



## Appropriations Requests Guide Fiscal Year 2025

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*Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández strives to ensure that the federal government invests in the programs and policies that create opportunities for New Mexico's 3rd Congressional District and our nation. She welcomes constituents and other stakeholders to submit appropriations requests in the following categories:*

## **PROGRAMMATIC AND LANGUAGE REQUESTS:**

1. Programmatic request: a request to fund a specific program in the appropriations bill at a specified level.
  - a. Example: Provide \$1,000,000,000 for the USDA ReConnect program.
2. Language request: a request to include specific bill or report language that does not direct funding to a particular entity but encourages, urges, or directs some type of action by an agency.
  - a. Example: The Committee encourages USDA to study the impact of expanded broadband on rural communities' economic prosperity.

**To submit a programmatic or language request, please complete this [FORM](#) by March 29, 2024.**

## **COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING:**

3. Community Project Funding (CPF) request: a funding request for a specific governmental entity or non-profit organization to carry out a specific community project. For-profit entities are not eligible for funding.
  - a. Example: Provide \$500,000 for a specific entity in City, State.

CPF requests may only be made for the accounts listed in this guide and must meet the specified eligibility and/or matching requirements. **This is a highly competitive process as our office can only select 15 requests for submission to the Appropriations Committee.** The Committee will ultimately decide which projects move forward.

**The deadline to submit CPF requests to our office is April 5, 2024.** Please note that this limited timeline is due to external deadlines that our office does not control.

**Note:** The House Appropriations Committee has not yet released final information on FY25 Community Project Funding. To provide interested applicants with more time to submit projects, we're accepting submissions based on the guidelines for FY24. Please note that eligible accounts and requirements may be subject to change by the Appropriations Committee.

**Please submit your requests using these forms, which are also available at <https://fernandez.house.gov/approps>:**

- [Ag., Rural Devel., Food & Drug Admin](#)
- [Commerce, Justice and Science](#)
- [Energy and Water Development](#)

- [Homeland Security](#)
- [Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies](#)
- [Military Construction & Veterans Affairs](#)
- [Transportation, Housing and Urban Development](#)

You may send any supplemental materials or questions to [NM03Requests@mail.house.gov](mailto:NM03Requests@mail.house.gov).

### **General CPF Guidelines:**

For FY25, CPF is available to only governmental or certain non-profit organizations as described under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Non-profit eligibility varies by subcommittee so please read this guidance closely. The range of sizes for CPF awards has historically been between hundreds of thousands of dollars and several million. If your project is selected, it may receive a lesser amount of funding than originally requested.

**Below you'll find a *brief* summary of each account from which funding may be requested. Our office highly recommends reviewing the requirements for each account on the related agency's website or with an agency office, which may not be explicitly listed in this guide. Some accounts have strict eligibility and matching requirements that cannot be waived.**

Note: This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable.

Requests must be for FY25 and cannot include multi-year funding. However, the period of availability to spend the funds may last longer than one year depending on the account from which it comes.

Members must demonstrate that there is significant community support for the proposed projects. This demonstration is critical to increasing the likelihood that the Appropriations Committee will choose to fund a project. Support may be evidenced by, but not limited to:

- Letters of support from elected officials or other local and state entities;
- Press articles or newspaper editorials highlighting the need for the requested CPF;
- Listing on state intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents;
- Resolutions passed by city councils or boards.

All submissions must include a project description, budget describing how funding will be used, and an explanation of why the project is a good use of taxpayer funds, among other details specific to each account. Each project must be tied to a federal authorization law. Memorials, museums, and commemoratives (i.e., projects named for an individual or entity) are not eligible for Community Project Funding. Projects may also be subject to Build America, Buy America requirements.

All requests selected for submission to the Appropriations Committee will be posted publicly on the Committee website.

After receiving requests from every Member of Congress, the Appropriations Committee will determine which projects receive funding by the full House of Representatives. Funding will only be awarded if approved by both the House and Senate and signed into law by the President. If your project is signed into law, please note that you will need to apply directly to the agency and complete various documents to confirm the project's eligibility though this is not a competitive process. Funding recipients often must complete particular environmental review before funding is disbursed. Last, please note that all projects that receive funding may be subject to a future audit by the Government Accountability Office.

### **Eligible CPF Accounts:**

*Please note that these descriptions are simply summaries. It is important that interested applicants review additional information about each account on the relevant agency's website or by contacting the agency office.*

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

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

1. **USDA Rural Development, Community Facilities Grants:** Funds may be used to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities; to purchase equipment; and pay other related project expenses. 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. Examples of eligible community facilities include medical or dental clinics, towns halls, courthouses, child care centers, police or fire departments, libraries, telemedicine or distance learning equipment, and food banks.

