

Funding & Financing the Energy Transition, Braiding Federal & State Funds

Webinar Series Session 4 – Tuesday, July 2, 2024
National Cooling Standards Initiative



cepc

Center for
Energy Poverty
and Climate

Project Introduction

The Center for Energy Poverty and Climate (CEPC) brings together policymakers to brainstorm solutions to difficult problems, and leverage programs to achieve net zero.

CEPC is working with the ClimateWorks Foundation and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) on the **National Cooling Standards Initiative** to bring together leaders in residential energy efficiency to improve access to cooling for millions of households.

CEPC Website: <https://energyprograms.org/>

ClimateWorks Clean Cooling Collaborative Website: <https://www.cleancoolingcollaborative.org/>

For resources from this webinar series, please visit <https://energyprograms.org/state-territory-energy-office-webinar-series/>.

Agenda for Today's Call

Washington State's Clean Energy Grant Plan

- Jill Eikenhorst, Washington State Department of Commerce, Solar Section Supervisor

Communities First Fund's State Implementation Accelerator

- Leanne Kaplan, Communities First Fund, Infrastructure Alliance Partnerships and Program Manager

NASEO's "Beating the Heat" Publication Announcement & Resources

- Jasmine Xie, NASEO, Senior Program Manager – Buildings Program

Contact

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and Climate

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“No Wrong Doors” Funding

A streamlined clean energy grant
opportunity

Jill Eikenhorst

SOLAR PROGRAMS SUPERVISOR

7/2/2024



Washington State
Department of
Commerce

We strengthen communities



HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS



INFRASTRUCTURE AND BROADBAND



SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE



ENERGY



PLANNING AND TECH ASSISTANCE



COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES



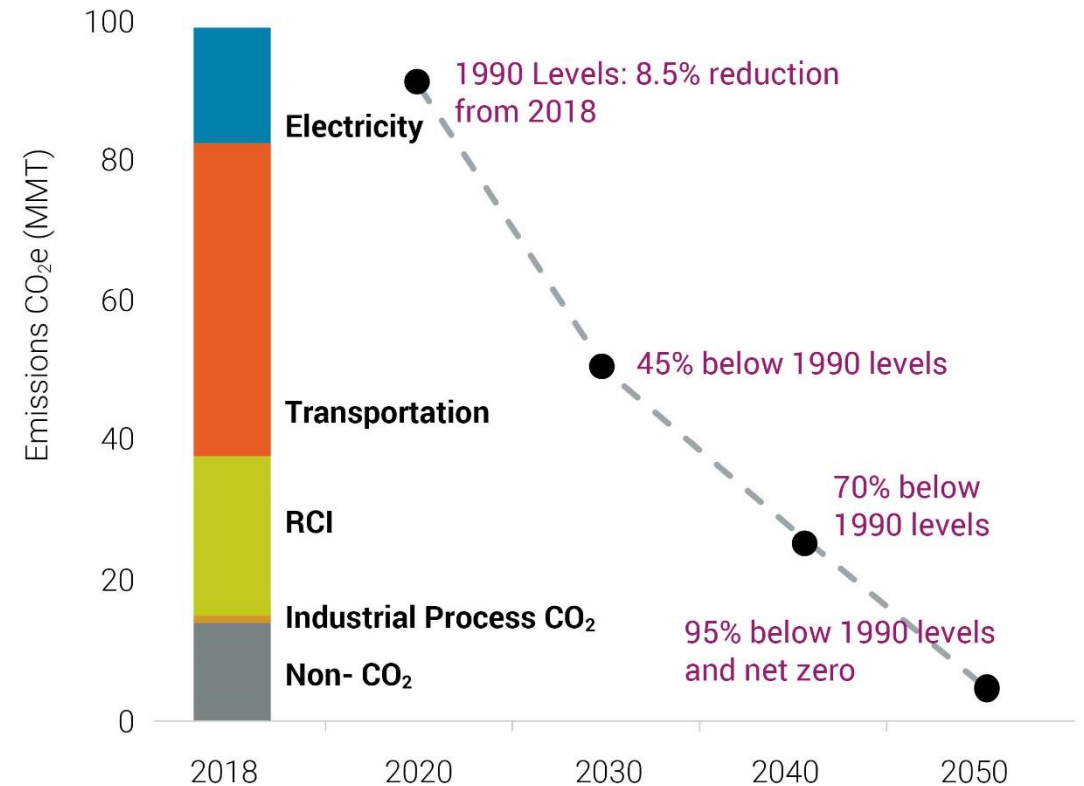
CRIME VICTIMS AND PUBLIC SAFETY



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Guiding objectives

- **Reduce:**
 - Greenhouse gas emissions
 - Income disparities in accessing clean energy investments
 - Geographic disparities in accessing clean energy technology
 - Environmental health disparities caused by energy and transportation pollutants
- **Improve energy and community resiliency and security**



Source: Washington State Department of Ecology and Washington State.
Appendix A – Deep Decarbonization Pathways Modeling Technical Report, December 11, 2020 (p. 15).

