

Community Project Funding Grants Overview

U.S. Representative

Chrissy Houlahan

Serving Pennsylvanians in Chester and Berks Counties

Remarks from Rep. Houlahan



AGENDA

- Welcome – Chrissy
- Overview of Community Project Funding (CPF) Legislation
- Appropriations Committee's Guidelines
 - Setting your organization's application up for success!
- Overview of CPF Application Process
- Overview of Awardees and Rep Chrissy's Involvement
- Q & A

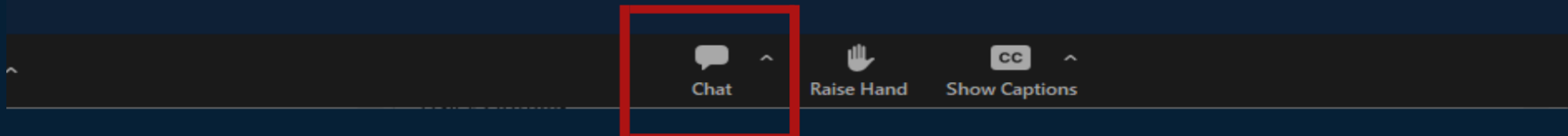


Houlaahan meets with CPF recipient, United Way of Chester County



HOUSEKEEPING

- Zoom Webinar
 - Only panelists will be able to use video
 - Due to high number of RSVPs, attendees will remain muted
 - If you have technical questions, please use the chat function and ask to "hosts and panelists"
 - Please hold questions until the Q&A portion and then submit via the chat function – also ask to "hosts and panelists"
 - Full recording will be made available to all RSVPs/attendees
 - Thank you in advance for your patience!



Community Project Funding Legislation

Emma Zafran

Deputy Legislative Director



History of Community Project Funding

- While the term earmark has been used historically to describe various types of directed congressional spending actions, House rules generally define earmark as a congressionally directed spending, tax, or tariff policy that would benefit a specific entity or locality other than through a statutory or competitive award process.
- Congress has the authority to provide earmarks, known in the House of Representatives as Community Project Funding requests, to stakeholders in our community. This authority allows our office to direct federal funding to support local projects that enhance community priorities, transportation, health care, education, job opportunities, and other important economic development projects.
- They have existed for decades, although Congress began observing an "earmark moratorium" or "earmark ban" in the 112th Congress (2011-2012), due to record high spending and lack of oversight. In restoring earmarks, Congress has placed additional restrictions on eligibility and increased transparency requirements.
- On February 26, 2021, the House Committee on Appropriations announced that it would accept requests for Community Project Funding in appropriations bills for fiscal year (FY2022). In addition, the committee announced initial protocols governing requests for Community Project Funding, which include various requirements and restrictions. Individual subcommittees of the House Committee on Appropriations have also released subsequent guidance and restrictions governing Community Project Funding as it relates to specific appropriations bills.
- Each subcommittee (there are 12) has strict requirements of what must be included in the application, in order to be considered a viable project.
- In the 118th Congress, the new Majority changed the rules, preventing eligibility for many projects. Most starkly, they blocked any projects related to education or health care. These fall under the Labor – Health and Human Service - Education subcommittee.

Community Project Funding Overview – Subcommittee Guidance

- Individual subcommittees of the House Committee on Appropriations have released additional guidance and restrictions governing Community Project Funding as it relates to specific appropriations bills.¹³
- Some subcommittees have announced that they will not accept Community Project Funding requests. Defense, Financial Services, Labor-HHS-Education bills, State-Foreign Operations and Legislative Branch subcommittees disallow earmarks.
- Other subcommittees have identified the specific accounts for which Members may request Community Project Funding. For example, the Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense has stated that it will accept project requests for five accounts,¹⁵ and the Subcommittee on Homeland Security has stated that it will accept project requests for three accounts.¹⁶
- Subcommittees have also provided logistical information related to Community Project Funding, such as the method for submitting requests and the deadlines for such requests

Appropriations Committee's Guidelines

Jack Leighninger
Legislative Assistant



Appropriations Committee's Guidelines



House Committee on Appropriations

- Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration
- Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
- Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies
- Homeland Security
- Note: no CPFs for Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
- Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
- Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
- Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies



Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration

Accounts:

- Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities
- Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Operations
- Rural Development, Rural Housing Service, Community Facility Grants
- Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service, ReConnect Grants
- Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service, Water and Waste Grants
- Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service, Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants

Key Notes:

- For Rural Development accounts, you must consult PA's U.S. Dept of Agriculture Rural Development Office
- For FY 2023, the average Community Facilities CPF award was approx \$1.3 million



Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

Accounts:

- NIST Scientific and Technical Research
- Coastal Zone Management
- Byrne JAG
- COPS Technology and Equipment
- NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services

Key Notes:

- Byrne Justice grants prioritized towards projects focused on improving the effectiveness of law enforcement, increasing officer safety, and curbing the opioid crisis.
- COPS grants are specifically for equipment and technology, and limited to local law enforcement agencies.
- Review eligibility information provided by relevant agencies



Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies

Accounts:

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

Key Notes:

- For Energy and Water Development project requests, the proposed recipient is either the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Keep in mind the amount of capability in one fiscal year, and that capacity for new starts is very limited



Homeland Security

Accounts:

- FEMA Grant Programs
 - Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants
 - Emergency Operations Center Grants

Key Notes:

- Be sure to review Environmental & Historic Preservation guidance for FEMA Grant Applications, available online. See also the notices of funding opportunity.
- The PDM and EOC grant programs have cost-share requirements. Federal funding is available for up to 75 percent of the eligible activity costs. The remaining 25 percent of eligible activity costs must generally be derived from non-federal sources.
- Consult Pennsylvania's Hazard Mitigation Office



Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

Accounts:

- Military construction accounts for each branch (and DOD-wide)
 - More than \$9,000,000.
- Unspecified Minor Military Construction Projects for each branch (and DOD-wide)
 - Less than \$9,000,000
- Construction and Unspecified Minor Construction – Reserve Components

Key Notes:

- Eligible Community Project Funding requests are those that are submitted to Congress by DoD, the Services, and Combatant Commanders.
- Sources include:
 - The Unfunded Requirements/Unfunded Priorities Lists (UFR/UPL)
 - Future Year Defense Program (FYDP)



Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Accounts:

- Environmental Protection Agency – State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG)
 - Must be eligible for funding from the state's Clean Water or Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan programs

Key Notes:

- Ban on for-profit/privately owned projects
 - Non-Profits considered on a limited basis.
- There is a minimum 20% cost share requirement for any portion of a project funded through a STAG infrastructure grant and the Committee will not waive matching requirements



Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

Accounts:

- Transit Infrastructure Projects
- Highway Infrastructure Projects
- Airport Improvement Program
- Port Infrastructure Development Program
- Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements
- Community Development Fund - Economic Development Initiative

Key Notes:

- Economic Development Initiative program must be eligible under one or more of the following criteria of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program:
 - land or site acquisition,
 - demolition or rehabilitation
 - blight removal
 - construction and capital improvements of public facilities



Appropriations Committee's Guidelines



Community Project Funding Application Process

Donnell Sheppard
Deputy District Director



Community Project Funding Application Process

1. Notification
2. Application Package
3. Review of Application Package
4. Selection

A banner for the Community Project Funding program. On the left is the logo for U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan, featuring a map of Pennsylvania and the text "U.S. REPRESENTATIVE CHRISSY HOULAHAN PROUDLY SERVING PENNSYLVANIANS". On the right, the text "COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING" is displayed in large, bold, black letters. The background of the banner shows a blurred image of a residential street with houses.

COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING

PA-06 Community Funding Project (FY24)

Community Project Funding is a vital way that Members of Congress can advocate for projects in their districts, and my staff and I are once again soliciting worthy proposals in our community to consider based on the guidance of the Appropriations Committee.

My team and I are soliciting applications from our community for projects that could benefit from federal support. All funds will be limited to state and local governments and nonprofits that carry out quasi-government functions, so private companies are not eligible.



Community Project Funding Awardees and Rep. Houlahan's Involvement

Congress restores spending on earmarks—but with rules to remove the odor

One legislator simulates peer review to make her selection process more rigorous

1 APR 2022 • 5:45 PM ET • BY JEFFREY MERVIS



1. Sampling of Awardees
2. Representative Houlahan's Involvement



QUESTIONS?

*[https://houlahan.house.gov/services/
community-project-funding](https://houlahan.house.gov/services/community-project-funding)*



STAY CONNECTED:



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