on program demand and other variables. Any future potential project caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

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

## Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

### **\*This is a new account for FY 23\***

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

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

All requests are subject to all the regulations governing the program which can be found at 7 CFR Part 1734. **The program requires a 15% match** that cannot come from another federal source. The State Rural Development Office is a valuable resource to answer program questions, including eligibility.

Competitive awards typically range from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 and the Committee will consider projects in this range. This a new account for the fiscal 2023 House process; in fiscal year 2022, the average Senate CPF in this account was \$359,000. Requestors 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.

## Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$46,700,000

**Average Project Cost:** \$7,783,333

**Median Project Cost:** \$4,350,000

**Highest Request:** \$20,000,000

**Lowest Request:** \$4,000,000

**Number of Requests:** 6

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. Facility requests must be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that will enhance ongoing ARS work. 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. It is strongly encouraged that Community Project Funding requests include 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. Requests for ARS-owned facilities will be given priority for funding.

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

## Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations

### **\*This is a new account for FY 23\***

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) supports private landowners, conservation districts, and other organizations to conserve, maintain, and improve the Nation's natural resources. Conservation Operations has four major program components: Conservation Technical Assistance, Soil Survey, Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecasting, and Plant Materials Centers. Examples of specific objectives include reduce soil erosion, improve soil health, enhance water supplies, improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat, and reduce damage caused by floods and other natural disasters. Due to the newness of the urban agriculture program, the subcommittee will not consider such proposals this year as part of CPFs in Conservation Operations.

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

This is a new account for the fiscal year 2023 House process; in fiscal year 2022, the average Senate CPF in this account was \$1.1 million. The Committee will consider higher project requests for fiscal year 2023. However, projects requesting

significantly more than that average may be more difficult to accommodate and will depend on program demand and other variables. Any future potential project caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$189,350,000

**Average Project Cost:** \$884,813

**Median Project Cost:** \$550,000

**Number of Requests:** 214

### *Department of Justice*

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

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$100,754,000

**Average Project Cost:** \$763,288

**Median Project Cost:** \$526,000

**Highest Request:** \$5,000,000

**Lowest Request:** \$4,000

**Number of Requests:** 132

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

<https://bj.a.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview>

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

The House Appropriations Committee encourages community project funding designed to help improve police-community relations. Historically, the House Appropriations Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account. Note the Committee may consider similar or higher project amounts for FY 23. Any caps will be determined after reviewing the full universe of requests, and while there are no guarantees, projects of a modest size are more likely to receive full funding.

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



## Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) - Technology and Equipment

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$55,766,000

**Average Project Cost:** \$1,186,511

**Median Project Cost:** \$540,000

**Highest Request:** \$8,245,000

**Lowest Request:** \$25,000

**Number of Requests:** 47

Funding will be provided for community project grants for State, local, and tribal law enforcement to develop and acquire effective technologies and interoperable communications that assist in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime, provided that such equipment meets the applicable requirements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLES).

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

Historically, the Committee has not funded vehicles or building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account. Recipients of community project funding under this account may *not* subgrant to other organizations or agencies. Note the Committee may consider similar or higher project amounts for FY 23. Any caps will be determined after reviewing the full universe of requests, and while there are no guarantees, projects of a modest size are more likely to receive full funding.

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

## *Department of Commerce*

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

#### **\*This is a new account for FY 23\***

Funding must be for activities consistent with and supportive of NIST's mission and within its authorities, such as STEM education activities, scientific research, or other activities that support American manufacturing and industry.

The median award in this account for FY 22 was \$1,250,000. Note the Committee may consider similar or higher project amounts for FY 23. Any caps will be

determined after reviewing the full universe of requests, and while there are no guarantees, projects of a modest size are more likely to receive full funding. This account does not fund vehicles or building construction or renovation.

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

## NIST Construction of Research Facilities - Extramural Construction

### **\*This is a new account for FY 23\***

This account funds the construction and renovation of research facilities, provided that such facilities will be used in a manner that is aligned with and supportive of the mission of NIST. The median award in this account was \$10 million in FY 22, but this account was not open to community project funding in the House in FY 22. Note the Committee may consider lower project amounts for FY 23, and any caps will be determined after reviewing the full universe of requests. Given the expectation of limited resources and the large cost of research facilities, the Committee may not be able to fully fund all requests. While there are no guarantees, preference will be given to more modest requests.

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

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

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$23,980,000

**Average Project Cost:** \$799,333

**Median Project Cost:** \$705,000

**Highest Request:** \$2,000,000

**Lowest Request:** \$100,000

**Number of Requests:** 30

Community project funding for NOAA will only be considered within the Operations, Research, and Facilities account. This account does not fund construction projects, and as such, any such requests will not be considered. Requests for funding will be considered for research, demonstration, or education projects performed by external partners or for prioritizing NOAA internal funds for geographically specific projects. Any such project must be aligned with NOAA's mission and within their existing authorities. Note the Committee may consider similar or higher project amounts for FY 23. Any caps will be determined after reviewing the full universe of requests, and while there are no guarantees, projects of a modest size are more likely to receive full funding.

The subcommittee will not entertain requests for the Office of Marine and Aviation Operations.

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

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

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

## *National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)*

NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$8,850,000

**Average Project Cost:** \$1,770,000

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,000,000

**Highest Request:** \$5,000,000

**Lowest Request:** \$650,000

**Number of Requests:** 5

Funding must be for activities consistent with and supportive of the work of NASA's mission directorates and within the agency's authorities, such as STEM education activities and scientific research. Funding for building construction or renovation projects will *not* be considered for community project funding. Note the Committee may consider similar or higher project amounts for FY 23. Any caps will be determined after reviewing the full universe of requests, and while there are no guarantees, projects of a modest size are more likely to receive full funding.