Energy Funding opportunities

Close to one billion in funding available for technical assistance, planning, deployment and more

- Clean transportation
- Building, industry, aviation and maritime decarbonization
- Clean energy projects led by and benefitting frontline communities
- Tribal-led clean energy development
- Solar energy and storage technology deployment
- Electric grid modernization and innovation
- Clean energy project siting and permitting



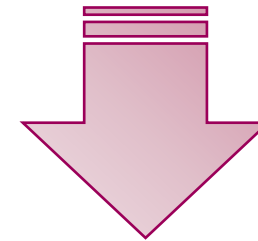
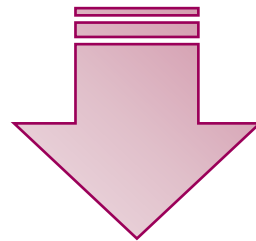
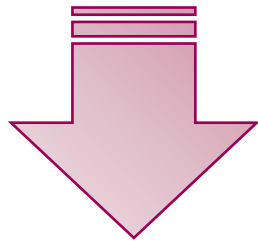
Energy Programs in Communities Unit

- Design, develop and implement initiatives that enable communities to be a part of the clean energy transition
- Suite of clean electricity programs that aim to enhance grid and community resilience, promote the equitable adoption of clean energy technologies, and drive market innovation
- Funding is provided through a diverse portfolio of state and federal sources – including Climate Commitment Act



No wrong door

Combined nine funding streams of \$117 million into
three tailored opportunities



1

Tribal Clean Energy

- \$16 million target
- rolling grant process: April, July, Sept
- \$13 million requested

7 projects, \$9.7 million
\$6.3 million remaining

2

Community Decarbonization

- \$67 million target
- Feb – April
- \$162 million requested

69 projects, \$70.5 million

3

General

- \$34 million target
- April – June 14
- Awards July

\$30.5 million available

Matching Process

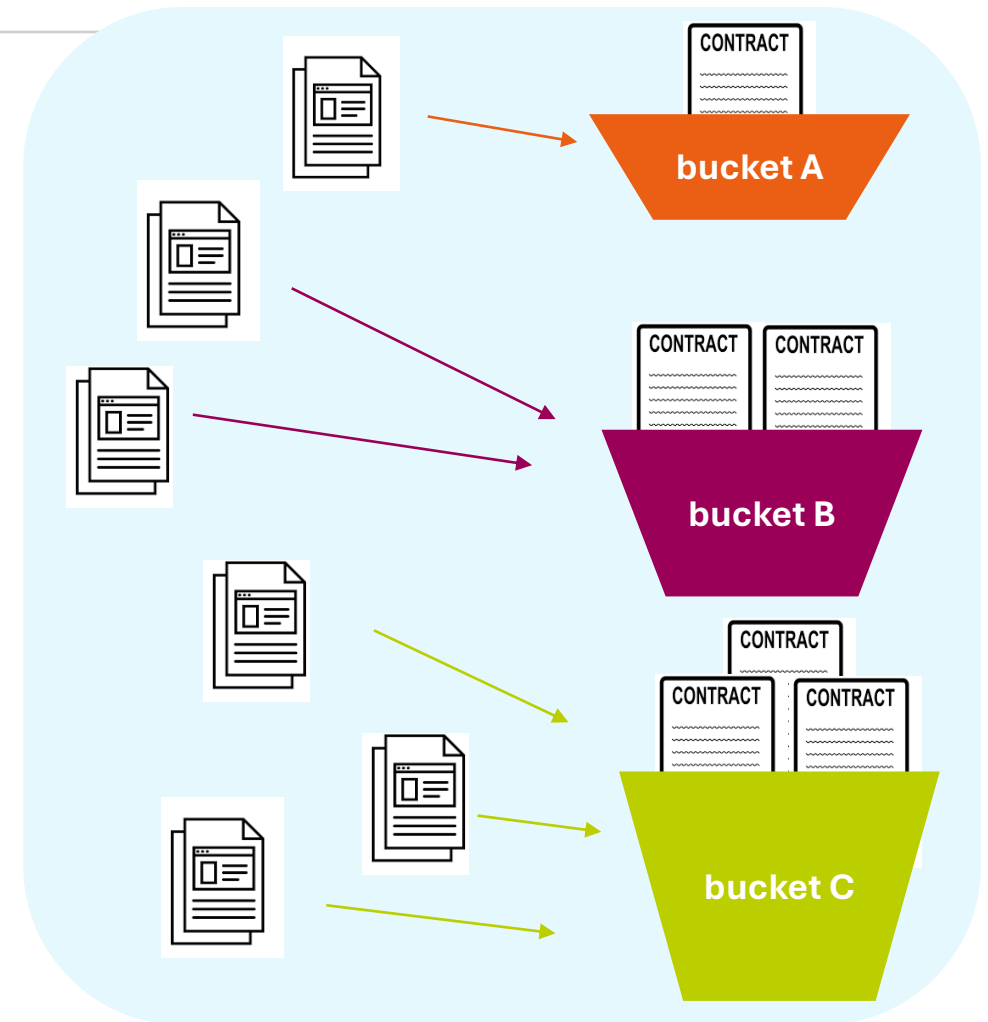
Proposals



Evaluation & Scoring

- New grantee
- Equity and EJ
- GHG emissions
- Readiness
- Design
- Feasibility
- Cost effectiveness
- Project team
- Proviso specific

Top ranked projects allocated to fund sources

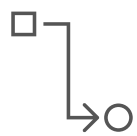


New approach



Community perspectives and collaboration

- Request for Information, feedback sessions – virtual and in person
- Translated materials and interpretation
- Feedback was incorporated into the RFA as much as possible under tight timelines, will be used for future iterations
- Community advisory committee – 13 paid evaluators with lived experience evaluating equity and environmental justice; funding recommendations



Reduced entry barriers

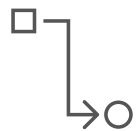
- Levelled the playing field by eliminating matching funds requirement for nearly all applicants
- Flexibility with eligible activities: planning, permitting, design, construction
- Flexibility to match fund sources, re-submit between rounds

New approach



Community perspectives and collaboration

- Request for Information, feedback sessions – virtual and in person
- Translated materials and interpretation
- Environmental justice assessment in accordance with the Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL)
- Feedback was incorporated into the RFA as much as possible under tight timelines, will be used for future iterations
- Community advisory committee – 13 paid evaluators with lived experience evaluating equity and environmental justice; funding recommendations



Reduced entry barriers

- Levelled the playing field by eliminating matching funds requirement for nearly all applicants
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Thank you!

