

2024 Reconnecting Communities Pilot Discretionary Grant

This is only a summary; applicants should not rely on it to meet application requirements.

Study the full grant opportunity announcement before applying for any federal grant.

Program Description – The purpose of the RCP Program is 1) to advance community-centered transportation connection projects, with a priority for projects that benefit disadvantaged communities, that improve access to daily needs such as jobs, education, healthcare, food, nature, and recreation, and foster equitable development and restoration, and 2) to provide technical assistance to further these goals.

The RCP Program provides grant funding and technical assistance for planning and capital construction to address infrastructure barriers, restore community connectivity, and improve peoples' lives. The variety of transformative solutions to knit communities back together can include infrastructure removal, pedestrian walkways and overpasses, capping and lids, roadway redesigns, complete streets conversions, and main street revitalization.

Opportunity Numbers – DOT-RCP-FY24-01		Agency – USDOT	
Available Funding: Up to \$200M in FY 2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Community Planning Grant - \$50MCapital Construction Grant - \$150M A lead applicant may submit three applications.		Closing – Sep 30, 2024 via Valid Eval	
		NOFO & Related – https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/355098 https://www.transportation.gov/grants/rcnprogram	
Obligation Deadline: Sep 30, 2027		BCA Required? Yes = Capital Construction. No = Planning	
Minimum Award: Maximum Community Planning Grant award is \$2 million. Capital Construction Grants may range from \$5 million to \$100 million.		Eligible Project Cost Restrictions: Funds may not be used to support or oppose union organizing.	
Eligible Applicants for Planning Grants (pg. 8) <ul style="list-style-type: none">State governmentsA unit of local governmentTribal government;Metropolitan Planning Organization;Non-profit organization.Others (see "Additional Information on Eligibility")		Required Cost Share: Community Planning Grant – 80% RCP/20% Local Capital Construction Grant - 50% RCP/50% Local	
Eligible Applicants for Construction Grants (pg. 8) <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Facility Owner orEligible applicants to Planning Grants may submit the application for a Capital Construction Grant.		Data Collection Requirements: (Pgs. 10-11, Appendix V) DOT & grant recipients determine indicators/metrics to assess project benefits before the grant agreement is established. Areas of measurement will relate to: 1) mobility, 2) access, 3) safety, 4) human & environmental impacts, 5) congestion, 6) economic development, 7) quality of life, and 8) community engagement.	
Merit Criteria: (NOFO 21-27) Applications must describe, in detail with supporting documentation, how the project addresses each of the merit criteria.			
Equity and Justice40 Initiative	Access	Facility Suitability	Community Engagement & Community based Stewardship, Management & Partnerships
Equitable Development	Climate Change Mitigation &/or Adaptation & Resilience	Planning Integration	Workforce Development and Economic Opportunity
After completing the merit review, DOT will prioritize projects that demonstrate the extent to which the project will further the following priorities: (1) Safety; (2) Transformation; (3) Thriving Communities			

Eligible Activities and Costs (NOFO pg. 4)

Planning Grants fund the study of removing, retrofitting, or mitigating an existing facility to restore community connectivity; conduct public engagement; and other transportation planning activities.

Capital Construction Grants are to carry out a project to remove, retrofit, mitigate, or replace an existing eligible facility with a new facility that reconnects communities.

Application & Narrative Requirements –

All applicants must submit the following Standard Forms (SF):

- All applicants must submit the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
- Planning Grants:** Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A), Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B)
- Capital Construction Grants:** Budget Information for Construction Programs (SF-424C), Assurances for Construction Programs (SF-424D)

For Planning Grants, the narrative should not exceed 10 pages; for Capital Grants the narrative should not exceed 20 pages. Standard formatting: i.e., single-spaced, standard 12-point such as Times New Roman, 1-inch margins and page numbers.

Applicants must submit their applications via Valid Eval at the links below:

Applicants must submit their applications via Valid Eval at

https://usg.valideval.com/teams/rcp_community_planning_fy24/signup for Community Planning Grants, and at

https://usg.valideval.com/teams/rcp_capital_construction_fy24/signup for Capital Construction Grants.

Do not submit applications through Grants.gov.