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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY, AND SECONDARY EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS AND

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION, OVERSIGHT,
AND DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK AND
FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

March 15, 2021

## Dear Municipal Leaders,

I am writing to share that Congress has announced the Committee on Appropriations will be soliciting Community Project Funding requests. Community Project Funding allows Members of Congress to use their firsthand knowledge of their districts to make the case for directing taxpayer dollars to specific projects at home. This policy change brings back a significant tool to address pressing local needs in Member districts and creates a pathway to target funding. This is an excellent opportunity to help direct critical federal resources back to the fifth district for important local initiatives including construction grants, health care clinic expansion, and building critical infrastructure like roads, bridges and sewage systems. We will share more information on the process as it becomes available.

The Committee intends to fund Community Projects on a limited basis. Members of Congress will be limited to no more than 10 requests. My office will review incoming requests and select 10 projects based on the financial need for the initiative, strength and completion of application, level of improvement the project would contribute to the local community and community support. While Members of Congress may make up to 10 requests, the Committee is not obligated to accept or fulfill any minimum number of requests per Member. Submitting a request for a Community Project on behalf of your community or organization does not ensure the request will be granted.

Under the guidance issued by the Chairwoman, project recipients must be government or nonprofit organizations to be considered eligible. Submissions from for-profit organizations will not be considered. Community engagement and support are crucial in determining which projects are worthy of federal funding. As part of your submission, you will be required to include evidence of community support that serve as compelling factors in the decision to submit project requests. This may include letters of support from fellow municipal leaders, demonstrated buy-in from state agencies or constituent groups, or articles in local papers regarding the importance of your requested project. As a final note, depending on the account you apply for funding through, there may be matching funding requirements.

The Community Project Funding process will adhere to strict transparency and legal requirements and my office must engage in a thorough vetting process of all incoming submissions for accuracy. Submitting complete, thorough applications with supporting documentation by April 9, 2021 will help our office to rank requests internally and communicate with you during this competitive process.

You may submit requests to our office using the links highlighted below. Additional information, or supporting evidence of community support for your submission should be submitted by email to: hayescommunityprojectfunding@mail.house.gov.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- 1. The Subcommittee on Agriculture will accept Community Project Funding requests in three accounts as noted below. The accompanying guidance document gives more detail about these accounts:
  - Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities
  - Rural Development, Rural Community Facility Grants
  - Rural Utilities Service, ReConnect Grants

For Agriculture, Rural Development, and Food and Drug Administration Community Project requests, please use this <u>link</u>.

- 2. The Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies will accept requests in the following accounts:
  - Byrne Justice Assistance Grants
  - COPS Technology and Equipment
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration--Operations, Research, and Facilities
  - National Aeronautics and Space Administration--Safety, Security and Mission Services.

For Commerce, Justice, and Science Community Project Requests, please use this <u>link</u>.

- 3. The Subcommittee on Defense will accept 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

For Defense Community Project requests, please use this link.

- 4. The Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies will accept requests in the following accounts:
  - Corps of Engineers:
    - o Investigations
    - Construction
    - Mississippi River and Tributaries
    - Operation and Maintenance
  - Bureau of Reclamation:
    - o Water and Related Resources

For Energy and Water Community Project requests, please use this link.

- 5. The Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government will accept requests for the following:
  - Community Projects in support of small businesses, such as entrepreneur training, workforce development, counseling, and research.
  - Community Projects in support of construction or acquisition of facilities.

For Financial Services and General Government Community Project requests, please use this link.

- 6. The Subcommittee on Homeland Security will accept requests for only the following Federal Emergency Management Agency, Federal Assistance accounts:
  - Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants
  - Nonprofit Security Grants
  - Emergency Operations Center Grants

For Homeland Security Community Project requests, please use this <u>link</u>.

- 7. The Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies will accept requests in the following accounts:
  - Federal land acquisitions through the Land and Water Conservation Fund
  - 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.

For Interior, EPA, and Related Agencies Community Project requests, please use this <u>link</u>.

- 8. The Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies will accept requests in the following accounts:
  - Department of Labor (DOL)—Employment and Training Administration—Training and Employment Services
  - Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)—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 (ED)—Innovation and Improvement
  - Department of Education—Higher Education

For DOL Community project submissions, our office is accepting applications via the following link.

For HHS Community project submissions, our office is accepting applications via the following link.

For ED Community project submissions, our office is accepting applications via the following link.

- 9. The Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies (MilConVA) will accept requests in the following accounts:
  - 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

For MilConVA Community project submissions, our office is accepting applications via the following <u>link</u>.

- 10. The Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) will accept requests in the following accounts:
  - Department of Transportation Local Transportation Priorities
  - Department of Transportation Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
  - Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

For transportation Community project submissions, our office is accepting applications via the following <u>link</u>.

For HUD Community project submissions, our office is accepting applications via the following link.

I look forward to engaging with you to meet the needs of your community and will do my best to secure funding for communities through this process. As more information is made available my office will continue to keep you updated. Please know that, even if your requests are unsuccessful, I am committed to working to help advance local community initiatives in any way I can.

If you have any follow-up questions, please contact either my District Director, Jennine Lupo <u>Jennine.Lupo@mail.house.gov</u> or my Legislative Director, Madeline Daly <u>Madeline.Daly@mail.house.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Jahana Hayes

MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Jahana Hayes