CEPC & NASEO State Energy Office Webinar
July 2, 2024

FUND
COMMUNITIES FIRST

(as of 02/2023)



Centering Communities for Racial & Climate Justice

Building power across Black, Indigenous, People of Color, and low-wealth communities.

[Join Us](#)

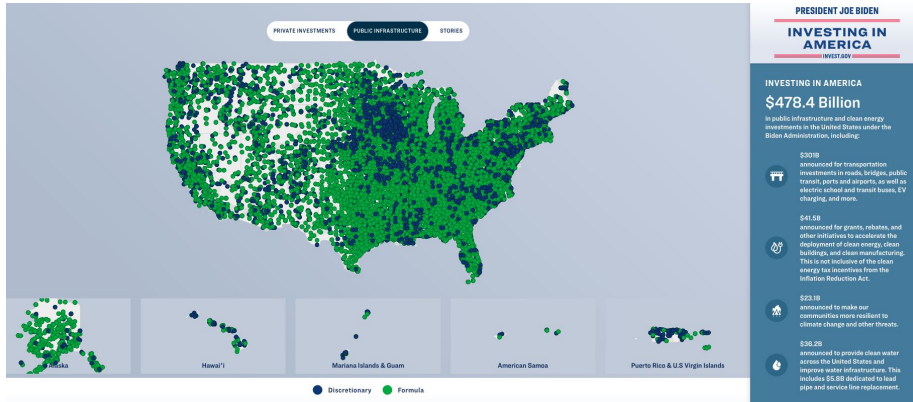
COMMUNITIES FIRST INFRASTRUCTURE ALLIANCE

- The largest coordinated alliance with 100+ members advancing the implementation of federal investment (related to ARPA, IJJA, and IRA).
 - Information sharing between the federal government, NGOs, state agencies, communities, racial & environmental justice movement leaders, private sector & philanthropy
 - Resource & Asset Mapping – deep understanding of who is working where w/ intentional connections based on geography; region; sector; or other shared challenge or opportunity
- Creating the Enabling Conditions for Systemic Change—actively working and strategically coordinating with the feds, national advocates, and local partners on the implementation of federal funds to achieve our shared racial & climate justice goals leading with community solutions.
- Building long-term relationships and civic infrastructure for transformation and power-building



The federal government is distributing a historic amount of resources to ensure a clean energy future and maximizing benefits especially to low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC)

Inflation Reduction Act



JUSTICE40
A WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

"We'll create good jobs for millions of Americans...and we'll do it all to withstand the devastating effects of climate change and promote environmental justice."
PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN, 2022 STATE OF THE UNION

What is the Justice40 Initiative?

For the first time in our nation's history, the Federal government has made it a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal climate, clean energy, affordable and sustainable housing, and other investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution. President Biden made this historic commitment when he signed Executive Order 14008 on *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad* within days of taking office. To continue delivering on his environmental justice vision, President Biden signed Executive Order 14096 on *Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All* in April 2023.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law



Build.Gov

FIND COMMUNITIES FIRST

For decades, people of color and low-wealth individuals, particularly those living in frontline communities in the U.S., have disproportionately been negatively impacted by public infrastructure investment.



There is a unique opportunity to address these challenges and embed racial equity, climate resilience, and social inclusion practices in the massive federal public infrastructure investment.

COMMUNITIES FIRST PRINCIPLES

Addressing the ongoing impacts of historical and structural inequity.

REPAIRING PAST HARM

Acknowledging the damage and destruction past infrastructure funding has caused in communities of color and low wealth communities is an important step in healing and ensuring that future funding does not repeat history and deepen inequities.

RESPONSIVENESS & ACCOUNTABILITY

Leveraging federal resources at the direction of community imperatives is key to successful community infrastructure collaborations.

PEOPLE AS *infrastructure*

Investing in the capacity of people and communities to lead and execute solutions.

centering COMMUNITY WISDOM

By centering community expertise, investments leverage frontline communities' leadership plans, solutions, priorities, and needs while preserving community culture and expression.

SELF-DETERMINATION

Prioritizing community ownership and supporting emergent community infrastructures that are equity-driven with wealth creation at the center.

bridging

INTEGRATIVE PATHWAYS

Investments in community will require cross-sector leaders to promote holistic outcomes across community health, safety, environmental sustainability, and civic engagement.

proactive COLLABORATION

Moving proactively and flexibly to prioritize the flow of resources to communities facing critical systemic challenges.





BRINGING GOVERNMENT, PHILANTHROPY, AND INVESTMENT TOGETHER TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY PLANS & SOLUTIONS

CLOSE THE GAP

The Communities First Infrastructure Alliance is working with technical assistance providers, frontline communities, and community leaders to unlock the potential of the various federal funding opportunities to build more just, equitable, and resilient communities.

The Alliance seeks to support communities with the resources, capacity, and technical assistance required to actualize community-centered plans, projects, and visions to meet this moment for the greater movement.