Requestors submitting NASA Safety, Security, and Mission Services community project requests are required to submit answers to the following additional questions. Failure to complete all required questions will result in an incomplete project request. Incomplete project requests will not be considered for community project funds.

## Defense Subcommittee

The subcommittee will accept project requests in the following accounts:

- Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation: Army
- Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation: Navy
- Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation: Air Force
- Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation: Space Force
- Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation: Defense-Wide

The subcommittee will not accept project requests in any other account.

Requestors will be asked to:

- Provide the name of the specific recipient for the project request and the amount requested for fiscal year 2023.
- Provide a description of the desired outcome of the project and how it would benefit the Department of Defense.
- List the line number and Program Element number proposed to fund the project. This information can be found in the budget justification documents that will be posted at <https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/>.
- Disclose whether the project is being requested in another bill.
- State whether the request is a new or existing project; if existing, whether it previously received federal funds; and if so, identify the account, amount of funding, and fiscal year.
- Provide the total cost of the project.
- List the required funding in future years and the source of that funding.
- Determine whether the program could start in a limited capacity if the Appropriations Committee cannot fully fund the request.

Project amounts in these accounts were funded between \$200,000 and \$4 million in fiscal year 2022. Note that the Committee may consider similar project amounts for fiscal year 2023. Any caps will be determined after reviewing the full universe of requests.

Please be particularly mindful of the difference between program and Community Project Funding requests. The following would be a program request, as it does not list a specific recipient:

\$1 million above the fiscal year 2023 budget request for RDT&E Army, line 2, PE # 0601102A

Should a program request be funded, the Department of Defense or Services would determine to whom and where funds would be awarded. Meanwhile, the following would be a Community Project Funding request, as it lists a specific non-federal recipient:

\$1 million above the fiscal year 2023 budget request for RDT&E Army, line 2, PE # 0601102A for the University of the District of Columbia to...

As a reminder, the Appropriations Committee will only consider requests meeting certain guidelines, including that the recipient is a state or local government or eligible non-profit. No requests for for-profit recipients will be considered. Requestors must also provide evidence of community support that were compelling factors in deciding to select the requested project.

## Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$835,250,000

**Average Project Cost:** \$7,733,796

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,758,000

**Number of Requests:** 108

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

#### Department of Energy

- Topics include:
  - energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable transportation
  - cybersecurity, energy security, emergency response
  - electricity, energy storage
  - nuclear energy
  - fossil energy, carbon management, critical minerals

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

All requests for the Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) accounts listed above should reflect a funding amount that can be realistically utilized in FY23. This is referred to as the project's "capability" for FY23. All projects will be sent to the relevant agency for technical assistance, including regarding project capability. It is possible that approved Community Project Funding requests will be funded at a level lower than the requested level.

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

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

Please note that for the Corps, the Subcommittee may provide funding for a very limited number of new start projects, if any, in the Investigations, Construction, and

Mississippi River and Tributaries accounts. While requests for new starts in these accounts will be accepted, please consider this limitation when making requests.

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

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

#### **Investigations in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$29,625,000  
**Average Project Cost:** \$955,645  
**Median Project Cost:** \$650,000  
**Highest Request:** \$3,693,000  
**Lowest Request:** \$200,000  
**Number of Requests:** 31

#### **Construction in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$553,630,000  
**Average Project Cost:** \$18,454,333  
**Median Project Cost:** \$4,500,000  
**Highest Request:** \$350,000,000  
**Lowest Request:** \$75,000  
**Number of Requests:** 30

#### **Mississippi River and Tributaries in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$27,333,000  
**Average Project Cost:** \$9,111,000  
**Median Project Cost:** \$5,000,000  
**Highest Request:** \$19,333,000  
**Lowest Request:** \$3,000,000  
**Number of Requests:** 3

#### **Operation and Maintenance in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$134,521,000

**Average Project Cost:** \$5,173,885  
**Median Project Cost:** \$3,451,000  
**Highest Request:** \$32,720,000  
**Lowest Request:** \$124,000  
**Number of Request:** 26

**Bureau of Reclamation in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$88,341,000  
**Average Project Cost:** \$9,815,667  
**Median Project Cost:** \$2,000,000  
**Highest Request:** \$67,342,000  
**Lowest Request:** \$500,000  
**Number of Requests:** 9

**Section 103 in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$100,000  
**Average Project Cost:** \$50,000  
**Number of Requests:** 2

**Section 107 in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$1,050,000  
**Average Project Cost:** \$525,000  
**Number of Requests:** 2

**Section 1135 in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$300,000  
**Number of Requests:** 1

**Section 14 in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$100,000  
**Number of Requests:** 1

**Section 205 in FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$250,000  
**Average Project Cost:** \$83,333  
**Number of Requests:** 3

*Department of Energy*

**\*Department of Energy CPF Requests are new to FY 23\***

All CPF requests for the Department of Energy (DOE) should reflect a funding amount that can complete the project or complete a discrete segment of the project. In the event that the Subcommittee cannot fully fund your request, information is required to be provided about a minimum funding level that could



be realistically utilized in FY23 to advance the project or complete a discrete segment of the project. If the minimum amount exceeds available funding, then the project may not be funded. The number of projects and the amount will be limited. In FY10, the last year these DOE CPFs were included in the House, House projects selected for funding received \$740,000 on average, 7 and the range of funding was approximately \$75,000 to \$3 million. Note that the Committee may consider similar or slightly lower amounts for FY23, and any caps will be determined after reviewing the full universe of requests. Members should not expect that every request will be able to be funded or funded in full.

