

MIKE THOMPSON

5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:
2721 NAPA VALLEY CORPORATE DRIVE
NAPA, CA 94558
(707) 226-9898
420 VIRGINIA STREET, SUITE 1C
VALLEJO, CA 94590
(707) 645-1888
2300 COUNTY CENTER DRIVE, SUITE A100
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403
(707) 542-7182
CAPITOL OFFICE:
268 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3311
WEB: <http://mikethompson.house.gov>

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Dear Friends:

We are quickly approaching the time when I would normally send a letter to constituents in the Fourth Congressional District with instructions about how to submit requests for Community Project Funding which direct funds to a specific state or local government or eligible non-profit organization.

Unfortunately, the FY25 appropriations process has been unnecessarily delayed by extremist members in the House of Representatives that prevented the timely completion of the FY24 appropriations bills. While we don't have final guidance from the Appropriations Committee on the rules for FY25 projects, I urge interested constituents to start submitting project ideas to my office now.

In anticipation of the completion of the FY24 appropriations bills as soon as early March, and the rapid transition to the consideration of the FY25 bills, I wanted to share interim guidance for this process.

First, I fully support this opportunity as Congress has both the right and responsibility to provide input on funding decisions for worthwhile project proposals critical to the well-being of the people of our District.

Second, while the Appropriations Committee has not yet shared any guidance changes from the previous appropriations cycle, I have attached last year's guidance, which is expected to be very similar to what will be required for FY25 requests. Should the Appropriations Committee change any of the rules, my office will make sure to communicate those changes as soon as possible.

In the last two appropriations cycles, Members of Congress have been limited to submitting 15 Community Project Funding requests with no guarantee that they will all be funded. Projects will also be competitively evaluated by the Committee on Appropriations, so projects with strong local support will be given preference.

My staff will work with you to answer questions about whether your project as envisioned is something that can be eligible for this process. Please see the resource guide which identifies which programs are eligible for Community Project Funding requests, and the required documentation for projects in various programs. In order for me to put forward the strongest set of project requests, I ask that you submit your priorities to this [Appropriations Form](#) or email your

priorities to (CA04Appropriations@mail.house.gov) by the end of the day on **MARCH, 15th, 2024**. In submitting your priorities, please provide all the information required by each appropriations subcommittee.

The House has also instituted transparency measures to ensure that Members of Congress do not have a financial interest in Community Project Funding requests. This certification, and the associated documentation for each project, is designed to balance the interest in greater Congressional involvement in funding decisions with the need to ensure that all projects requested by Members of Congress are high quality projects.

This year's environment will be especially challenging for securing funding for projects. I encourage you to only include the highest priority projects and I will do all that is possible to support investments that improve our communities. I believe that the people of our district are in the best position to identify those worthwhile projects that will enhance safety, create jobs and improve our quality of life, and I look forward to your recommendations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

*Guidance from the Appropriations Committee for the **PREVIOUS** year. Additional guidance will be provided as soon as it has been released by the Appropriations Committee.*

General Community Funded Project Guidance from the Appropriations Committee

NOTE: Please note some of the new restrictions from House Republicans which are different than the rules for requests to Senate offices.

Federal Nexus Requirement In order to ensure a federal nexus exists for each funded project, the Committee will only fund projects that are tied to a federal authorization law. Members must include a written statement describing the federal nexus for each Community Project Funding request. Subcommittee guidance will include example language Members can use to make the required statement.

No Memorials, Museums, or Commemoratives: Memorials, museums, and commemoratives (i.e., projects named for an individual or entity) are not eligible for Community Project Funding.

Community Support. Community engagement and support is crucial in determining which projects will be ultimately selected for Federal funding. Only projects with demonstrated community support will be considered by the Appropriations Committee.

The Appropriations Committee encourages project sponsors to include evidence of support for your proposal including:

- Letters of support from elected community leaders (e.g. mayors or other officials);
- Press articles highlighting the need for the requested Community Project Funding;
- Support from newspaper editorial boards;
- Projects listed on State intended use plans, community development plans, or other publicly available planning documents; or
- Resolutions passed by city councils or boards.

Ban on For-Profit recipients. The Committee is imposing a ban on directing Community Project Funding to for-profit entities.

Matching requirements. Several Federal programs eligible for Community Project Funding requests require a State or local match for projects either by statute or according to longstanding policy. The Committee will not waive these matching requirements for Community Project Funding requests. *Note: This does not mean that matching funds must be in-hand prior to requesting a project, but that local officials must have a plan to meet such requirements in order for such a project to be viable.*

One-year funding. Each project request must be for fiscal year 2024 funds only and cannot include a request for multiyear funding.

State or local governmental entities as grantees. Members are encouraged to consider public entities as primary grantees to oversee the completion of the project. For infrastructure projects, many States have established lists or intended use plans with projects that have already been vetted by governmental officials (e.g. drinking water, wastewater and highways).

Non-profits as grantees. If a Member requests that funding be directed to a non-profit organization, the Member will need to provide evidence that the recipient is a non-profit organization as described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Further, many water projects often partner with non-profit entities to complete projects. Therefore, projects may also be directed to non-profits with an inherently governmental function.

Transparency. Certain information about project requests submitted by my office to the Appropriations Committees will be made public. This includes: the proposed recipient; the address of the recipient; the amount of the request; and an explanation of the request, including purpose, and a justification for why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds.

Programs by Appropriations Subcommittee Eligible for Community Funded Projects Requests

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

- USDA - Farm Production and Conservation Programs
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service (Conservation Operations)
- USDA - Research, Education, and Economics
 - Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities
- USDA – Rural Development
 - Rural Housing Service (Community Facilities)
 - Rural Utilities Service (ReConnect Program)
 - Rural Utilities Service (Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants)
 - Rural Utilities Service (Rural Water and Waste Disposal Grants)

[Subcommittee Guidance](#)

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

- NIST Scientific and Technical Research
- NOAA Coastal Zone Management
- DOJ Byrne Justice
- DOJ Community Orientated Policing Services (COPS) Technology & Equipment
- NASA Safety, Security and Mission Services

[Subcommittee Guidance](#)

Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies

Note: Only authorized projects will be considered for funding.

- Corps of Engineers - Investigations
- Corps of Engineers - Construction
- Corps of Engineers - Mississippi River and Tributaries

- Corps of Engineers - Operation and Maintenance
- Bureau of Reclamation - Water and Related Resources

[Subcommittee Guidance](#)

Homeland Security

- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grants
- Emergency Operations Center Grants

[Subcommittee Guidance](#)

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants for certain water infrastructure projects

[Subcommittee Guidance](#)

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

- Military Construction accounts under the Department of Defense
 - Army
 - Navy and Marine Corps
 - Air Force and Space Force
 - Defense-Wide Agencies (Special Operations Command (SOCOM), Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), etc.)
 - Army National Guard
 - Air National Guard
 - Army Reserve
 - Navy Reserve
 - Air Force Reserve

[Subcommittee Guidance](#)

Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

[Guidance for Transit Infrastructure Projects](#)

[Guidance for Highway Infrastructure Projects](#)

[Guidance for Airport Improvement Program \(AIP\) Projects](#)

[Guidance for Port Infrastructure Development Program Projects](#)

[Guidance for Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements \(CRISI\) Projects](#)

[Guidance for Community Development Fund - Economic Development Initiative \(EDI\) Projects](#)

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