

# Community Project Funding Resource Guide



Updated: April 9, 2025

Dear Stakeholders and Community Leaders,

I am pleased to share the following resource guide on how to submit Community Project Funding (CPF) proposals through the annual appropriations process. This guide is designed to help streamline the appropriations process and provide you with information available in a clear and concise format. As a member of the United States House of Representatives, my team and I are committed to creating a fair and equitable process that will be beneficial to California's 29<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (CA-29).

In this guide, you will find an overview of the appropriations process, the CPF process, answers to frequently asked questions, staff contact information, and a brief overview of alternative federal funding sources.

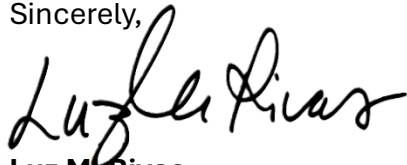
My team and I are looking forward to your recommendations on CPF requests that will benefit those who live and work in CA-29. While we wait for guidance from the Majority House Appropriations Committee, historically, the guidance members have received is that these projects should fill a clear and present need in the community; be administered by a state, local, or tribal government; is a publicly owned utility or eligible nonprofit organization; and must have community support.

As you prepare your requests, please keep in mind that my office will receive far more CPF requests than can be submitted. Based on the Fiscal Year 2026 guidance, each Congressman may only submit up to 15 projects for the review of the House Appropriations Committee. Submission from my office to the House Appropriations Committee does not guarantee the project will be approved or funded. Projects are approved for funding when the House and Senate appropriations bills are approved, and the President signs the bill into law.

That is why it is extremely important that every project and requestor pursue other funding opportunities where available. My team and I are here to help you secure these important resources.

Thank you again for your interest in this year's CPF process. My team is available to answer your questions as needed. I look forward to working with you to bring needed federal resources to the San Fernando Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luz M. Rivas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

**Luz M. Rivas**

Member of Congress

# Background

In previous Fiscal Years (FY), the House Appropriations Committee accepted Community Project Funding (CPF) submissions from Members of Congress. **We are currently asking for all submissions by Monday, April 14.**

The CPF process is a way for Members of Congress to bring direct support to their district by requesting funding that goes directly to state, local, or tribal governments, and eligible non-profit entities.

House offices can only submit a specified number of requests that meet all guidelines set forth by HAC. The general requirements and accounts described in this guide are based on FY26 guidance.

We cannot guarantee that requests submitted after the deadline will be considered. If you have problems or questions while completing these forms, please feel free to contact the office. The office can be reached at [Rivas.Appropriations@mail.house.gov](mailto:Rivas.Appropriations@mail.house.gov) or at 202-225-6131. The office is unable to forward request forms to other Congressional or Senate offices.

## **What is the difference between Programmatic and Language requests and Community Project Funding requests?**

**Programmatic** – A request for a specific funding level for a federal program.

**Language** – 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.

**Community Project Funding** – directs funds to state, local, tribal governments, and eligible non-profits.

Programmatic and Language requests can be submitted [here](#).

This guide will only cover CPF requests. All applications for CPFs must be submitted to our office via a [downloadable form available on my website](#).

## ***Requirements for Projects:***

### **Community Support**

- Successful CPF requests must be able demonstrate a high degree of community support. Examples include:
  - Letters of support from elected community leaders (e.g. mayors or other officials).
  - Press articles highlighting the need for the requested CPF.
  - Support from newspaper editorial boards.
  - Projects listed on state intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents.
  - Resolutions passed by city councils or boards.

### **Financial Disclosure**

- CPF requests cannot have any financial ties to the Member of Congress or their immediate family.

### **Member Requirement to Post All Requests Online**

- Members are required to post CPF requests on their house.gov websites at the time the request is made to the Committee. The information posted must include:
  - The proposed recipient;
  - The address of the recipient;
  - The amount of the request;
  - An explanation of the request, including purpose, and a justification for why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds; and
  - The Member's signed certification letter stating there is no financial interest in the project.
- We will make this information publicly available for all successful applications.

### **What criteria will be used to evaluate CPF requests?**

- **Ban on for-profit recipients.** Under FY26 House Appropriations Committee guidance, for-profit entities are not eligible CPF recipients.
- **Matching requirements.** Several Federal programs eligible for CPF requests require a state or local match for projects either by statute or according to longstanding policy. The House will not waive these matching requirements for CPF requests. It is important that applicants have the ability to meet matching requirements prior to requesting a project. Note: This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but successful requests must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable.

- **One-year funding.** Each project request must be for FY26 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.
- **State, local, or tribal governmental entities as grantees.** Members may consider public entities as primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project.
- **Non-profits as grantees.** If the applicant is a non-profit organization, they will need to provide evidence that the recipient is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Further, many water projects often partner with non-profit entities to complete projects. Therefore, projects may also be directed to non-profits with an inherently governmental function.