Given the ban on directing Community Project Funding to for-profit entities, projects with for-profit entities as a recipient are not allowed. In addition, funds may not be used to support building construction (no brick and mortar). Electric vehicle (EV) charging station projects will not be considered unless there is a renewable energy or energy storage connection to the charging station. Please direct questions about any other EV charging station request to the Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee.

Statutory cost sharing requirements may apply to these projects, as required by section 988 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The amount of required cost sharing will depend on the scope and technological maturity of the project:

- Research or development activities of a basic or fundamental nature: no minimum cost share
- Research or development activities of an applied nature: minimum 20 percent cost share
- Demonstration or commercial application: minimum 50 percent cost share

Some projects may contain elements of more than one of the categories shown above. Therefore, some projects may have a blended cost share. It is recommended that you ensure the requested recipient is aware of and can meet applicable cost sharing requirements prior to submitting a CPF request.

## Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee

### *General Services Administration*

Federal Buildings Fund - New Construction, Major Repairs & Alterations & Basic Repairs Account

#### **\*This is a new account for FY 23\***

Projects are limited to line items in the GSA Federal Buildings Fund requested by the Administration in either the FY22 or FY23 budget request. This account was not eligible for community project funding in the House in FY22 but was eligible for community project funding in the Senate. The awards in FY22 ranged from \$500,000 to \$50 million. Note that the Committee may consider a similar project range for FY23, and any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

### *National Archives and Records Administration*

National Historical Publications and Records Commission

#### **\*This is a new account for FY 23\***

Projects that help ensure online public discovery and use of historical records collections, encourage public engagement with historical records, strengthen the nation's archival network, or publish documentary editions of historical records. Generally, projects should comply with the eligibility requirements for existing National Historical Publications and Records Commission grants programs as specified at <https://www.archives.gov/nhprc/apply/eligibility.html>. This account was not eligible for community project funding in the House in FY22 but was eligible for equivalent funding in the Senate. The average award in FY22 was just under \$500,000. Note that the Committee may consider slightly higher project amounts for FY23, and any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

### *Small Business Administration*

Small Business Initiatives

#### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$32,424,945**

**Average Project Cost: \$589,544**

**Median Project Cost: \$500,000**

**Highest Request: \$1,000,000**

**Lowest Request: \$50,000**

**Number of Requests: 55**

Projects in support of small businesses, including but not limited to entrepreneur training, workforce development, counseling, research, and construction or acquisition of facilities. The average award in this account for FY22 was \$650,000. Note the Committee may consider slightly higher project amounts for FY23, and any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## Homeland Security Subcommittee

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$149,452,686

**Average Project Cost:** \$2,019,631

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,000,000

**Number of Requests:** 74

## *Department of Homeland Security*

### Pre-Disaster Mitigation Projects

#### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$127,867,283

**Average Project Cost:** \$2,906,075

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,500,000

**Highest Request:** \$9,950,000

**Lowest Request:** \$187,500

**Number of Requests:** 44

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program will be considered for funding, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2023 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the state agency responsible for administering mitigation grants in the requestor's state must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that entity will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

### Emergency Operations Center Grant Program

#### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$21,435,403

**Average Project Cost:** \$739,152

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,000,000

**Highest Request:** \$1,000,000

**Lowest Request:** \$36,000

**Number of Requests:** 29

Only projects that meet the requirements detailed in the most recent [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for the Emergency Operations Center Grant Program, including the cost-share requirement and environmental and historic preservation requirements, as applicable, will be considered for funding. For any projects designated for funding in the final fiscal year 2023 Homeland Security

Appropriations Act, the respective state administrative agency (SAA) must submit an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and that agency will serve as the administrative agent for the grant. Therefore, all project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate SSA affirming that it believes the project is eligible.

## Interior and Environment Subcommittee

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$443,928,695

**Average Project Cost:** \$1,441,327

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,000,000

**Number of Requests:** 308

### *Department of the Interior*

For each community project funding request, Member offices will need to submit the following information:

- Amount requested
- Total project cost
- FY 2023 President's Budget Request (if applicable).
- FY 2022 enacted level (if applicable).
- Can the project obligate all of the appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment (yes/no)?
- Was this request submitted to another subcommittee this fiscal year, and if so, which one?
- Estimated start and completion dates for the project.

### Save America's Treasures (SAT) through the National Park Service

#### **\*This is a new account for FY 23\***

The Save America's Treasures grant program is for preservation and/or conservation work on nationally significant collections and historic properties. The SAT program falls under the purview of the Historic Preservation Fund account and was established in 1998 to celebrate America's premier cultural resources in the new millennium (Public Law 113-287, Section 308902, 128 Stat. 3244; 54 USC 3089 et seq.). The existing competitive grant program funds two categories of projects: awards managed by the National Park Service (NPS) for preservation projects at properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places for national significance or designated a National Historic Landmark; and awards managed by the Institute of Museum and Library Services for projects involving nationally significant collections (including artifacts, museum collections, documents, sculptures, and other works of art).

To be considered for Community Project Funding, each applicant must provide information consistent with competitive application requirements. All grant recipients must comply with relevant requirements for recipients of Federal financial assistance and program-specific requirements found [here](#) on NPS's SAT website. Consistent with prior years, Members are encouraged to consider a project funding threshold of up to \$500,000 when making requests in this account. This a new account for the FY23 House process.

All SAT grants require a dollar-for-dollar non-federal matching share. Recipients of any SAT project funded in the Interior bill must be able to match the amount provided. The property must be on the National Register of Historic Places in order to be eligible to receive funding. Grants are not available for work on sites or collections owned by the NPS. Other federal agencies working with a nonprofit partner to preserve the historic properties or collections owned by the federal agency may submit applications through the partner. If the project has received previous appropriations, it is not eligible. A building or structure may only receive one SAT grant. Previous SAT projects can be viewed here:

<https://go.nps.gov/satmap>.

