

Wenonah Blanchette

From: Armitage, Ree (Wyden) <Ree_Armitage@wyden.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 2:31 PM
To: Wenonah Blanchette; Bill Martin; Don Richter
Subject: Sen. Merkley and Sen. Wyden FY25 CIP Appropriations Form is OPEN

Gaston Friends,

Per our conversations on Gaston's needs, I wanted to make sure you saw the process for community-initiated projects (CIPs) in Congress. Mitra from Senator Merkley's Office is copied here as well. We would be glad to discuss further to see if any of the appropriations accounts are a fit for your needs.

Best,

Ree Armitage
Office of U.S. Senator Ron Wyden

Hello,

Thank you for your interest in the fiscal year 2025 appropriations process. Senator Jeff Merkley, jointly with Senator Wyden, is accepting applications for both community-initiated projects (CIPs) – otherwise known as congressionally directed spending (CDS) or community project funding – as well as programmatic funding.

Our application will be open Wednesday, January 17, 2024, through 11:59pm PST on Sunday, February 25, 2024.

Our application for CIPs can be found [here](#). Please consult our guidance documents – which can be found [here](#) – before beginning your CIP application.

As Congress works to finalize the fiscal year 2024 spending bills, including funding for community-initiated projects in the House and Senate spending bills, Senators Wyden and Merkley are soliciting project submissions for the fiscal year 2025 process to ensure an adequate amount of time to receive and review projects. Please do **not** re-submit projects that have been included in the House or Senate fiscal year 2024 funding bills. If Congress does not enact funding for these projects, staff from the Senators offices will reach out individually. In the event of a partial or complete lapse in government funding during the application period, our offices will provide additional guidance.

General reminders:

1. The subcommittees can make changes to the types of accounts that are open to CIP spending and can update eligibility requirements at any time. If we hear of any changes, we will let you know as soon as possible.
2. A CIP is a type of federal grant, with the primary difference being that the recipients, amounts, and purposes are specifically listed in the annual appropriations bills. **The normal rules associated with receiving a federal grant also apply to CIPs, including cost matching, environmental compliance, and passing federal audits.** Each program is subject to specific rules regarding when money can be spent; please pay close to attention to this. For construction projects, we expect that an anticipated construction start date as late as calendar year 2026 should be fine.
3. Please note that the Senate Appropriations Committee considers CIP requests for specific accounts only, and maintains a highly selective process for approving requests.
4. **Important:** the final receipt of funding is dependent on Congress passing the appropriations bills – the timing of which is uncertain and can vary significantly.

5. CIP funding is only one tool in the federal funding toolbox and may not be a good fit for all projects. Our teams are standing by to answer any questions you may have about alternative funding sources.
6. Prior to final submission, we encourage constituents to print out a copy of their completed questionnaire for their records.

If you have questions or require technical assistance, please reach out to myself (mitra_anoushiravani@merkley.senate.gov) or Ree Armitage (ree_armitage@wyden.senate.gov) with Senator Wyden's office.

Requests for programmatic funding can be found [here](#). Please note that the programmatic request deadline is subject to change as the President releases the fiscal year 2025 budget.

Best,

Mitra

Mitra Anoushiravani (she/her)
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