

Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) Grant Program Fact Sheet

What is this program and its goal?

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law established the RCP discretionary grant program with \$1 billion in funding over five years from 2022-2026. The purpose of the RCP Program is to reconnect communities by removing, retrofitting, or mitigating transportation facilities, like highways or rail lines, that create barriers to community connectivity, mobility, access, or economic development. The program funds planning and capital construction to address infrastructure barriers, reconnect communities, and improve peoples' lives.

What are examples of reconnecting solutions?

Solutions to knit communities back together can include high-quality public transportation, infrastructure removal, pedestrian walkways and overpasses,

capping and lids, linear parks and trails, roadway redesigns and complete streets conversions, and main street revitalization.

What types of grants are available for FY 2023?

This year, the RCP Program will provide up to \$198 million for two types of grants: Community Planning Grants and Capital Construction Grants. For more information and to review the Notice of Funding Opportunity, visit the RCP Program website.

Community Planning Grants - \$50M

- Study the removal, retrofit, or mitigation of an existing facility to restore community connectivity
- Conduct public engagement
- Other transportation planning activities

Capital Construction Grants – \$148M

 Carry out a project to remove, retrofit, mitigate, or replace an existing eligible facility with a new facility that reconnects communities.

Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible Facilities are highways or other transportation facilities that create a barrier to community connectivity, including barriers to mobility, access, or economic development, due to high speeds, grade separations, or other design factors. DOT is taking a broad view of "other transportation facilities," that might include railroads or transit lines.

Eligible Community Planning Grant applicants are States, units of local government, Tribal governments, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and non-profit organizations.

Eligible Capital Construction applicants must be 1) the Facility Owner(s) or 2) eligible applicants for a Community Planning Grant, as long as the Facility Owner is a joint applicant, with evidence of endorsing the application.

Technical Assistance

Prospective applicants should consult the <u>RCP Program website</u> for resources, FAQs, webinars, and case studies. A <u>new DOT Navigator</u> provides links to a wide range of existing DOT technical assistance resources.

DOT will provide technical assistance for grantees and potential grantees, including through the forthcoming Reconnecting Communities Institute launching later in 2023.

The RCP Program welcomes applications from diverse local, Tribal, and regional communities regardless of size, location, and experience administering Federal funding. DOT encourages place-based partnerships headed by a lead applicant.

When is the deadline for applications?

Applications must be submitted within 90 days after publication of the NOFO via Valid Eval at <u>this website</u> for Community Planning Grants and at <u>this website</u> for Capital Construction Grants.

For additional information and to subscribe to email updates, visit https://www.transportation.gov/grants/rcnprogram.