#### **What additional items should I be aware of related to CPF requests?**

- **Cap on overall funding.** The House Appropriations Committee will limit CPFs to no more than one percent of discretionary spending.
- **“Support” vs. “Request” for a project.** Anything short of a formal request will not be considered for inclusion.
- **Letters of Support.** Every time a Member signs a letter demonstrating support for a project, the Member should append an accompanying disclosure certifying to the House Appropriations Committee Chair and Ranking Member that the Member has no financial interest in the project. This is to ensure the highest ethical standards in the CPF process.
- **Lobbyists, donors and other affiliated parties.** While Members are required to certify to the House Appropriations Committee that neither they nor their immediate family have a financial interest in the proposed project, Members should also be fully aware of any other financial aspects or relationships associated with the proposed project that might raise ethical concerns. These include, but are not limited to lobbyists, donors, or other affiliated parties that have an interest in the project.
- **“One-stop” webpage for the public.** The House Appropriations Committee will maintain a website with links to all Members’ appropriations project requests to help the public easily view them.
- **Transparency and Early Public Disclosure.** Per House rules, each bill’s Committee report will include a list identifying each community project that has been funded in the bill along with the name of the Member requesting it. Each Subcommittee will make such lists public at the time of their Subcommittee markup.
- **Audits and Oversight:** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) will conduct an independent audit of a sample of enacted projects and report its findings.

## What projects are eligible?

Only certain accounts will be available for CPF in each subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. For FY26, CPFs were available for 37 accounts. The House Appropriations Committee has the discretion to change which accounts are available for future fiscal years. The House Appropriations Committee has not released the accounts available for FY26. A summary of the available subcommittees is listed below.

For detailed information about which factors the House Appropriations Committee will consider, please review the Committee's guidelines from FY26 [here](#). If you require any additional assistance, please contact us at [Rivas.Appropriations@mail.house.gov](mailto:Rivas.Appropriations@mail.house.gov) or at (202) 225-6131.

## List of Accounts for Community Project Funding (CPF) in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026

Below is a list of accounts for the FY26 CPF process. Guidance from the House Appropriations Committee is linked below. Additionally, the following pages include the linked guidance from the House Appropriations Committee. Please note this material was drafted by the relevant subcommittee professional staff.

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

[Click here for FY26 Appropriations Committee guidance.](#)

- Department of Agriculture
  - Rural Development, Community Facilities Grants
  - Rural Development, ReConnect Grants
  - Rural Development, Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants
  - Rural Development, Water and Waste Disposal Grants
  - Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities
  - Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations

## **Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS)**

[Click here for FY26 Appropriations Committee guidance.](#)

- Department of Justice
  - Office of Justice Programs, Byrne Justice Assistance Grants
  - Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
  - Safety, Security & Mission Services
- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
  - Scientific and Technical Research
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
  - Coastal Zone Management

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

[Click here for FY26 Appropriations Committee guidance.](#)

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

## **Homeland Security**

[Click here for FY26 Appropriations Committee guidance.](#)

- Department of Homeland Security
  - Federal Assistance- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Projects
  - Federal Assistance- Emergency Operations Center Grants

## **Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies**

[Click here for FY26 Appropriations Committee guidance.](#)

- Environmental Protection Agency
  - State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)- Clean Water State Revolving Funds
  - State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)- Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

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

[Click here for FY26 Appropriations Committee guidance.](#)

- Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Active Components
  - Army
  - Navy and Marine Corps
  - Air Force
  - Space Force
  - Defense-Wide Agencies (Special Operations Command (SOCOM), Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), etc.)
- Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Reserve Components
  - Army National Guard
  - Air National Guard
  - Army Reserve
  - Navy Reserve
  - Air Force Reserve

## **Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD)**

- Department of Transportation
  - [Airport Improvement Program \(AIP\) \(Guidance\)](#)
  - [Highway Infrastructure Projects \(Guidance\)](#)
  - [Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements \(CRISI\) Projects \(Guidance\)](#)
  - [Transit Infrastructure Projects \(Guidance\)](#)
  - [Port Infrastructure Development Program Projects \(Guidance\)](#)
- [Department of Housing and Urban Development: Economic Development Initiative \(EDI\) \(Guidance\)](#)



## Other Federal Funding Resources

The CPF 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 CPFs represent 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 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 for 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 U.S. Government Information and Services.

For any questions or concerns about the Appropriations Process, please contact my staff at [Rivas.Appropriations@mail.house.gov](mailto:Rivas.Appropriations@mail.house.gov) or at 202-225-6131.