

To: CRCOG Transportation Committee
From: Anaka Maher, Senior Transportation Planner
CC: Rob Aloise, Director of Transportation Planning
Date: January 12, 2024
Subject: Funding Opportunities Guide Update

CRCOG’s “Municipal Transportation Funding Opportunities Guide” has been updated and posted on CRCOG’s website at <https://crcog.org/transportation-planning/>. It has also been attached to this memo. This guide is intended to be a printable handout that gives a brief description, key facts, and a link to more information for each transportation funding opportunity.

If you have any questions, please contact Anaka Maher at amaher@crcog.org.

Municipal Transportation Funding Opportunities Guide

Updated December 2023

Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP)



- Solicitation every 2 years (typ)
- \$300k-\$4M per Project
- Solicited through CRCOG
- crcog.org/a-lotcip/

LOTICIP provides state funding to municipalities for transportation capital improvement projects. Regional Planning Organizations are responsible for soliciting and selecting projects and administering the program. Eligible projects include roadway and bridge reconstruction, pavement rehabilitation, sidewalks and multi-use trails. Roadway projects must be located on/along federally eligible roadways.

Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ)



- Solicitation every 3-4 years (typ)
- \$200k-\$4M per Project
- Solicited through CRCOG
- crcog.org/cmaq/

CMAQ provides federal funds for projects that will improve air quality, such as congestion reduction and traffic flow improvements, transit improvements, and pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Applications are submitted to the Regional Planning Organizations who submit a limited number of projects to CTDOT for consideration for funding.

Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Program



- Solicitation every 4-5 years (typ)
- \$300k-\$4M per Project
- Solicited through CRCOG
- crcog.org/c-transportation-alternatives/

Provides federal funding for surface transportation projects in categories that are not typically eligible for funding under other federal sources. Bicycle and pedestrian projects have typically been targeted for these funds.

Transportation Rural Improvement Program (TRIP)



- New program, solicitation frequency TBD
- \$300k+ per Project
- Solicited through CRCOG
- crcog.org/transportation-rural-improvements-program-trip/

Provides state funding for transportation projects located in rural towns. Eligible projects include reconstruction, pavement rehabilitation, sidewalks and multi-use trails. Applications are submitted to the Regional Planning Organizations who submit a limited number of projects to CTDOT for consideration for funding. This is a new program with \$15 million available for FY2023-FY2025.

Section 5310



- Yearly solicitation
- Varies
- Solicited through CRCOG
- ct.gov/dot/5310

The Section 5310 program provides Federal funding for capital expenses (up to 80% of total project cost) and operating expenses (up to 50% of total project cost) to improve mobility for seniors and individuals with disabilities by removing barriers to transportation service and expanding transportation mobility options.

Federal Discretionary Grants



- Multiple programs, many solicited annually
- Varies by funding opportunity
- Solicitation through Federal Agencies
- crcog.org/bil-iiija/

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) allocated federal funding for FY2022-FY2026 under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Connecticut is expected to receive approximately \$6 billion delivered through a mix of funding, much of it directed towards transportation projects. Unlike prior federal bills, there are many new discretionary funding opportunities for municipalities to apply for and receive funding directly from USDOT. CRCOG is tracking funding opportunities relevant to our members. Information about federal programs is included on CRCOG's webpage and Funding Opportunities for Municipalities newsletters.

CTDOT Local Bridge Program



- State Program; Yearly solicitation
- Federal Program; Continuous solicitation
- \$500k+ per Project for State Program
- Solicited through CTDOT
- portal.ct.gov/DOT/Local-Bridge-Program/Local-Bridge-Program

The CTDOT Local Bridge Program encompasses two distinct funding programs: the State Local Bridge Program and the Federal Local Bridge Program. Projects may include bridge reconstruction, rehabilitation, modifications, or improvements such as widening, complete replacement, or complete removal. To qualify for State Local Bridge Program, a bridge must carry a public road, be municipally owned and/or maintained, and considered deficient. To qualify for the Federal Local Bridge Program, the bridge must span at least 20 feet and be located on a road functionally classified as local or as a rural minor collector. Additional eligibility requirements and lists of eligible bridges can be found on the program website.

Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP)



- Annual solicitation
- Individual Municipal Entitlement
- Managed by CTOPM
- portal.ct.gov/OPM/IGPP/Grants/LoCIP/Local-Capital-Improvement-Program-LoCIP-HOME-PAGE

This program provides financial assistance to municipalities for eligible projects in the form of annual entitlement grants funded with State general obligation bonds. Eligible projects include road, bridge, or public asset construction activities. A municipality must request and be granted project authorization by the Office of Policy and Management in order to be eligible for reimbursement for allowable project costs.

Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP)



- Yearly solicitation (typ)
- Up to \$500k per Municipality
- Managed by CTOPM
- portal.ct.gov/DEMHS/Grants/Municipal-Grant-Program

STEAP funds are issued by the State Bond Commission for economic development, community conservation and quality-of-life capital projects. This includes new construction, expansion, renovation or replacement of existing facilities. This funding is directed towards small towns and larger municipalities are eligible for other funding through the Municipal Grants Program (MGP).

Community Connectivity Grant Program



- Solicitation every 2 years (typ)
- \$100k-\$800k per Project
- Solicited through CTDOT
- portal.ct.gov/DOT/PP_Intermodal/CTConnectivity/CT-Connectivity-CCGP

The Community Connectivity Grant Program (CCGP) provides state funds to improve accommodations for bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit users in urban, suburban, and rural community centers. Recent funding is for construction activities, prior funding had also funded Roadside Safety Audits (RSA). Multi-use trails are eligible under CCGP; however, recreational trails are ineligible.

DEEP Recreational Trails



- Yearly solicitation (typ)
- Up to \$1M per Project
- Solicited through DEEP
- portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Outdoor-Recreation/Trails/CRT--Funding

This program is administered through the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP). Funds can be used for projects such as new trail construction, maintenance and restoration of existing trails, and acquisition of land or easements for a trail. Grants can pay up to 80% of total project costs, a 20% match is required.