

***SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT,
AND RELATED AGENCIES***

**Community Development Fund - Economic Development Initiative (EDI)
Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Guidelines and Requirements for Appropriations Submissions Database**

**Member Request deadline is March 27, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.
Members must post CPF requests on their website on April 17, 2026.**

Community Project Funding within the Community Development Fund account of the HUD title is intended for economic and community development activities, consistent with statutory and additional Committee requirements.

Eligible recipients for Community Project Funding in the Economic Development Initiatives account are the following types of entities:

- States and the District of Columbia
- Territories
- Tribal governments
- Counties
- Cities, towns, parishes, or other local government entities, such as public water districts or public redevelopment authorities
- Public colleges and universities, including community colleges, all Historically Black Colleges and Universities defined as a “part B institution” in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061), and all Tribal Colleges and Universities as defined in section 316 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c)

Project requests for the FY26 Economic Development Initiative program must be consistent with the goals of one or more of the following eligible uses of the Community Development Fund (CDF): 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4), and 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(5). These statutory eligibilities focus on land or site acquisition, demolition, or rehabilitation; blight removal; and construction and capital improvements of public facilities, except for “buildings used for the general conduct of government.”¹

5305(a)(1) – the acquisition of real property (including air rights, water rights, and other interests therein) which is (A) blighted, deteriorated, deteriorating, undeveloped, or inappropriately developed from the standpoint of sound community development and growth; (B) appropriate for rehabilitation or conservation activities; (C) appropriate for the preservation or restoration of historic sites, the beautification of urban land, the conservation of open spaces, natural resources, and scenic areas, the provision of recreational opportunities, or the guidance of urban development; (D) to be used for the provision of public

¹ 42 U.S.C. 5302(a)(21) provides: “The term ‘buildings for the general conduct of government’ means city halls, county administrative buildings, State capitol or office buildings, or other facilities in which the legislative or general administrative affairs of the government are conducted. Such term does not include such facilities as neighborhood service centers or special purpose buildings located in low- and moderate-income areas that house various non-legislative functions or services provided by government at decentralized locations.”

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works, facilities, and improvements eligible for assistance under this chapter; or (E) to be used for other public purposes;

5305(a)(2) – the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, or installation (including design features and improvements with respect to such construction, reconstruction, or installation that promote energy efficiency) of public works, facilities (except for buildings for the general conduct of government), and site or other improvements;

5305(a)(4) – clearance, demolition, removal, reconstruction, and rehabilitation (including rehabilitation which promotes energy efficiency) of buildings and improvements (including interim assistance, and financing public or private acquisition for reconstruction or rehabilitation, and reconstruction or rehabilitation, of privately owned properties, and including the renovation of closed school buildings); and

5305(a)(5) – special projects directed to the removal of material and architectural barriers which restrict the mobility and accessibility of elderly and handicapped persons.

Given that projects must be consistent with authorized purposes, the Committee expects to prioritize funding for the following types of projects:

- Water or sewer infrastructure projects, which are not otherwise eligible to be funded as CPFs in EPA STAG (Interior bill) or Rural Water and Waste Disposal (Agriculture bill);
- Local road infrastructure, which is not otherwise eligible as a CPF in highways (in this bill);
- Streetscape improvements;
- Housing rehabilitation or construction, residential conversions, and neighborhood revitalization projects, which would increase housing supply and/or improve housing affordability in the local community;
- Projects with a clear economic development benefit for a community or region, such as workforce training centers; and
- Projects that meet a compelling local need consistent with statutory purposes. For example, food banks in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, youth and senior centers, and multipurpose community centers would be strong submissions.

The following types of projects are not eligible for funding under this account:

- Healthcare facilities;
- Museums, commemoratives, and memorials;
- Swimming pools, water parks, ski slopes, and golf courses;
- Venues strictly for entertainment purposes, such as theaters, amphitheaters, fairgrounds, and performing arts centers;
- Strictly research, operational, or planning activities; and

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- Buildings for the general conduct of government (courthouses, post offices, city halls), which are not allowed under the statute.

Demonstration of Community Support: Projects require evidence of community support to be considered for funding. Community support documentation can include letters from elected officials and community groups, local transportation or community development plans, publications including news articles, and any other documents that demonstrate public support for the project.