If the historic structure has been moved, it is probably not eligible for funding. It is best to ask the State Historic Preservation Officer if the proposed work meets the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Buildings (<https://ncshpo.org/>). Work that has already been done prior to SAT funding may have had an adverse effect on the historic features of the building and make it ineligible for the National Register and for SAT funding.

Contractors for the project must be competitively selected, as stipulated under Government- wide Grants Requirements set by OMB. New construction is not eligible. The SAT grant program was created to preserve nationally significant properties by repairing them, not adding to or changing them.

Demolition of an historic building or significant changes to it are not eligible projects under the SAT grant program. The sponsors of this project must agree to a preservation easement or covenant. The National Park Service not only pays for the work to fix the roof, but also ensures that if the property is sold later, then the covenant or easement will bind the new owner to maintain and preserve the historic building that gets the SAT grant.

## Land Acquisition through the Land and Water Conservation Fund

### In FY 22

**Total Funding: \$7,824,000**

**Highest Request: \$4,124,500**

**Lowest Request: \$3,700,000**

**Number of Requests: 2**

Federal acquisition of lands and water and interests therein must be for the purpose of land and habitat conservation and the encouragement of outdoor recreation, as established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965. Land acquisition project requests funded from the LWCF should be requested through the agency that would manage the land being acquired. The four land management agencies are: within the Department of the Interior, (1) the Bureau of Land Management, (2) the Fish and Wildlife Service, (3) the National Park Service; and within the Department of Agriculture, (4) the Forest Service.

Third party organizations (i.e. The Nature Conservancy, Trust for Public Land, etc.) frequently participate in the federal acquisition process by coordinating the negotiation and purchase of tracts. If the project you are requesting

involves a third-party organization, please be mindful that funding for a land acquisition project goes to the agency that will manage the land.

The Great American Outdoors Act of (Public Law 116-152) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260) mandates that the President submit, along with the upcoming fiscal year's budget request, proposed and supplemental project lists. The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that appear in either of these lists. When submitting your request, please indicate whether the project is on these lists.

## *Environmental Protection Agency*

### State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)

#### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$428,577,695**

**Average Project Cost: \$1,488,117**

**Median Project Cost: \$1,040,000**

**Highest Request: \$3,500,000**

**Lowest Request: \$68,000**

**Number of Requests: 288**

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

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

There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant. For example, a \$1 million project could receive a maximum of \$800,000 from the Federal government, with the remaining \$200,000 the responsibility of the grantee. In almost all cases, other federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. 10 Ability to fund the 20% cost share is required before EPA can award a STAG grant. Please note that



assistance provided by a SRF counts towards the project's matching requirement.

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

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

*Clean Water/Wastewater*

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

*Drinking Water*

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

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

*Clean Water/Wastewater*

1. Wastewater treatment plants, including sludge handling facilities - new, upgraded (increase in treatment level) or expanded (increase in treatment capacity) facilities, including biological facilities, mechanical, a lagoon system, a land treatment system, or individual on-site systems.
2. Collector Sewers - Small sewers that convey wastewater from residences, commercial establishments, and industrial sites to larger interceptor sewers.

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

### *Drinking Water*

1. Facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations or address serious risks to public health including non-regulated contaminants (i.e. PFAS).
2. Rehabilitate or develop water sources (excluding reservoirs, dams, dam rehabilitation and water rights) to replace contaminated sources.
3. Install or upgrade treatment facilities.
4. Install or upgrade storage facilities, including finished water reservoirs, to prevent microbiological contaminants from entering the water system.

5. Install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination caused by leaks or breaks in the pipe, or improve water pressure to safe levels.
6. Projects to consolidate water supplies – for example, when individual homes or other public water supplies have a water supply that is contaminated, or the system is unable to maintain compliance for financial or managerial reasons – are eligible for DWSRF assistance.
7. Land is eligible only if it is integral to a project that is needed to meet or maintain compliance and further public health protection.
8. Project planning, design and other related costs.

## *U.S. Forest Service*

### State and Private Forestry

#### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$7,526,500**

**Average Project Cost: \$418,139**

**Median Project Cost: \$429,000**

**Highest Request: \$750,000**

**Lowest Request: \$50,000**

**Number of Requests: 18**

The Forest Service is an agency within the Department of Agriculture. Requests that do not fit into the described categories below are unlikely to be eligible for funding under the Forest Service.

The State and Private Forestry (S&PF) account provides technical and financial assistance, usually through the network of State Foresters, to improve the management, protection, and utilization of the Nation's forests. Community projects are usually limited and include various specific urban and community forestry projects and specific forest disease or pest treatment areas. Members may also request specific State fire assistance projects or specific forestry assistance projects in this account. Please carefully review the information the Forest Service provides on its website regarding what activities are permitted under the various S&PF programs and consult with your State Forester office if needed to confirm that all of a project's activities are eligible for S&PF funding. Members should use the range of House and Senate project amounts funded in FY22 as a general guide for making requests. In FY22, the majority of State and Private Forestry projects in the House bill ranged from \$50,000 - \$750,000. Note that the Committee will consider similar project amounts for FY23, and any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

Note, State and Private Forestry projects are required to meet the 1:1 matching requirement mandated by the Forest Service. Keep this in mind when considering the amount being requested for the project. The amount being requested can be no more than half of the total project cost to account for matching funds being used (ex. If a project has been calculated to cost \$200,000, then a request for a CPF can be no more than \$100,000 for that

project to allow for 1:1 matching funds to be used.) Additionally, project amounts should be to the nearest thousand (ex. \$100,000 instead of \$100,500).