These projects must serve a rural area, which is defined as rural areas including cities, villages, townships and towns including Federally Recognized Tribal Lands with no more than 20,000 residents according to the latest U.S. Census Data.

This account has strict matching requirements that vary based on the population size as documented in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). This account also has a Credit Elsewhere Test meaning the applicant must certify they cannot finance the project from their own resources and credit is not otherwise available on reasonable terms from non-Federal sources.

For FY23, the average CPF funding level was just over \$1.2 million.

- a. **Best for:** Public bodies, community-based non-profit organizations, Federally-recognized Tribes in qualified rural areas
- b. Learn more about the program, including matching requirements [HERE](#)

2. **USDA Rural Development, ReConnect Program:** Funds may be used for construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment to provide broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access. 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.

These projects must serve an area that is rural and lacks sufficient access to broadband service. For the purposes of this account, 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 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream. Mobile and satellite services will not be considered in making the determination of sufficient access to broadband.

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 [HERE](#). For FY23, the average ReConnect CPF award was \$1.2 million.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments and qualified non-profit organizations
  - b. Learn more about the program [HERE](#)
3. **USDA Rural Development, Water and Waste Disposal Grants:** The Water and Waste Disposal Grant Program may be used to finance the acquisition, construction or improvement of drinking water sourcing, treatment, storage and disposal; sewer collection, transmission, treatment and disposal; solid waste collection, disposal and closure; and storm water collection, transmission, and closure.  
  
Eligible entities include rural areas and towns with population of 10,000 or less and Tribal lands in rural areas. Potential recipients will be required to provide a 25% non-federal cost share.
    - a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments and qualified non-profit organizations
    - b. Learn more about the program [HERE](#) (please note that these will be grant funds, not loans, though the match requirement remains)
  4. **USDA Rural Development, Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants:** Funds 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. The program is intended to serve rural areas with populations of 20,000 or less. All requests are subject to all the regulations governing the program which can be found at 7 CFR Part 1734. The program requires a minimum 15% match that cannot come from another federal source.

Competitive awards typically range from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 and the Committee will consider projects in this range. In FY22, the average Senate CPF in this account was \$359,000.

- a. **Best for:** Research universities, public or university libraries, non-profit organizations and state, local, and Tribal governments that provide education or health care through telecommunications
  - b. Learn more about the program [HERE](#)
5. **USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Buildings and Facilities:** Funds may be used 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. ARS owns and operates laboratories and facilities across the United States.
- a. **Best for:** Scientific researchers, local research universities, non-profit organizations
6. **USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations:** 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 those that 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. Urban agriculture program projects are not eligible.
- In FY23, the average Senate CPF in this account was \$1.3 million.
- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal organizations, or public conservation districts. Non-profit recipients will not be considered.

## Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

7. **Department of Commerce; National Institute of Standards and Technology; Scientific and Technical Research and Service:** 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. This account does not fund vehicles or building construction or renovation.
  - a. **Best for:** Research universities, non-profit organizations
8. **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Zone Management:** Projects support the protection, restoration, and responsible development of our nation's diverse coastal communities and resources.

9. **Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG):** Funds may be used for criminal justice purposes to support law enforcement; prosecution and court; prevention and education; corrections and community corrections; drug treatment and enforcement; planning, evaluation, and technology improvement; crime victim and witness initiatives; and mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs such as behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams. Projects must comply with the requirements cited in JAG statutes and be consistent with Justice Department guidance for the program. Here are the links to the [Department's guidance](#) and [frequently asked questions](#).

Funds may NOT be used, directly or indirectly for: security enhancements or equipment to an NGO that does not work on criminal justice or public safety, vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats), aircraft (excluding police helicopters); luxury items; real estate; or construction projects.

Awarded grants will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the DOJ Grants Financial Guide. Allowable costs are those costs consistent with the principles set out in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E, and those permitted by the grant program's authorizing legislation. Historically, the Committee has not funded building construction or renovation as part of community project funding under this account. The median award in this account for FY22 was \$500,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments and local law enforcement agencies

10. **Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) - Technology & Equipment:** Funds may be used for COPS Technology and Equipment (COPS Tech) 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.

Funding for building construction or renovation projects is not an eligible use of funding. Recipients of community project funding under this account may not subgrant to other organizations or agencies.

