

Funding Opportunities for Municipalities

October 2023

In This Newsletter

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- U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program
- U.S. DOT Thriving Communities Program
- EPA Clean School Bus (CSB) Rebate Program
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- Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRGP) Implementation Grants
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carbon Utilization Procurement Grants
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Fiscal Year 2023 Discretionary Funding Opportunities

To learn more about these funding opportunities, please contact [Elizabeth Sanderson](#), unless another point of contact is listed.

Upcoming Events

CRCOG BIL Workshop Series: Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Time: 8:30 am

Location: CRCOG Board Room, 241 Main St., 3rd Floor, Hartford, CT



BIL Workshop Series

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS





Siting, Permitting and Construction

Electric Utility Services

Funding Opportunities

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18
8:30 - 11:30 AM
CRCOG BOARD ROOM
241 MAIN ST., 3RD FLOOR
HARTFORD, CT**

Register Here

Join us for an informational seminar to learn more about electric vehicle charging stations. We will review best practices in siting, design, permitting, and construction as well as explore potential funding sources and incentive programs.

Industry experts from Weston & Sampson and Eversource will be ready to share information, best practices, lessons learned, and answer questions you may have about building electric vehicle charging stations in your communities.

Seating is limited and presentations will begin at 9 am. Light refreshments will be provided.

Click the "Register Here" link above to reserve your seat, or click [here](#). Please contact [Elizabeth Sanderson](#) with questions about this seminar.

Transportation-Related Funding Opportunities

U.S. DOT Bridge Investment Program

Application Deadline: November 27, 2023, for use of FY 2023 and FY2024 Funds

The U.S. DOT FHWA is soliciting applications for Bridge Investment Program (BIP) **Large Bridge Project** grants. A Large Bridge Project is a project with total eligible costs greater than \$100M. FHWA will solicit applications for Planning and Bridge Project (a project with total eligible costs not greater than \$100M) grants at a later date.



Recall, that CRCOG has mapped State and local bridges throughout the region listed on the National Bridge Inventory that may be eligible for funding from this program. Maps were created using data from the [CT DOT Master Bridge List](#), and are available to view on [CRCOG's BIL Webpage for the BIP](#).

The maps can be used to guide decisions and plan investments, taking advantage of once-in-a-generation funding while it is available.

To apply for FY2023 and FY2024 funds, submit applications electronically through [Grants.gov](#) (Opportunity Number: 693JJ323NF00019) before the deadline.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. The schedule for future funding rounds has been issued with this NOFO:

- **For FY 2025 funds**, applications are due by **August 1, 2024**.
- **For FY 2026 funds**, applications are due by **August 1, 2025**.

CT DOT Grant Solicitation for Phase 1 of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan (NEVI)

Key deadline: Applicants must submit a **Letter of Intent by November 9, 2023**



CTDOT GRANT FOR PHASE 1 OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

- * **Program Purpose:** Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) has approximately \$15M available to implement Phase 1 of the State's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Plan, which focuses on building-out electric vehicle fast-charging stations in priority areas across the state.
- * **Key Dates and Deadlines:**
 - CTDOT anticipates opening the **call for Letters of Intent (LOI)** on **September 28**.
 - Applicants must **submit LOIs by 5 pm on November 9 2023**.
 - CTDOT anticipates publishing the **Request for Proposals (RFP)** in early **2024**.
- * Visit CRCOG's Summary or the Program Website for more information.

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CONTACT: ESANDERSON@CRCOG.ORG



The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) is seeking proposals to implement Phase 1 of the State's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Plan. This first phase focuses on strategically deploying Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC) electric chargers along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs). The goal is to build-out the national electric AFC network. Up to \$15M is available for this first round of funding.

See [CRCOG's Summary](#) for more information, including links to view areas prioritized for this first phase.

CTDOT is now accepting **Letters of Intent (LOI)**. The LOI application and instructions for completing the application are available [here](#).

Interested respondents should submit an LOI no later than **5:00 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 9, 2023**.

CTDOT anticipates issuing the **Request for Proposals** in early 2024.

Interested parties are encouraged to track this program on [CTDOT's NEVI Program Website](#), or [subscribe for email updates from CTDOT](#). See the **Past Events** section of this newsletter below for information about webinars CTDOT hosted over the past few weeks.

