

MIKE THOMPSON

5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

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Dear Friends:

Congressional Leadership has announced that Community Project Funding requests from Members of Congress which direct funds to a specific state or local government or eligible non-profit recipient will now be possible for Fiscal Year 2022. I fully support this decision as Congress has both the right and responsibility to provide input on funding decisions for worthwhile project proposals critical to the health, safety and economic well-being of the people of our District.

With this new opportunity, please know that the Committee on Appropriations has set limitations and requirements for Community Project Funding proposals. Members of Congress are limited to submitting only 10 Community Project Funding requests with no guarantee that they will all be funded. Projects will also be competitively evaluated by the Committee on Appropriations, so projects with strong local support will be given preference.

My staff will work with you to answer questions about whether your project as envisioned is something that can be eligible for this new process. Please see the resource guide which identifies which programs are eligible for Community Project Funding requests, and the required documentation for projects in various programs. In order for me to put forward the strongest set of project requests, I ask that you email your priorities to (CA05Appropriations@mail.house.gov) by close of business Monday, April 12th, 2021. In submitting your priorities, please provide all the information required by each appropriations subcommittee.

The House has also instituted transparency measures to ensure that Members of Congress do not have a financial interest in Community Project Funding requests. This certification, and the associated documentation for each project, is designed to balance the interest in greater Congressional involvement in funding decisions with the need to ensure that all projects requested by Members of Congress are high quality projects.

While there is great excitement about the opportunity for Community Project Funding requests, this year's environment will be especially challenging for securing funding for projects. I encourage you to only include the highest priority projects and I will do all that is possible in this new environment to support investments that improve our communities. I believe that the people of our district are in the best position to identify those worthwhile projects that will enhance safety, create jobs and improve our quality of life, and I look forward to your recommendations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

MIKE THOMPSON

Member of Congress

Enclosures



General Community Funded Project Guidance from the Appropriations Committee

Ban on For-Profit recipients. The Committee is imposing a ban on directing Community Project Funding to for-profit entities.

Matching requirements. Several Federal programs eligible for Community Project Funding requests require a State or local match for projects either by statute or according to longstanding policy. The Committee will not waive these matching requirements for Community Project Funding requests. *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.*

One-year funding. Each project request must be for fiscal year 2022 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.

State or local governmental entities as grantees. Members are encouraged to consider public entities as primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project. For infrastructure projects, many States have established lists or intended use plans with projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials (e.g. drinking water, wastewater and highways).

Non-profits as grantees. If a Member requests that funding be directed to a non-profit organization, the Member will need to provide evidence that the recipient is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. 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.

Community Support. Community engagement and support is crucial in determining which projects will be ultimately selected for Federal funding. Only projects with demonstrated community support will be considered by the Appropriations Committee.

The Appropriations Committee encourages project sponsors to include evidence of support for your proposal including:

- Letters of support from elected community leaders (e.g. mayors or other officials);
- Press articles highlighting the need for the requested Community Project Funding;
- Support from newspaper editorial boards;
- Projects listed on State intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents; or
- Resolutions passed by city councils or boards.

Transparency. Certain information about project requests submitted by my office to the Appropriations Committees will be made public. This includes: the proposed recipient; the address of the recipient; the amount of the request; and an explanation of the request, including purpose, and a justification for why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds.

Programs by Appropriations Subcommittee Eligible for Community Funded Projects Requests

(Please note that each subcommittee, and each program has different documentation requests for submission – contact my staff if you have any questions)

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

- Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities
- Rural Development, Rural Community Facility Grants
- Rural Utilities Service, ReConnect Grants

[Ag Request Guidance.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

- State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance—Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) under the Department of Justice
- COPS Technology and Equipment under the Department of Justice
- NOAA Operations, Research, and Facilities under the Department of Commerce
- NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services.

[CJS Request Guidance.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Defense

- 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

[Defense Dear Colleague.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies

Note: Only authorized projects will be considered for funding.

- Corps of Engineers - Investigations
- Corps of Engineers - Construction
- Corps of Engineers - Mississippi River and Tributaries
- Corps of Engineers - Operation and Maintenance
- Bureau of Reclamation - Water and Related Resources

[EW Request Guidance.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Financial Services and General Government

- Small Business Administration, Small Business Initiatives.

[FSGG Community Project Funding Questions.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Homeland Security

- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants
- Nonprofit Security Grants
- Emergency Operations Center Grants

[Homeland Request Guidance.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- Federal land acquisitions through the Land and Water Conservation Fund (Note: The Subcommittee will accept requests for these community projects after the release of the full President's budget.)
- Environmental Protection Agency State and Tribal Assistance Grants for certain water infrastructure projects
- Certain State and Private Forestry projects within the U.S. Forest Service.

[Interior-Environment Dear Colleague.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

- Department of Labor—Employment and Training Administration—Training and Employment Services
- Department of Health and Human Services—Health Resources and Services Administration—Program Management
- Department of Health and Human Services—Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration—Health Surveillance and Program Support
- Department of Education—Innovation and Improvement
- Department of Education—Higher Education

[LHHS Dear Colleague.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

- Military Construction accounts under the Department of Defense
 - Army
 - Navy and Marine Corps
 - Air Force
 - Defense-Wide
 - Army National Guard
 - Air National Guard
 - Army Reserve
 - Navy Reserve
 - Air Force Reserve

[MilCon-VA Dear Colleague.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

- Department of Transportation - Local Transportation Priorities [Guidance for Local Transportation Priorities.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)
- Department of Transportation - Airport Improvement Program (AIP) [Guidance for Airport Improvement Program.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development - Economic Development Initiative (EDI) [Guidance for Economic Development Initiatives.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)

[THUD Guidance and Requirements.pdf \(house.gov\)](#)