The median award in this account for FY22 was \$520,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies

11. **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Safety, Security, and Mission Services:** Funds may be used 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. Examples of such projects include nanomaterials research, antennae for unmanned aerial vehicles, and minority science initiatives. Funding for building construction or renovation projects and medical research projects will not be considered for community project funding.

The median award in this account for FY22 was \$900,000.

- a. **Best for:** Local nonprofit colleges and universities, K-12 local education agencies, research institutions, and local STEM education and workforce training programs

## **Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies**

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

**12. U.S. Army Corp of Engineers:** Only authorized projects will be considered for funding in the following accounts. All requests for the Corps of Engineers (Corps) accounts listed below should reflect a funding amount that can be realistically utilized in FY25. This is referred to as the project’s “capability” for FY25. All projects will be sent to the relevant agency for technical assistance, including regarding project capability. 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. If the project is an individually authorized project or a project under the Corps of Engineers Continuing Authorities Program, include the statutory citation in the statement of federal nexus. While requests for new starts and specific projects will be accepted, please consider these limitations when making requests.

- a. Investigations
- b. Construction
- c. Mississippi River and Tributaries
- d. Operation and Maintenance
- e. **Best for:** Facilitator of authorized projects and their partners

**13. Bureau of Reclamation - Water and Related Resources:** Only previously authorized projects will be considered for funding. Please note that for Reclamation, projects authorized only 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.

- a. **Best for:** Facilitators of authorized projects and their partners

## **Homeland Security**

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Homeland Security appropriations measure.

Please review the purpose and eligibility requirements, including any [environmental and historic preservation requirements](#), for these two accounts. Federal funding is available for up to 75



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

Eligible accounts include:

14. **Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants:** Funds may be used for planning or implementing projects that lessen the impacts of future disasters, such as wildfires and floods. Examples of eligible projects include stormwater projects or buying out properties in flood-prone areas. 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 FY24 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, the respective State or Territorial Administrative Agency, or Tribal government 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. **All project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible.** For FY23 project awards ranged from \$320,482 and \$10,000,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments
- b. Learn more about the program [HERE](#)

15. **Emergency Operations Center Grants:** Funds may be used to improve emergency preparedness by supporting secure, strategically located emergency operations centers. EOCs are central points from which leadership controls and directs operations during an emergency. 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 FY24 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. **All project proposals must be accompanied by a letter of support from the appropriate state agency affirming that it believes the project is eligible.**

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments

## Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

### 16. Environmental Protection Agency - State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG):

Funds may be used to 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 limit 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. Privately-owned projects are NOT eligible for infrastructure grants, even if they are otherwise eligible for assistance under a SRF program.

There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant. In almost all cases, other Federal funds cannot be used to meet this 20% cost share. However, assistance provided by a SRF does count towards the project's matching requirement. The Committee will look favorably upon requests for projects that are listed on a state's most recent Intended Use Plan. In FY23, the majority of EPA STAG infrastructure projects funded in the House bill ranged from \$45,000 - \$5,000,000.

- a. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments and nonprofit owners of sewer and drinking water infrastructure

## Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies appropriations measure.

**Department of Defense Military Construction Accounts:** Projects must be included on an unfunded requirements/unfunded priorities list (UFR/UPL) from a military service or combatant command or the FY24-FY28 Future Years Defense Program (FYDP). Projects that only appear on a list provided by a base commander will not be accepted.

Each project requested must be shovel ready with 35 percent design complete and must be positioned to have funding obligated in FY25. It must have been submitted to the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) for inclusion in the FY24 National Defense Authorization Act or previously authorized. There must also be a DD Form 1391, which is DoD's justification for military construction projects. The average award for Military Construction projects in FY 2022 was \$18 million.

Eligible DOD accounts include:

- 17. Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction—Active Components:** CPF from this account may be used for 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 \$9,000,000. Eligible projects include construction, installation, equipment of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, and facilities for the following accounts: (1) Army; (2) Navy and Marine Corps; (3) Air Force; (4) Space Force; and (5) Defense-Wide Agencies (Special Operations Command (SOCOM), Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), etc.).
- a. **Best for:** Facilitators of Active Components (Army, Navy and Marine Corps, Air Force, and Defense-Wide Agencies) projects that have been submitted to Congress by the Secretary of Defense or his/her designee through the Future Year Defense Program (FYDP), Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFRs/UPLs), or cost-to-complete lists (CTCs)
- 18. Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction—Reserve Components:** Funds may be used for 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 \$9,000,000. Some Reserve Component projects require a state funding match. Eligible projects include construction, expansion, rehabilitation, and conversion of facilities for training and administration for the following accounts: (1) Army National Guard; (2) Air National Guard; (3) Army Reserve; (4) Navy Reserve; and (5) Air Force Reserve.
- a. **Best for:** Facilitators of Reserve Components (Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, and Air Force Reserve) projects that have been submitted to Congress by the Secretary of Defense or his/her designee through the Future Year Defense Program (FYDP), Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFRs/UPLs), or cost-to-complete lists (CTCs)