The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that are listed on any federal or state ordinal list or are clearly demonstrated to meet the goals of a State Forest Action Plan(s). Please ensure any requests submitted for S&PF funding include not only full details on the types of activities in the project, but other details relevant to the specific type of S&PF program the project would fall under (ex. For landscape scale restoration, precise location data is needed).

## Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$670,080,000**

**Average Project Cost: \$781,890**

**Median Project Cost: \$600,000**

**Number of Requests: 857**

The Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee previously received requests for community project funding to construct or renovate buildings. Health facilities are the *only* types of construction projects normally eligible for community project funding in the Labor-HHS-Education bill.

### *Department of Labor*

Employment and Training Administration

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Demonstration Program

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$62,910,000**

**Average Project Cost: \$648,557**

**Median Project Cost: \$500,000**

**Highest Request: \$2,000,000**

**Lowest Request: \$20,000**

**Number of Requests: 97**

Community project funding is designated under Training and Employment Services.

These projects must meet all statutorily mandated requirements, except that they are exempt from the requirement to compete. In addition, all projects must:

1. Include direct services to individuals to enhance employment opportunities;
2. Demonstrate evidence of a linkage with the State or local workforce investment system; and
3. Include an evaluation component.

Equipment purchases may be included within community project funding only as an incidental part of the entire project. A similar standard applies to curriculum development, which should be incidental to the project's emphasis on direct services to individuals.

Community project funding **cannot** be used for construction or renovation of facilities.

House project amounts in this account were funded between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 in FY 2022. The Committee may consider slightly higher project amounts for FY 2023. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## *Department of Health and Human Services*

### Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Requests that fit into one of the below categories are eligible for Community Project Funding under HRSA

#### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$359,390,000**

**Average Project Cost: \$940,812**

**Median Project Cost: \$842,500**

**Highest Request: \$4,000,000**

**Lowest Request: \$15,000**

**Number of Requests: 382.**

### Health Facilities Construction and Equipment

Grants to help with the cost of construction, renovation, or capital equipment for facilities for provision of health, mental health, or substance abuse services, training of health professionals, or medical research. Examples of eligible facilities include hospitals; health centers and clinics; skilled nursing facilities; mental health centers; facilities for schools of medicine, nursing or other health professions; and medical research laboratories.

In addition to construction and renovation, grants can be used to acquire capital equipment, such as lab equipment or x-ray machines. Equipment-only grants—that is, grants not involving construction—are permissible (and commonly done). Generally, any equipment having a useful life of more than one year and a unit cost of at least \$5,000 will be eligible as capital equipment. In addition, equipment with lower costs may also be eligible, provided that it is treated as an item of capital expense under the recipient institution's pre-existing, written accounting policies. Equipment expenses for health information systems and electronic medical records systems are permitted expenditures. The costs of expendable supplies such as pharmaceuticals, lab chemicals, or office paper are not eligible.

HRSA Health Facilities grants cannot be used to acquire land or purchase existing buildings, or to pay salaries or other operating costs. They cannot be used to pay for work previously completed. Grants can be used for architectural and engineering costs associated with an eligible construction project, but cannot be used for general feasibility studies.

House project amounts in this account were funded between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 (or up to \$4,000,000 for projects jointly submitted by multiple

Members) in FY 2022. Note that the Committee may consider slightly higher project amounts for FY 2023. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$68,405,000**

**Average Project Cost: \$589,698**

**Median Project Cost: \$462,500**

**Highest Request: \$2,000,000**

**Lowest Request: \$15,000**

**Number of Requests: 116**

Community project funding through SAMHSA provides resources for substance use and/or mental health services — including prevention, harm reduction, treatment, or recovery support services.

Community project funding within SAMHSA should be submitted through the Health Surveillance and Program Support account.

Generally, SAMHSA projects cover:

- Evidence-based substance use disorder and/or mental health treatment services.
- Evidence-based harm reduction activities.
- Crisis services, including 24-hour mobile crisis teams.
- Suicide prevention activities including awareness training, screening, referral to treatment, as well as postvention activities.
- Recovery support services, which includes case management, outreach, peer recovery mentors, peer support specialists, childcare, training, transportation, and housing, as well as helping individuals to navigate these various services.
- Screening and assessment of individuals, including the presence of co-occurring mental and substance use disorders and referral to treatment.
- Referral and access to treatment services.
- Educational materials on substance misuse, HIV prevention, hepatitis prevention, and mental health promotion.
- Practitioners or community members training on evidence-based behavioral health practices.
- FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorders in combination with comprehensive psychosocial services, including counseling, behavioral therapies, recovery support services, and other clinically appropriate services.
- Projects that support the hiring of behavioral health providers.
- Limited indirect costs that are directly related to the projects.

Note: This is not an exhaustive list of the types of programs and services that SAMHSA funds. A listing of SAMHSA NOFO's can be found at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grantannouncements-2022>.

SAMHSA project funds cannot be used for:

- Inpatient treatment or hospital-based detoxification services.
- Direct payments to individuals to enter treatment or continue to participate in prevention or treatment services.
- Meals and food.
- Research projects (e.g., scientific, academic, clinical trials, studies, development of research technology).
- Construction (other than a limited amount of renovation necessary to carry out a funded project).