COMMUNITIES FIRST 2024 FOCUS AREAS

PRACTICE

Center equity principles, climate resilience practices, and community-developed plans and strategies to advance more inclusive infrastructure investment at the state and local level.

PARTNERSHIPS

Strengthen the coordination of existing and emerging networks of capacity builders, technical assistance providers, and practitioners to support the implementation of community-centered projects, plans, and processes for more equitable outcomes.

POLICY & PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

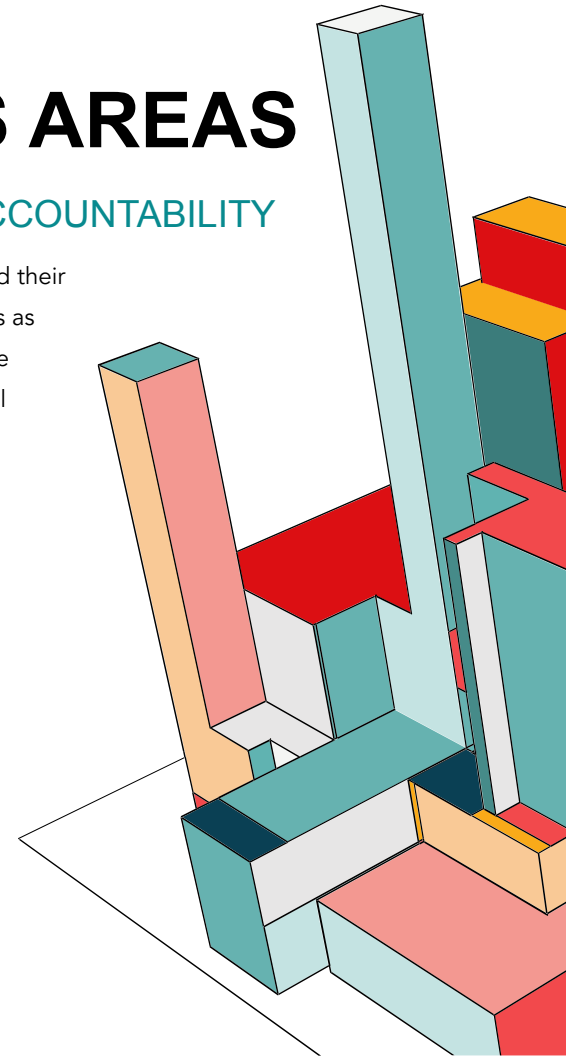
Support the implementation of policies and best practices that ensure more just, equitable, and climate-centered outcomes with the use of federal funding.

POWER BUILDING & PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

Resources community-based organizations to expand their capacity and effectively engage in the public process as part of a longer-term power-building strategy. Ensure greater public accountability and oversight of federal funding. Fortify the civic infrastructure.

ADVANCING PROJECT PLANS

Bridging the funding, relationship, and technical assistance gap between community-centered visions and public-funded projects.





SEPTEMBER 15, 2023

FACT SHEET: White House Releases New Technical Assistance Resources to Help Communities Unlock Opportunities from President Biden's Investing in America Agenda

Communities First Infrastructure Alliance, supported by numerous national and community foundations, has brought together government, philanthropic, and community leaders committed to advancing more inclusive public investment. **The Communities First Fund resources community-based organizations to expand their capacity and effectively engage in the public process as part of a longer-term movement-building strategy and to fortify the civic infrastructure to meet this moment.** To foster greater coordination among capacity builders, technical assistance providers, practitioners, and community partners, Communities First is coordinating Regional Convenings in the coming months to elevate emerging priorities, champion best practices, and encourage accountability standards that address the challenges of those disproportionately impacted by past underinvestment at scale. The regional convenings will support communities to unlock the federal resources available and actualize the climate & racial justice commitments of the Biden-Harris Administration.



CFF Rapid Response Fund

About

CFF's Rapid Response Fund was created to shift philanthropic practices by distributing responsive resources in a timely way that prioritizes the humanity of black and brown people, the frontline organizations they may lead, and the grassroots organizations that may be accountable to them. To realize this vision, the CFF Rapid Response Fund will provide rapid response funding to support organizations' or coalitions' needs to position themselves or others to respond to infrastructure crises, movement moments, and time sensitive federal funding notices or rulemaking that require rapid mobilization.

The Rapid Response Fund has a national scope with specific priority given to geographies that have historically received disproportionate public investment, including the Midwest and the South. Applications will be reviewed bi-monthly (1st Friday and 3rd Friday of each month) and awards will be determined by the CFF team.

The Rapid Response Fund is limited to \$1,000,000. Grants will be distributed on a rolling basis until the fund is spent down. Awards will range between \$10,000 - \$100,000 depending on scope and scale of the work funded.



Just and Clean Energy Future State Implementation Accelerator

FUND
COMMUNITIES FIRST

Just & Clean Energy Future - State Implementation Accelerator

The Just and Clean Energy Future—State Implementation Accelerator will support 3-5 states looking to stack and leverage key federal programs that invest in a just and clean energy future across various sectors. The Accelerator will support states that have been awarded funds from key Invest in America programs within the [Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\)](#), [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law \(BIL/IIJA\)](#), and [Justice40-covered programs](#) that incorporate an equity analysis and implementation strategies specifically for low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDAC).