If you would like more information about building electric vehicle charging stations, consider attending [CRCOG's EV Seminar on October 18](#). More information about this seminar is available in the **Upcoming Events** section of this newsletter.

U.S. DOT FHWA Electric Vehicle Charger Reliability and Accessibility Accelerator Grant Program

Application deadline: November 13, 2023



U.S. DOT FHWA ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGER RELIABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY ACCELERATOR GRANT

- * **Program Purpose:** U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has up to \$100M available to improve reliability of existing electric vehicle infrastructure. Funds must be used to repair or replace existing publicly accessible Level 2 or Direct Current Fast Charging chargers that are broken or non-operational, per the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's list of [Alternative Fuels Station Locator](#), as of October 11, 2023. FHWA anticipates funding all eligible projects.
- * **Eligible Applicants** include State DOTs and local governments.
- * **Grant Applications are due by November 13; Apply online at [Grants.gov](#)** (Opportunity Number: 693JJ324NF00001)
- * Visit [CRCOG's Summary](#) or the [Program Website](#) for more information.

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CONTACT: ESANDERSON@CRCOG.ORG



U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is now accepting applications from State Departments of Transportation and Local Governments to repair or replace broken or inoperable electric vehicle charging stations across the country. To be eligible for funding, EV charging ports must be publicly accessible Level 2 or Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC) chargers identified as "temporarily unavailable" on the [Alternative Fuel Station Locator map](#).

Up to \$100M is available. The total application is not to exceed five pages, and FHWA anticipates awarding all eligible applications. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications that include multiple locations.

See [CRCOG's Summary](#) for more information, including a list of municipalities within CRCOG that have "temporarily unavailable" EV chargers who may be eligible for this funding.

Apply online at [Grants.gov](#) (Opportunity Number: 693JJ324NF00001).

U.S. DOT Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program

Application deadline: October 10, 2023



**U.S. DOT STRENGTHENING MOBILITY AND REVOLUTIONIZING
TRANSPORTATION (SMART) GRANTS PROGRAM**

- * **Program Purpose:** To conduct demonstration projects focused on innovative solutions that make transportation systems safer and more efficient.
- * **Application Deadline:** October 10, 2023
- * **Apply Online @** [ValidEval](#); [Program Website](#)
- * Partnerships are encouraged!

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[CONTACT: ESANDERSON@CRCOG.ORG](mailto:ESANDERSON@CRCOG.ORG)



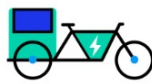
A reminder that applications for U.S. DOT for Stage 1 Planning and Prototyping Grants for the SMART Program are **due next Tuesday, October 10**.

Up to \$50M is available for Stage 1 demonstration projects focused on innovative solutions that make transportation systems safer and more efficient.

SMART projects must involve at least one of the following eight technology areas:



CONNECTED
VEHICLES



DELIVERY/
LOGISTICS



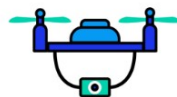
SENSORS



SYSTEMS
INTEGRATION



COORDINATED
AUTOMATION



INNOVATIVE
AVIATION



SMART
GRID



TRAFFIC
SIGNALS

This round, grant awards must be a minimum of \$250,000 and maximum of \$2M. Examples of projects that may be eligible for funding are provided [here](#). More information about projects that received awards last year is available [here](#).

Submit applications through [ValidEval](#) before the application deadline.

U.S. DOT Thriving Communities Program

Letter of Interest Deadline: November 15, 2023

Grant Application Deadline: November 28, 2023



U.S. DOT THRIVING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

- * **Program Purpose:** A Technical assistance and Capacity Building program to support disadvantaged, rural, and Tribal communities with navigating the federal funding process. Up to \$22M is available to support national or regional organizations with becoming Capacity Builders. Communities interested in receiving support from selected Capacity Builders must submit a Letter of Interest by November 15, 2023.
- * **Grant Application Deadline:** November 28, 2023.
- * **Apply Online @** [Grants.gov](#); [Program Website](#).