Reminder on Environmental Review Requirements: EDI projects, like all projects funded by HUD, are subject to requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), HUD's NEPA-implementing regulations at 24 CFR Part 50 or 24 CFR Part 58, and all applicable federal environmental and historic preservation laws, regulations, and executive orders. An environmental review must be completed before HUD funds and non-HUD funds can be committed to or spent on a project (24 CFR 58.22). If the project will be under construction (or complete) at the time of enactment, the recipient will not likely be able to meet the environmental review requirements.

Reminder on Buy America Preference: The "Buy America Preference" in the Build America Buy America (BABA) Act within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58), requires that all iron and steel, construction materials, and manufactured products used in federally funded infrastructure projects be produced in the United States. If the project will be under construction (or complete) at the time of enactment, the recipient will not likely be able to meet the BABA requirements.

Taxpayer Identification Number/Unique Entity Identifier: Requesting offices are required to provide a valid Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and/or Employer Identification Number (EIN) for each potential EDI recipient, as well as the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), which is an entity's official identifier for conducting business with the federal government. If an entity does not presently have a UEI, they can register for one at SAM.gov. Applicants should have this information readily available to provide to your office.

NOTE: Political subdivisions and school districts/boards may not have their own unique TIN or UEI. In this case, we recommend naming the recipient as the legal entity under which they are formed and naming the political subdivision in the project description (e.g., "City of Alexandria/For the Department of Public Works' roadway improvements").

Planning and administrative costs: These costs can be incurred after the date of enactment. However, if the recipient incurs these costs after enactment, but before the grant agreement is signed, they do so at their own risk. If the project is found to be ineligible by HUD or the grant agreement is never signed, HUD cannot reimburse those costs. Hard costs, such as construction, can **only** be incurred after the successful completion of the required environmental review.

For each EDI request, Members will need to provide specific information through the

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electronic submission process. The database will include the following questions to assist the subcommittee in vetting and selecting projects. The Chair may require additional information from your office. Please ensure Community Project Funding requests are not duplicative of requests to another subcommittee.

Community Project Funding prompts in the database for EDI:

- Project Name.
- General description of the project and why it is needed.
- What are the benefits of this project and why is it a priority?
- Amount requested for the Community Project Funding and the total project cost.
- Are there community partners participating in this project?
- Does the grantee have experience executing a federal grant?
- Has the request been submitted to another subcommittee or committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)?
- Is this project consistent with the primary objective of the community development program? Please describe who the project is intended to benefit.
- What is the entity's TIN/EIN?
- What is the entity's UEI?
- What is the ZIP code of the project location? If the project spans multiple ZIP codes, provide the ZIP code where most of the appropriation would be spent.
- Does the grantee have a Community Project Funding (CPF)/Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) project that has not yet secured a signed grant agreement with HUD? This should include projects for which appropriations were made since FY2022. If yes, please provide:
 - The title of the project;
 - The fiscal year the CPF/CDS was enacted;
 - The awarding Member(s) and/or Senator(s);
 - The grant number as provided by HUD; and
 - The grant's status ("No Materials Submitted" or "Grant Review in Progress").

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**DIRECTIONS AND TEMPLATE FOR MEMBER FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATIONS AND
FEDERAL NEXUS STATEMENTS:**

Members are required to send the Chairman and Ranking Member a letter stating that the Member and his/her “immediate family” (defined as father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, husband, wife, father-in-law, or mother-in-law) do not have a financial interest in the requested projects. Members are also required to include a statement regarding the project’s federal nexus.

Below is suggested text for a statement of federal nexus and a financial disclosure certification to accompany each Community Project Funding request:

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

“I am requesting funding for _____[project] in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is _____, located at _____ (address including street name, city, state and zip code). The funding would be used for _____ . The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because _____ .

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.”

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

These statements must be on letterhead and must be signed by the Member. Members must post these letters publicly on their website on April 17, 2026. Please prepare the certification on letterhead and upload a PDF of the signed document to the request database.

Questions: If you have questions or require further information on EDI Community Project Funding requests, please email the subcommittee staff at TH.MemberRequests@mail.house.gov with “Economic Development Initiative” in the subject line. Please note that this email box is for Congressional staff and Member use only, and external stakeholders should contact their Member of Congress for further guidance.