Overview

- Targeted cohort of 3-5 states committed to maximizing the benefits and impact of federal funding that prioritizes communities, particularly overburdened and underinvested LIDAC areas

Offering:

- Connecting states to technical assistance resources and federal agencies (e.g. EPA, DOE, DOT)
- Stakeholder alignment & needs assessment at the state level
- Applying an equity lens (using equity tools) to disburse funding
- Technical assistance (accessing and leveraging resources)
- Support developing co-governance models
- Wealth-building approaches for disadvantaged communities, including cooperative and community ownership models as well as equitable workforce and contractor development



Just & Clean Energy Future - State Implementation Accelerator

Benefits of Participation

- The Accelerator will support states to think about what is necessary to meet this unprecedented funding moment and design implementation strategies to benefit communities for generations to come, particularly targeting systems change strategies.
- States will gain valuable insights through a cohort model designed for shared learning, dissemination of best practices, and support thinking through complex challenges.
- States will be positioned to stack together multiple funding sources to maximize opportunities for leveraging federal dollars.



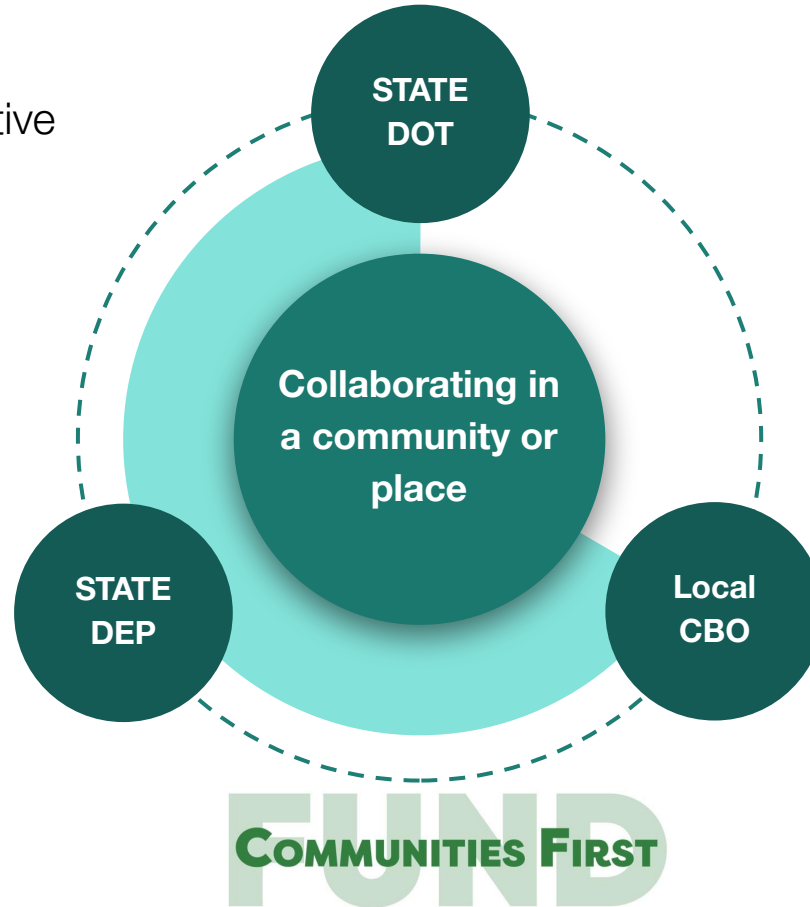
Just & Clean Energy Future - State Implementation Accelerator

Accelerator Timeline



Just & Clean Energy Future - State Implementation Accelerator

Example collaborative partnership:





Examples of Target Programs Across Sectors

EPA

- GGRF (NCIF, CCIA, Solar for All)
- Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Planning Grants
- Environmental Justice Community Change Grants

Energy (DOE)

- Home Energy Rebate Program
- Other rebates

Tax Credits across sectors (Treasury)

- Treasury Direct Pay
- Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit Program (48e)

Transportation (DOT)

- National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program
- EV Acceleration Challenge
- Neighborhood Equity and Access Grants

Buildings (HUD)

- Green and Resilient Retrofit Program

Justice 40 Covered Programs

See List of Justice40 Programs [here](#)

FEDERAL FUNDING RESOURCES



STATE FACT SHEETS



President Biden's Investing in America agenda is mobilizing historic levels of private sector investments in the United States, bringing manufacturing back to America after decades of offshoring, and creating new, good-paying jobs, including union jobs and jobs that don't require a college degree. His Investing in America agenda is rebuilding our roads and bridges using Made in America materials, built by American workers. And it's transforming our country for the better – reaching communities in every corner of the United States, including those that have too often been left behind.

Below are state-by-state fact sheets which provide more detailed information about announced funding and projects in each state.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Maps Dashboard