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

Please use [this form](#) to submit CPF requests for accounts within the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations measure. Eligible accounts include:

- 19. Department of Transportation – Highway Infrastructure Projects:** Highway Infrastructure Projects are capital projects, like a street widening and resurfacing, eligible under title 23 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code, as amended by title III of division A of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under Chapters 1 and 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible. Projects cannot fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act. All projects must be:

- a. 1) Capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a capital project.
- b. 2) 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.
- c. 3) Administered by public entities or Tribal entities.
- d. **Best For:** State and Tribal governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and local transportation agencies

20. **Department of Transportation – Transit Infrastructure Projects:** Transit capital projects eligible under chapter 53 of title 49 of the United States Code. Transit Infrastructure Projects are public transportation capital projects, such as electric bus and charging infrastructure, 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:

- a. 1) Transit capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a transit capital project.
- b. 2) 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.
- c. 3) Administered by public entities or Tribal entities.

Public transportation or transit is defined 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. It 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. Projects cannot fund activities that are administrative in nature, including general operating expenses and planning activities, even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. Capital Investment Grant projects are not eligible. Additionally, most projects will be subject to various Federal requirements such as competition in contracting, Buy America, and the National Environmental Policy Act.

- d. **Best for:** State, local, and Tribal governments and metropolitan planning organizations and local transportation agencies

21. **Department of Transportation - Airport Improvement Program (AIP):** Funds may be used for enhancing airport safety, capacity, and security, and mitigating environmental concerns. This may include necessary professional services like planning, surveying, and design. Projects must meet federal environmental and procurement requirements. They must be included in the FAA’s National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS). Funds may NOT be used for airport operations such as salaries, equipment, and supplies. The average award in this account for FY22 was \$4 million.

- a. Recipients will assume FAA grant assurance obligations and must meet matching requirements that vary based on the size of the airport. For large and medium primary hub airports, the grant covers 75 percent of eligible costs (or 80 percent for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever, and general aviation airports, the grant covers a range of 90-95 percent of eligible costs, based on statutory requirements.
- b. Examples of eligible projects include runway construction/rehabilitation, airfield lighting, and airport layout plans.
- c. **Best for:** Public-use airports included in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems
- d. Learn more about the program [HERE](#)

**22. Department of Transportation – Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety**

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

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

Administrative activities, including general operating expenses, rail-related research, and workforce activities, are not eligible for funding.

**23. Department of Transportation – Port Infrastructure Development Program:**

Eligible projects must meet criteria under Section 54301 of title 46, United States Code, as amended by title XXXV of division C of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022.

**24. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) - Economic Development**

**Initiative (EDI):** Funds may be used for economic and community development activities that meet certain criteria under the Community Development Grant Program. For example, they may be used to improve water infrastructure, streetscapes, housing and neighborhood revitalization, workforce training centers, and youth and senior centers.

Each project will fit under the following authorizations:

- a. 42 USC 5305(a)(1) – acquisition of real property which is: (a) blighted, deteriorated, undeveloped, or inappropriately developed; (b) appropriate or historic restoration or preservation, beautification, recreation, or conservation; (c) for public works facilities; (d) for other public works purposes;
- b. 42 USC 5305(a)(2) – acquisition, construction, reconstruction or installation (including design) of public works facilities;
- c. 42 USC 5305(a)(4) – clearance, demolition, removal, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of buildings and improvements (including private property and old schools);

- d. 42 USC 5305(a)(5) – special projects to remove material or barriers to increase accessibility for elderly and handicapped persons.

Certain projects are not eligible for funding including: museums, commemoratives, and memorials; swimming pools, water parks, golf courses; health care facilities; entertainment venues; courthouses and town halls. While projects to improve private property will be allowed, they will be viewed less favorably by the Appropriations Committee.

The average award in this account for FY22 was \$1.5 million.

- e. **Best for:** Local and Tribal governments and agencies, local and Tribal housing authorities, local small business development organizations, and other nonprofit community organizations