More information on allowable or unallowable costs can be found on the HHS Webpage at: <https://www.hhs.gov/grants/grants/index.html>

House project amounts in this account were funded between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 in FY 2022. The Committee may consider slightly higher project amounts for FY 2023. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## Administration for Children and Families

### **\*These are new accounts for FY 23\***

ACF community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities. Community project funding within ACF should be submitted through the Children and Families Services Programs account and must fall under one of the following categories:

#### Child Abuse Prevention

Community project funding may be used for projects to improve the prevention, assessment, identification, and treatment of child abuse and neglect through research, model service improvement, information dissemination, and technical assistance. Projects must serve or target children and families who are at risk or who have experienced child abuse and neglect.

#### Social Services Research and Demonstration

Community project funding may be used for projects to promote the ability of families to thrive through financial self-sufficiency in order to prevent and reduce poverty and to promote the healthy development and greater well-being of children and families. Projects can serve a diverse population including: low-income individuals, children, youth, families, individuals with developmental disabilities, and Native Americans.



The House LHHS bill did not include projects in this account in FY 2022. The Committee expects to consider project amounts in this account between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 for FY 2023. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## Administration for Community Living

Community project funding within ACL should be submitted through the Aging and Disability Services Programs account.

Community project funding may be used for projects to improve or create new opportunities for older adults, individuals of all ages with disabilities, and their eligible family caregivers, to live independently and participate fully in their communities. Generally, community project funding should focus on improving access to, or the quality of, education, health services, training, support services, and independent living services for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and eligible family caregivers.

ACL community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of facilities.

The House LHHS bill did not include projects in this account in FY 2022. The Committee expects to consider project amounts in this account between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 for FY 2023. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## *Department of Education*

### Elementary and Secondary Education

#### Innovation and Improvement

##### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$86,860,000**

**Average Project Cost: \$582,953**

**Median Project Cost: \$500,000**

**Highest Request: \$2,000,000**

**Lowest Request: \$50,000**

**Number of Requests: 149**

Community project funding for elementary and secondary education should be submitted through the Innovation and Improvement account. Elementary and secondary education community project funding includes instructional services, afterschool centers, curricula development, teacher training, acquisition of books and computers, arts education, social and emotional learning activities, full-service community schools, and early childhood education. In general, the focus of elementary and secondary education community project funding should be providing early childhood or K-12 educational services.

Community project funding to provide and improve special education services at the elementary and secondary levels are also eligible under elementary and secondary education. Community project funding may include early intervention services for infants and toddlers, transition services, and postsecondary education services.

Eligible grantees are state education agencies, school districts, colleges and universities, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Generally, community project funding intended for individual schools is provided to the applicable school district and not directly to the individual school.

Community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of school buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades. Daycare and childcare projects that do not include educational services are also not eligible.

House project amounts in this account were funded between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 in FY 2022. The Committee may consider slightly higher project amounts for FY 2023. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## Postsecondary Education

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$92,515,000**

**Average Project Cost: \$818,717**

**Median Project Cost: \$750,000**

**Highest Request: \$2,000,000**

**Lowest Request: \$95,000**

**Number of Requests: 113**

Community project funding can be designated under this heading for a wide variety of higher education projects. Generally, community project funding should focus on improving access to, or the quality of, postsecondary education.

Community project funding cannot be used for construction or renovation of academic buildings, except in the case of minor remodeling required as part of technology upgrades.

Examples of the types of projects that can be funded under FIPSE include projects to hire and train faculty, establish and improve degree programs, improve teacher preparation programs, develop and improve curricula, upgrade technology and telecommunications, acquire science laboratory equipment, provide student support, implement university partnerships with school districts, and establish research and training centers.

Grantees are usually colleges and universities, but may include other public and private nonprofit organizations.

House project amounts in this account were funded between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 in FY 2022. The Committee may consider slightly higher project amounts for FY 2023. Any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

### Limitations on Education-Related Community Project Funding

Except where specifically authorized, community project funding cannot be used for construction (or the acquisition of property) or renovation of buildings. In addition, grantees may not restrict participants based on race, ethnicity or gender. Finally, recipients of community project funding may not sub-grant to other organizations or agencies.

In addition, grantees may not restrict participants based on race, ethnicity, or gender. Any project that appears to target services toward a particular race, ethnicity, or gender must have a description that makes clear that it will be operated in a race/ethnicity-neutral and gender-neutral manner.

## Military Construction, Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$227,726,666

**Average Project Cost:** \$8,434,320.96

**Number of Requests:** 27

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

The following types of projects are eligible to be considered for community project funding, provided that they comply with the specified guidelines listed below. The subcommittee will not consider requests for community projects unless they appear on a list provided to Congress by the Secretary of Defense or his/her designee. More detail regarding such lists can be found below.

### *Department of Defense - Military Construction Accounts*

#### Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction– Active Components

Eligible community project requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for active components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$6,000,000. The types of projects under this heading include construction, installation, equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, and facilities for the accounts listed below:

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force
- Space Force
- Defense-Wide Agencies (SOCOM, DHA, etc.)

#### Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction– Reserve Components

Eligible community project requests include both construction and unspecified minor military construction projects for Reserve Components. An unspecified minor military construction project is a project that has an approved cost equal to or less than \$6,000,000. 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 match funding before the request can be considered. The types of projects under this heading include construction, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for training and administration for the accounts listed below:

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

- Navy Reserve

### Planning and Design

Planning and design funding can be requested for specific projects when they are not yet at 35 percent design and therefore ineligible for construction funding. The types of projects under this heading include improving facility resilience, study, planning, design, and architect and engineer services for the accounts listed below:

- Army
- Navy and Marine Corps
- Air Force
- Defense-Wide Agencies (SOCOM, DHA, etc.)
- Army National Guard
- Air National Guard
- Army Reserve
- Air Force Reserve
- Navy Reserve

### Future Year Defense Program (FYDP)

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

<https://comptroller.defense.gov/Budget-Materials/>.

### Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFRs/UPLs)

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

### Cost-to-Completes (CTCs)

CTCs are projects that have previously received an appropriation but require additional funding for completion. These lists represent the requirements identified by each Service for the additional funding necessary to complete a project. The lists are approved by each Service Secretary and can be obtained by contacting the Congressional Liaison Offices of the Armed Services.

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The average award for Military Construction projects in FY 2022 was \$18 million. Note the Committee may consider similar project amounts for FY 2023, and any caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

For Community Project Funding requests for DoD Military Construction, you will need to answer supplemental questions in support of these requests specifically.

## *Department of Veterans Affairs*

### **\*This is a new account for FY 23\***

The following information outlines the type of projects that are eligible to be considered for community project funding, provided that they comply with the specified guidelines listed below. The subcommittee will not consider requests for community projects unless they appear on VA's 2023 Construction SCIP List.

Veterans memorials, parks, museums, and other similar projects are not eligible for community project funding. Funds are also not available for direct grants to veterans organizations or for local programmatic efforts.

### Construction Programs

VA has three types of construction projects: Major Construction (projects that are expected to cost above \$20,000,000), Minor Construction (projects that are expected to cost equal to or less than \$20,000,000), and Nonrecurring Maintenance (NRM) (projects that consist of upkeep, construction and maintaining building systems). The classification of each construction project is determined by VA.

**Community project funding requests are eligible ONLY for VA Minor Construction projects.** VA's Minor Construction program includes capital projects with costs equal to or less than \$20,000,000, particularly projects that construct new space instead of renovating existing space. Examples may include expanding existing facility square footage to provide additional healthcare capacity, construction of specialty care buildings or clinics, building of parking structures, or expanding gravesite space at cemeteries.

The Committee will only consider projects that appear on VA's Integrated Department wide Priority List for 2023 Construction Projects (2023 Construction SCIP List). This list will be included in the FY 2023 President's Budget submission.

The yearly Construction SCIP List includes projects that have been reviewed by VA and are determined to be at an advanced enough stage to receive funds. This will ensure that Federal dollars are not set aside for projects that are not yet ready to spend them. Please note that while this list includes both Major Construction and Minor Construction projects, only Minor Construction projects will be considered for Member requests.

Criteria for VA Community Project Funding (CPF):

- The subcommittee will consider supporting Community Project Funding only for VA Minor Construction projects that are equal to or less than \$20,000,000 in total estimated project cost, and they must be included in the 2023 Construction SCIP List (this list will be included in the FY 2023 President's Budget submission materials).
- Projects must be listed as unfunded on VA's 2023 Construction SCIP List with \$0 in the 2023 Request column. Projects with a dollar amount in the 2023 Request column are requested in the President's budget request, and if requested, should be submitted as programmatic requests.
- Funding for a CPF project will be capped at 10 percent of the total estimated cost of the project to support planning and design that can be executed within twelve months of receiving funding. (Similar projects on the FY 2022 list would generally have been in the range of \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000.)
  - Exceptions to the 10 percent cap may be made for projects where construction is ready to be supported in year one, and only applies to some National Cemetery Administration (NCA) Minor Construction projects. Please consult with the subcommittee and VA to determine if the full scope of an NCA project can be executable in one year.
- Final decision on funding caps will be determined by the Chair after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$1,425,390,645

**Average Project Cost:** \$1,470,991

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,000,000

**Number of Requests:** 969

## *Department of Transportation*

### Transit Infrastructure Projects

**\*The following information is for last year's *Local Transportation Priorities* account. This account has been split into *Transit Infrastructure Projects* and *Highway Infrastructure Projects* for FY 23\***

### **In FY 22**

**Total Funding:** \$422,417,090

**Average Project Cost:** \$1,852,707

**Median Project Cost:** \$1,350,000

**Highest Request:** \$5,000,000

**Lowest Request:** \$30,000

**Number of Requests:** 228

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

All projects must be:

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

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



The Subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses, and activities authorized under sections 5303, 5304, and 5305 of title 49, United States Code. 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, consistent with the fiscal year 2022 process.

The average award in this account for fiscal year 2022 was \$2.5 million. Note that the Committee may consider project amounts of up to \$7 million for FY23, but any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests.

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

## Highway Infrastructure Projects

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

All projects must be:

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

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

The average award in this account for fiscal year 2022 was \$2.7 million. Note that the Committee may consider project amounts of up to \$7 million for FY23, but any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests.

## Airport Improvement Program (AIP)

**In FY 22**

**Total Funding: \$79,959,135**

**Average Project Cost: \$2,579,327**

**Median Project Cost: \$2,000,000**

**Highest Request: \$5,000,000**  
**Lowest Request: \$250,000**  
**Number of Requests: 31**

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

All projects must be:

- AIP eligible in accordance with sections 47101 to 47175 of title 49, United States Code, and FAA [policy and guidance](#).
- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- Administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor.

The average award in this account for FY22 was \$4 million. Note that the Committee may consider project amounts of up to \$7 million for FY23, but any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests. Please ensure community project funding requests are not duplicative of requests to another Committee or Subcommittee.

## *Department of Housing and Urban Development*

Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

**In FY 22**  
**Total Funding: \$923,014,420**  
**Average Project Cost: \$1,300,020**  
**Median Project Cost: \$1,000,000**  
**Highest Request: \$5,000,000**  
**Lowest Request: \$25,000**  
**Number of Requests: 710**

EDI community project funding may be used for economic and community development activities, including land or site acquisition, demolition or rehabilitation of housing or facilities, construction and capital improvements of public facilities (including water and sewer facilities), and public services. Requests may also include planning and other activities consistent with previously funded activities eligible under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program (title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.)), unless otherwise specified. EDI community project funding is not eligible for the reimbursement of expenses for activities or costs incurred prior to the obligation of funds, if such activities are not eligible under the CDBG program. Capital and operating expenses for fire and police stations are not eligible for EDI community project funding.