Search

Funding Agency

(All) ▾

Program Name

(All) ▾

State/Territory

(All) ▾

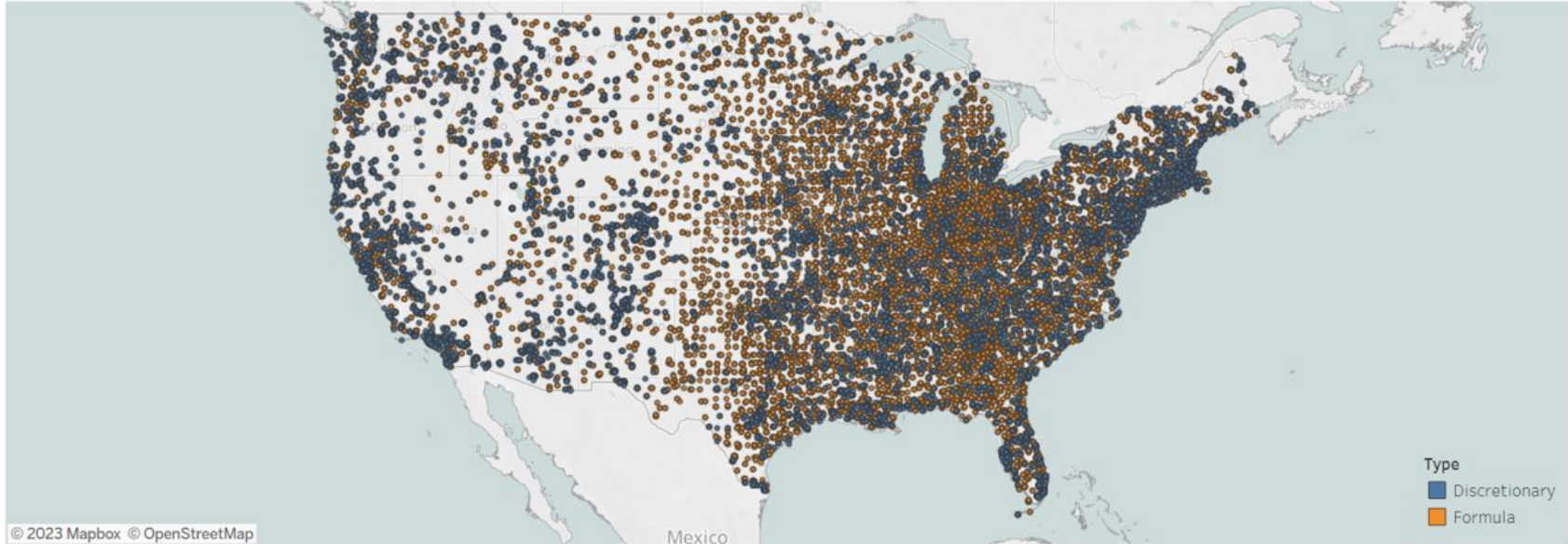
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See the impact the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is having in your community by hovering over the map and using the 'Search Map' feature below!

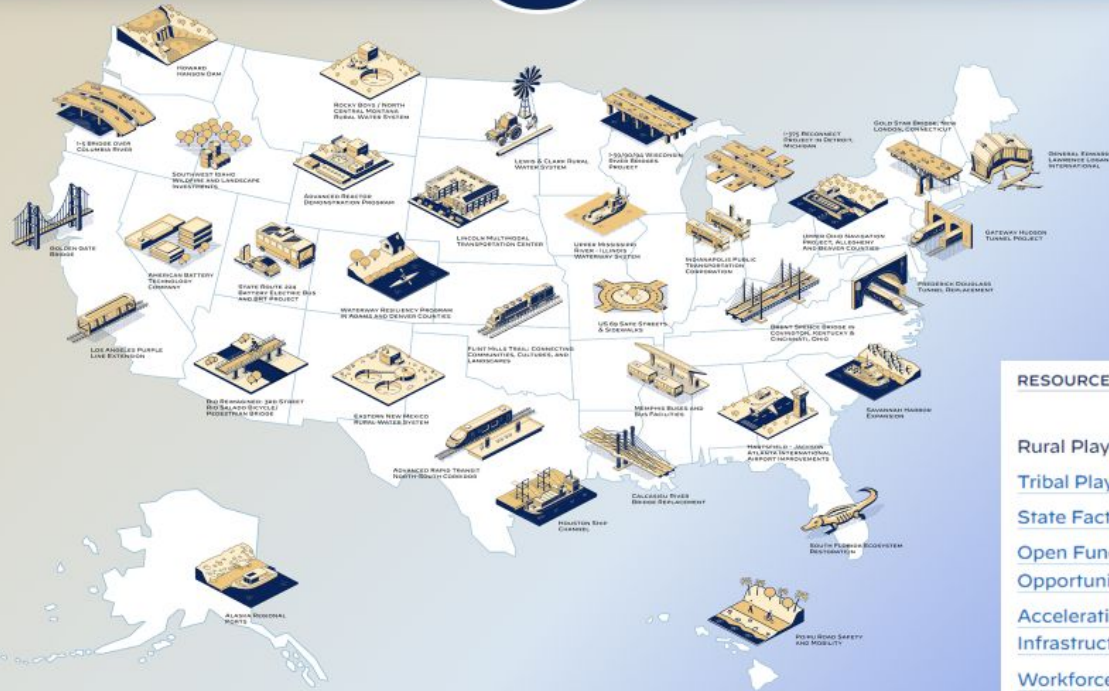
[Provide feedback here](#)





The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is
THE LARGEST INVESTMENT IN:

 Clean water infrastructure	 Public transit	 Passenger rail in 50 years
 Upgrading the power grid	 Tackling legacy pollution	 Clean, electric buses
 Roads and bridges since the Interstate Highway System	 Increasing our infrastructure's resilience	 Affordable, high-speed internet



- RESOURCES**
- [Rural Playbook](#)
 - [Tribal Playbook](#)
 - [State Fact Sheets](#)
 - [Open Funding Opportunities](#)
 - [Accelerating Infrastructure](#)
 - [Workforce Development Guide](#)

CleanEnergy.Gov

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PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN

INVESTING IN AMERICA

INVEST.GOV

UNITED STATES

Select a State or Territory

Share




MANUFACTURING THE FUTURE

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, private companies have announced

\$479 Billion

so far in commitments to invest in 21st century industries like:

 \$214B
Semiconductors & Electronics

 \$137B
EVs & Batteries

 \$84B
Clean Energy



Home page for the American Rescue Plan, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, CHIPS and Science Act, and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) includes: Private Investment, State Federal Funding, and stories.

