

CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING - WATER

Internal deliberative pre-decisional - FOR USE BY 2024 PRESIDENT-ELECT TRANSITION TEAM MEMBERS ONLY

ISSUE SUMMARY:

Aging and deteriorating water infrastructure is a major problem in many communities, especially vulnerable, overburdened, or otherwise economically stressed communities. EPA provides direct grants to support predetermined infrastructure projects at the community level.

KEY POINTS:

Congress appropriates resources for specifically named community water infrastructure projects identified as Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) and Community Project Funding (CPF) items (Community Grants) in Appropriations Acts. CDS/CPF funding is provided from the State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) account for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) for specific drinking water, wastewater, stormwater infrastructure, and water quality protection Community Grants projects.

These projects provide a valuable source of federal funding for water infrastructure that will complement the resources Congress provided in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the annual appropriations process.

- FY 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-103) on March 15, 2022
 - \$841,405,095 in funding for,
 - 483 Community Grants Projects
- FY 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-328) on December 29, 2022
 - \$1,472,364,541 in funding for,
 - 715 Community Grants Projects
- FY 2024 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-42) on March 9, 2024
 - \$1,419,312,172 in funding for,
 - 1,022 Community Grants Projects
- **Total: \$3,733,081,808 for 2,220 projects over three years**

To fund these projects, the EPA makes direct awards to project recipients after a recipient submits a completed application for funds to Grants.gov. A complete grant application includes, but is not limited to, a finalized environmental review as directed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and documentation verifying: compliance with federal procurement requirements; compliance with Davis-Bacon prevailing wage and labor standards (as applicable); and that project materials are domestically obtained according to American Iron and Steel Act (AIS) and Build America Buy America Act (BABA) requirements (as applicable). The EPA regions award and manage grant agreements. As of October 2024, the EPA has awarded over 450 projects totaling over \$820,000,000.

ONGOING/UPCOMING REVIEWS FOR FY24:

- EPA will provide a report to Congress to list potential opportunities for streamlining the program.

KEY EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Congress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> States	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tribes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Media	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Federal Agency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local Governments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public			

MOVING FORWARD:

The Office of Water will continue to support water infrastructure investment to protect public health and the environment and build the economic health of the nation through the Community Grant program.