CONTACT: ESANDERSON@CRCOG.ORG



The **Thriving Communities Program (TCP)** is a technical assistance and capacity building program to support disadvantaged, rural, and tribal communities. Communities that have been adversely or disproportionately affected by environmental, climate, and human health policy outcomes will be offered the opportunity to apply for funding to receive technical tools and organizational capacity to compete for federal aid and deliver quality infrastructure projects.

Capacity Builder Teams will provide "deep-dive technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support to under-resourced and disadvantaged communities across the U.S. to help ensure these communities have the technical tools and organizational capacity to comprehensively plan for and deliver quality infrastructure projects and community development projects that enable their communities and neighborhoods to thrive" ([U.S. DOT Thriving Communities Program Website](#)).

See [CRCOG's Summary](#) for more information, including a list of municipalities that may benefit from this program and the technical assistance it offers.

U.S. DOT expects to award \$22M through a total of nine awards with up to five awards for each of the two different types of cooperative agreements:

1. TCP-National Capacity Builder (TCP-N), with award amounts projected to be \$4-5 million each.
2. TCP-Regional Capacity Builder (TCP-R), with awards amounts projected to be \$1-2 million each.

There is no cost share or matching required. USDOT will enter into a cooperative agreement with successful applicants, and will fund up to 100% of eligible costs through a monthly reimbursement model.

Submit grant applications via [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) before the application deadline.

Communities interested in **receiving no-cost support and technical assistance** from National Capacity Builder Team(s) must submit a **Letter of Interest (LOI)** via [DOT's fillable webform](#) by 4:59 p.m. (ET) **November 15, 2023**.

Environment and Energy-Related Funding Opportunities

EPA 2023 Clean School Bus (CSB) Rebate Program

Application deadline: January 31, 2024



This program is available for municipalities interested in doing their part to combat the climate crisis through reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. The program offers rebates to replace existing school buses with clean and zero-emission (ZE) models. The rebates will allow selectees to receive awarded funds before purchasing the buses and associated infrastructure listed in the application.

EPA anticipates offering \$500 M in funding for this program. Visit [EPA's program webpage](#) for more information.

Submit applications electronically through EPA's portal at: <https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus>.

CTDEEP Urban and Community Forestry Planning Grant Program

Application deadline: October 24, 2023



CTDEEP URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PLANNING GRANT

- * **Program Purpose:** \$150,000 in funding is available state-wide to support municipalities and non-profit organizations with efforts to inventory, plan, manage, and monitor urban and community forests.
- * **Grant Application Deadline:** October 24, 2023.
- * **Apply [Online](#).**
- * Visit [CRCOG's Summary](#) or the [Program Website](#) for more information.

CRCOG CONTACT: ESANDERSON@CRCOG.ORG 

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) recognizes the important role that trees and forests play in filtering our air and water, maintaining biodiversity, reducing air temperatures, and many other health and environmental benefits. The Urban and Community Forestry Planning Grant Program makes \$150,000 available to CT municipalities and non-profit 501(c)3 organizations to assess, inventory, study, monitor, manage, and plan urban and community trees and forests.

See [CRCOG's Summary](#) for more information, including a link to the Request for Proposals and other potential funding opportunities anticipated in the near future.

CTDEEP will accept [online applications](#) until **5 pm on October 24**.

Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRGP)

Application Deadline: April 1, 2024

The Environmental Protection Agency has opened the implementation phase of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program.

This second phase closely follows the first phase of the program, which focuses on developing Climate Action Plans. Up to \$4.6 billion is available to fund measures in applicable Priority Climate Action Plans.



Over the past few months, CRCOG has been collaborating with the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CTDEEP) and other COGs and stakeholders in Connecticut.

Rental Assistance, Supportive Housing and Services:

Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing)

Deadline: October 30, 2023

More information about this program is available on HUD's website [here](#).