[PRIVATE INVESTMENTS](#)

[PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE](#)

[STORIES](#)

Helpful Resources

Invest.gov

- Highlights state-by-state progress mobilized by the Investing in America agenda across private investments and public infrastructure

Build.gov

- Detailed maps of progress, [comprehensive guidebook](#), [technical assistance guide](#), [State Fact Sheets](#), [Open Funding Opportunities](#), [Workforce Development Guide](#)
- [Rural Playbook](#), [Tribal Playbook](#), [Accelerating Infrastructure](#)

CleanEnergy.gov

- Information on IRA tax credits and rebates for families and “[Direct Pay](#)” for gov’t entities, [Inflation Reduction Act Guidebook](#) of IRA programs, [Technical Assistance Guide](#), IRA [Open Funding Opportunities](#), [Clean Energy Updates](#), [Clean Energy Tax Provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act](#),



THE WHITE HOUSE



Administration Priorities The Record Briefing Room



HIGHLIGHTED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

Federal Interagency Thriving Communities Network

Whole of Government Approach to Federal Coordination of Place-Based Technical Assistance

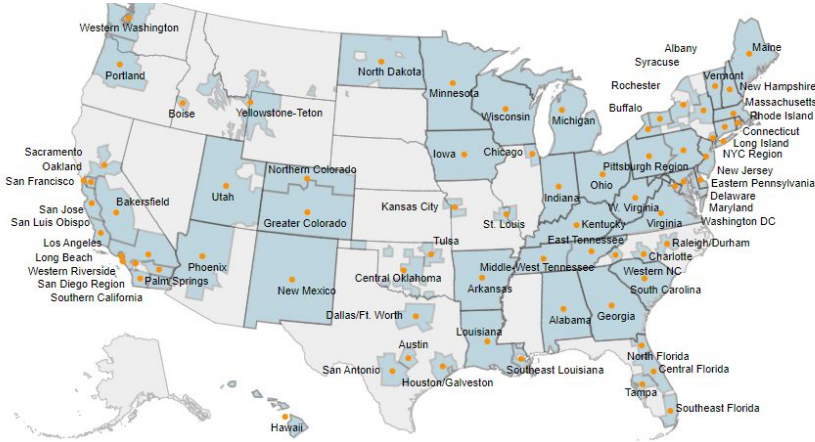
Thriving Communities Network partner agencies commit to collectively supporting the following shared principles:

- **Scale for Impact** – Identify and collaboratively support transformative projects that demonstrate the potential for equitable, inclusive community and economic development in underserved communities.
- **Build Community Wealth** – Build long-term community capacity to successfully compete for, leverage, and manage the investment of Federal funds in strategic projects and activities that build lasting community wealth.
- **Center the Power of Community** – Provide technical assistance that values, leverages, and grows the local expertise existing within communities regarding their needs with inclusive and culturally competent public engagement processes.
- **Meet Areas of Greatest Need** – Prioritize support to rural, urban, suburban, and Tribal communities that have the greatest resource and capacity needs.
- **Expand Access and Participation** – Intentionally remove barriers and create access to economic, health care, education, energy, housing, and environmental opportunities in every part of the country.
- **Diversify Knowledge** – Diversify the pool of capacity-building providers to include a greater number of disadvantaged and small businesses, entrepreneurs, and those with community-based expertise.

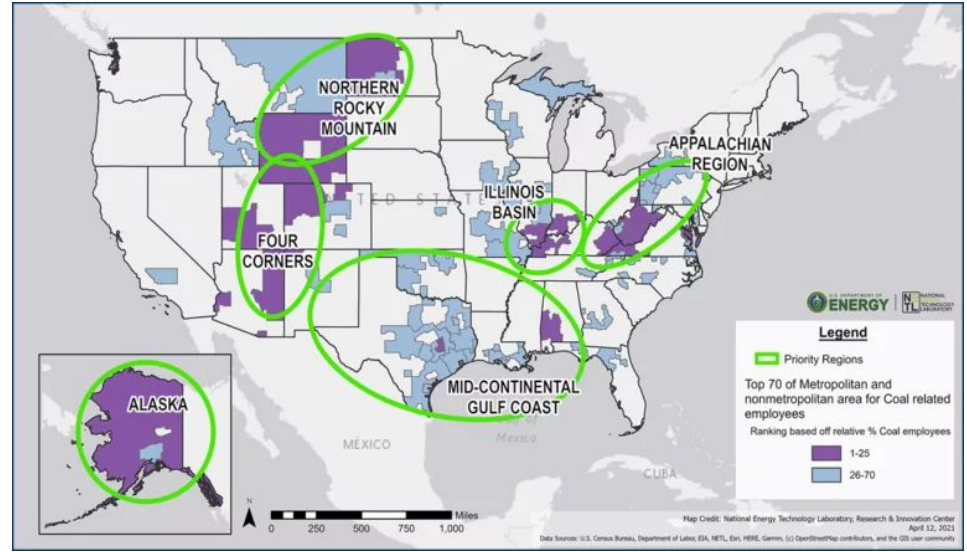


DOE Technical Assistance Community Recipients

DOE Clean Cities Coalitions



DOE Priority Energy Communities



DOE Local Energy Action Program (LEAP)



- ★ [Clean Cities Coalitions](#) provide local programming to advance affordable, domestic transportation fuels, energy efficient mobility systems, and other fuel-saving technologies and practices.
- ★ [Priority Energy Communities](#) program prioritizes immediate needs of coal mining and power plant communities
- ★ [Local Energy Action Program](#) aims to deploy clean energy work in low-income, energy-burdened communities w/ EJ or energy economy transition impacts for sustained community-wide economic and environmental benefits



State & Local Solution Center (SLSC)

The SLSC is a resource hub for states, local governments, and K-12 school districts that compiles over 400 popular tools and resources, technical assistance offerings, funding opportunities, and more.