The average award in this account for fiscal year 2022 was \$1.5 million. Note that the Committee may consider project amounts of up to \$4 million for FY23, but any caps will be determined by the Chairman after reviewing the full universe of requests.

All projects must be:

- Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- Administered by governmental or non-profit entities, including public housing agencies, as well as tribes and tribally designated housing entities.

## Frequently Asked Questions

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

### **What is Community Project Funding?**

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

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

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

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

### **Is there a deadline for submitting a request?**

Yes. The deadline to submit a Community Project Funding request for our office is **April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 5:00pm MT**. If you need additional time to procure additional pieces of Community Support, please let my team know in advance. My team is happy to work with you on a case by case basis.

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

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

### **Are Community Project Funding requests publicly disclosed?**

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

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

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

**How many Community Project Funding requests will the Congresswoman make?**

I am limited to submitting **15** requests for Community Project Funding across the entire House Appropriations Committee for FY 2023.

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

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

**Can I request funding for "bricks and mortar"?**

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

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

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

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

**How much should I request?**

It depends on the account from which you are requesting funds. You should request the amount you need and can realistically use in the time frame laid

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

### **How should I determine how much funding to request?**

The level of funding request should be justified by the project proposal, budget plan, and community support. Data on the range of projects can be found in this guide, though you should request what you can realistically use and spend in the Fiscal Year of award. In FY 22, the committee awarded well outlined and high quality projects with the requested amount generally.

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

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

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

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

This guide has been prepared to outline information on available accounts. Requestors should use this guide to identify the appropriate account to identify one that meets the needs of your project or organization. Please call my office if you need additional information.

### **If my project is funded, will I receive the full amount I request?**

There is no guarantee that an approved Community Project Funding request will be funded at the requested level. In FY22, most projects were funded at the requested level, though we expect that could change. Please keep this in mind when requesting support for your project.

### **Do I need letters of support?**

Yes. The more community support for a project, the better. As listed above, letters of support from local, municipal, and state elected officials and

stakeholders, as well as editorials and articles in local newspapers on the importance and necessity of the project are all important.

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

The FY 2023 Community Project Funding process is extremely targeted and this process is also very competitive. While my team will look at all requests, it is strongly recommended you explore other grant and funding sources as well.

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

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

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

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

In general, recipients of Community Project Funding will be contacted by the appropriate agency or office that oversees the account from which your project received funding. This cannot happen until the appropriations bill in which your project was listed is signed into law. The timing varies between departments and agencies – some may start the process within several weeks, others may take several months after the bill’s enactment into law.

In most cases, you will have to complete and submit a grant application outlining the project’s goals, cost estimates and other requirements. You will work with a program or contract officer to complete these steps; they may have questions or additional requirements that could affect the timing of the obligations or outlay of funding to your organization.

The process of accessing funding and the time it takes to complete the necessary steps, surprises many recipients who expect the money to be provided immediately.

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

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

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

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

## **Can funds from the American Rescue Plan for State/Local Government Relief be used for the non-federal match component of Community Project Funding?**

Our office anticipates guidance from the Department of Treasury to address this question. In the CARES Act, state and local funding was eligible to pay for the non-federal share of a narrow set of Stafford Act costs related to FEMA.

## **Are all non-profits eligible?**

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

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

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

## **Does Fiscal Year 2023 refer to the federal fiscal year or the state fiscal year?**

This refers to the Federal Fiscal Year; Fiscal Year 2023 begins on October 1, 2022. Many states have a fiscal year that begins in July. It is not an issue if the state FY 2024 overlaps with federal FY 2023.



**If the FY23 spending bill isn't finalized until much later (i.e. December 2022), will Community Project Funding requests still need to be fully obligated and spent by September 30, 2023, or will they have 12 months after enactment to obligate funds?**

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

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

As of now, the House Appropriations Committee does not have an overall funding level for discretionary spending for FY 2023. However, no more than 1% of discretionary spending will be allocated to fund all Community Project Funding.

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

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

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

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

**Are capital projects eligible for Community Project Funding?**

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

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

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

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

No. Community Project Funding is intended as a one-time infusion of resources to move a project forward that benefits the community, and using it for operating expenses would potentially create a budgeting cliff. There's no guarantee that if one receives Community Project Funding in one fiscal year that there will be subsequent funding in later fiscal years for the same project.

### **When will we hear back about our request?**

This will be a long and competitive process. First, my office will publicly post the requested Community Project Funding requests I will submit to the House Appropriations Committee. Then, the House Appropriations Committee will review and finalize a list of Community Project Funding requests from across the country to be included in the FY 23 House spending bill, which is expected to pass the House in the late summer. Any differences between the House and Senate Appropriations bills will need to be resolved in the early fall before passing and enacting a final spending bill for FY 23.

## Other Federal Funding Resources

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

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

### Key Resources

#### Grants.gov

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

#### SAM.gov

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

#### GovLoans.gov

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

#### Benefits.gov

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

#### USA.gov

The official guide to US Government Information and Services.

#### Rep. Escobar's Website and Staff

For more grant resources, visit my [website](#) or email Lizette Bode, my Grants Coordinator, at [Lizette.Ruiz-Bode@mail.house.gov](mailto:Lizette.Ruiz-Bode@mail.house.gov).

## Feedback

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

Thank you.