Exploring Office to Residential Conversions (HUDRD-EORC)

Deadline: October 12, 2023

FY2023 HOPE VI Main Street Grant Program

Deadline: October 12, 2023

Tenant Education and Outreach

Deadline: October 23, 2023

Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRPE) Elements

Deadline: March 28, 2024

Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRPL) Leading Edge

Deadline: April 30, 2024

Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRPC) Comprehensive

Deadline: May 30, 2024

FY2023 and FY2024 Authority to Accept Unsolicited Proposals for Research Partnerships

Deadline: June 30, 2025

Notice of Funding Opportunity for FY2023 Continuum of Care Competition and Renewal or Replacement of Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Grants

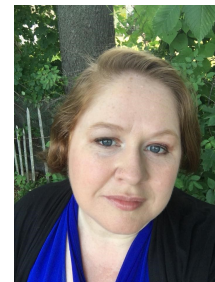
Deadline: September 28, 2023

More information is available on [Grants.gov](#) or [HUD's Grant Information webpage](#).

Useful Resources

Brownfield Funding!

The CRCOG region is full of former manufacturing sites that are now brownfields – sites with environmental contamination that can be expensive to remediate. CRCOG was awarded a grant for assessment of these brownfield sites in 2009, and in 2014, we were awarded an EPA grant for a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). This November, we will be applying to EPA again for Multipurpose, Assessment and Cleanup funding, which will help potential developers identify the contaminants and develop a plan to get them cleaned up.



In addition, CRCOG's RLF can provide funds to help public, non-profit and private developers clean up contaminated sites for redevelopment. The MetroHartford CRCOG Brownfields program can be flexible with terms & conditions, and as payments are made on the loan, those funds can be given to municipalities as a sub-

grant, allowing all the development dollars to go further, while providing benefits to residents in terms of improved health and quality of life.

For more information about how CRCOG can assist with brownfields assessment, abatement, and remediation, please visit [CRCOG's Brownfields Webpage](#) and contact:

[Maureen Goulet](#)

CRCOG Principal Program Manager

Useful Resources

Recent Applications

Congratulations STEAP awardees!

The State of Connecticut announced awardees of the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP). Twelve municipalities within CRCOG will receive funds to improve infrastructure and quality of life in their communities.

Join us in congratulating Andover, Bolton, Canton, Coventry, East Granby, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby, Marlborough, Newington, Southington, and Tolland. This is a great achievement that will bring meaningful improvements to the region.

Request for Project Screening Submissions

If you're interested in funding your town's projects, CRCOG can help! We'll screen your projects and help find available federal funding sources.

Please contact [Elizabeth Sanderson](#) with the following information, or with questions:

- Name of municipality
- Point of contact
- Project description
- Location
- Roadway ownership (does the project involve State Right-of-Way)
- Goals/purpose of project
- Anticipated total cost
- Amount of funding needed
- Type and source of local match
- Description of preliminary work completed

If you would like CRCOG to feature information about a recent application you submitted or an award for funding that you received, then please contact [Elizabeth Sanderson](#). In addition, if you missed an opportunity, like Safe Streets and Roads for All, or another program, let's talk and prepare for next year.

We look forward to sharing your achievements with others in the region, and hearing about how your community will take advantage of these funding opportunities while they are here.

Past Events

New England Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA): Grant Writing – How to Get Started

Last week, the Connecticut Transportation Institute Training & Technical Assistance Center (T2) at the University of Connecticut and New England Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) hosted a webinar about writing grants.

Presenter, Victoria Beale, JD, offered valuable information on how to prepare successful grant applications.

If you missed this webinar, no fear! The recording of the webinar is now on T2's YouTube channel and can be viewed [here](#).

Here is information about the presentation:

- View a Presentation Outline [here](#).
- View a PDF copy of the presentation [here](#).

Information about this webinar is also available in the **General Information** section of [CRCOG's BIL Webpage](#).

CT DOT Webinars - Grant Solicitation for Phase 1 of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan (NEVI)

Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) has hosted several webinars to review their process of accepting proposals to build-out Phase 1 of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Plan.

Recorded Webinars:

- [Connecticut NEVI Program Pre-Solicitation Information Session 1](#)
- [Connecticut NEVI Program Pre-Solicitation Information Session 2](#)

Visit the [CTDOT Calendar](#) to track upcoming meetings and events. Join CTDOT's e-mail list: [Sign Up Here for email updates](#).

Please see the article above in the **Transportation-Related Funding Opportunities** section of this newsletter for more information about this funding source.

Useful Links

Visit [CRCOG's BIL Webpage](#) for more information about many of the grants and funding opportunities featured in this newsletter.

View previous Funding Opportunities Newsletters [here](#).