Subscribe to the monthly State and Local Spotlight newsletter stay up to date with new funding and technical assistance resources.

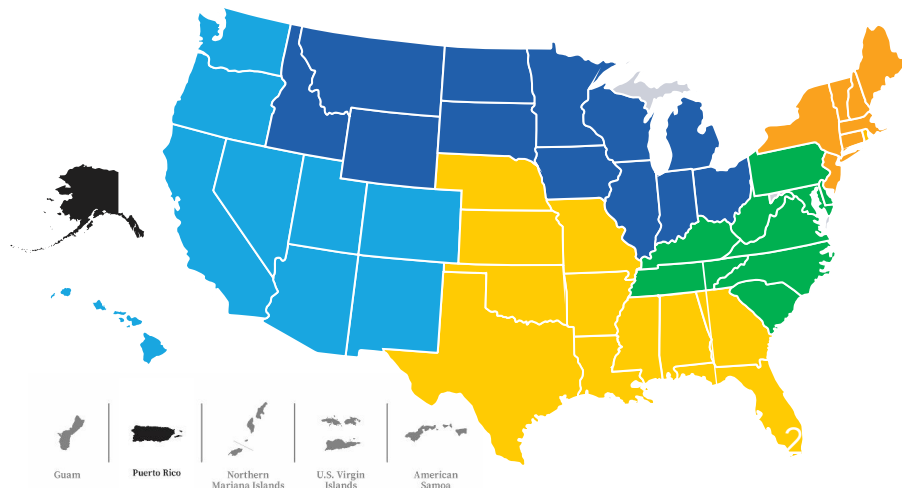
Office of Community Engagement (OCE)

OCE serves as the central hub for DOE's engagement efforts, providing a consolidated platform for communities to access comprehensive technical assistance and guidance on clean energy development.

Get Engaged Hotline - 202-586-0822

Get Engaged Email Address –getengaged@hq.doe.gov

<https://energy.gov/GetEngaged>





SCEP

STATE & COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS

Resources and Opportunities



SEP

Quarterly opportunity for states to request 1-on-1 TA provided by subject matter experts.

Direct TA for SEOs

The [State Energy Program \(SEP\)](#) offers direct TA to support the implementation of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding and general planning for energy efficiency, resilience, and clean energy efforts. Applications for TA open quarterly with the next round open July 1-12.



RLF

Ongoing opportunity for states participating in the RLF program to request 1-on-1 TA.

Direct TA for SEOs

The [Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund \(RLF\) Capitalization Grant Program](#) offers direct TA to SEOs participating in the RLF Program to support designing and implementing RLF programs, including braiding opportunities (e.g., bridge loans).



WAP-Rebates

Resource to support braiding between two key programs: WAP and Home Energy Rebates.

Resource Document

SCEP's [Getting Started: Integrating WAP with Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates](#) resources includes program overviews, key requirements and eligibility, and opportunities and strategies for braiding.



LEAD TOOL

Online tool that allows users to understand low-to-moderate income housing characteristics in the U.S.

Identify DACs Easily

The [Low-Income Energy Affordability Data \(LEAD\) Tool](#) has integrated the data from the White House Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST), a geospatial mapping tool used to identify disadvantaged communities (DACs).

WAP

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) reduces energy costs for low-income households by increasing the energy efficiency of their homes, while ensuring their health and safety. The program supports 8,500 jobs and provides weatherization services to approximately 35,000 homes every year using DOE funds.

Through weatherization improvements and upgrades, these households save on average \$372 or more every year according to a national evaluation of the program. Since the program began in 1976, WAP has helped improve the lives of more than 7 million families through weatherization services.

Home Energy Rebates

On Aug. 16, 2022, President Biden signed the landmark Inflation Reduction Act. The law includes nearly \$400 billion to support clean energy and address climate change, including \$8.8 billion in [Home Energy Rebates](#), which will provide two separate rebates to consumers:

The [Home Efficiency Rebates](#) will provide \$4.3 billion to discount the price of energy-saving retrofits in single-family and multi-family buildings. These rebates will be administered by states and territories.

The [Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates](#) will provide \$4.5 billion in rebates for high-efficiency electricity upgrades in homes. These rebates will be administered by states, territories, and Indian tribes.

For more information, visit the [Home Energy Rebates](#) website and sign up for [email updates](#).

DOE Revolving Loan Fund Technical Assistance Resources

The Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Capitalization Grant Program offers technical assistance (TA) to support states with expanding or establishing RLF programs that meet federal requirements, optimally leverage private capital, and achieve state priorities.

Get Technical Assistance

The Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Program is now providing limited-time and limited-scope direct technical assistance to states eligible to receive funding under the RLF program. Submit a technical assistance request using the [Revolving Loan Fund Program – Technical Assistance Request Form](#).

FUND COMMUNITIES FIRST



Photo: U.S. EPA

Questions?

Learn more at
communitiesfirst.us

Reach out to
leanne@communitiesfirst.us