

Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending (CPFCDs) – Fact Sheet

FAQs

1. Does an applicant (ex. local agency) need to submit a CPFCDs application to receive approval to use a CPFCDs earmark for their project?

Yes, to receive approval for CPFCDs earmark funding for a project, the project must first have the CPFCDs eligible work identified and approved, via the CPFCDs application. The CPFCDs application is an essential part of this CPFCDs approval process.

2. When is the CPFCDs application due?

Although there is no CPFCDs application due date, the CPFCDs funds do have two hard deadlines that must be met to avoid loss of federal funds. These deadlines, one for obligating all the CPFCDs funds and one for expending all the CPFCDs funds, are posted on the Division of Local Assistance CPFCDs web site.

3. Where does the applicant (ex. local agency) submit their CPFCDs application?

The local agency submits their CPFCDs application package, including any supporting documentation, to their District Local Assistance Office (i.e. DLAE). More information on the application process may be found on the Division of Local Assistance CPFCDs web site.

4. Is there a “conditional” approval for a project applying for CPFCDs earmark funding? If so, how does that work?

Yes, a project may receive “conditional” approval for CPFCDs funding. This is used in cases where the PS&E package cannot yet be reviewed to confirm CPFCDs eligibility, such as when a project is beginning the PE phase of work. In such a scenario, the CPFCDs application may be conditionally approved, “pending review of the completed PS&E package to confirm CPFCDs eligibility.”

5. What is “conditional approval,” of the CPFCDs Application and how is it used?

Ideally the project application should be submitted with the PS&E package. If the project is submitted prior to substantial completion of the PS&E package (i.e., 90% plans), the local agency may be granted conditional approval to work on the ENV document and develop the PS&E package. Once the Plans reach 90% completion, the local agency will submit the draft PS&E package to obtain approval (which is a step up from the conditional approval) to use the CPFCDs funding.

6. How do I receive approval to use CPFCDs funds on my project?

Project application is required to verify the project, or the portion of the project the CPFCDs funding will be applied to, is eligible for the CPFCDs program funds requested. To be eligible for the CPFCDs funds, the project location, scope of work and work items all must fit the scope legislated by the U.S. legislature. This includes any misspellings or errors in the description.

7. May I use CPFCDs funds on more than one project?

Yes, so long as the work is eligible for each of the projects and there are funds available in the Earmark. A separate application must be submitted for each project. Keep in mind, the CPFCDs funding does have an obligation deadline and an expenditure deadline, which must be met, or the unobligated/unexpended funds will be rescinded back to the federal government.

8. What if the legislated scope of work has an error or the location is misspelled?

To change the legislated scope of work requires the U.S. legislature to pass legislation changing the legislated scope of work.

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10. When is the Obligation Deadline?

Funds to be obligated by Sept. 30, 2025; unobligated amounts after this date shall expire and funds will only be available for adjusting and liquidating obligations per 31 U.S.C. 1553.

11. When is the Expenditure Deadline?

Funds to be expended (invoiced) by Sept. 30, 2030; unexpended balances of obligated earmark funds shall be cancelled and are no longer available for obligation or expenditure. Final Invoices for the remaining obligated funds, should be submitted to LPA no later than March 31st of the FFY the funding is due.

12. Will the Earmark funds be given to agency as a lump sum up front or will it be staggered for a few years?

These Earmarks come in the year they are awarded; all the funds are allocated at one time to the local agency in the year the project is awarded. The local agency still can only authorize the funds per the regular federal aid process. The local agency MUST have NEPA before they can authorize RW. And both RW & NEPA must be completed in order to authorize construction. PE

RW & CON does not occur as a lump sum. The local agency must still follow the regular federal aid process.