

# Overcoming Common Infrastructure Challenges in Energy Communities – Part One



*We will begin shortly!*



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# Overcoming Common Infrastructure Challenges in Energy Communities – Part One



## Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization

**Brian J. Anderson, Ph.D.**

*Executive Director, Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization*



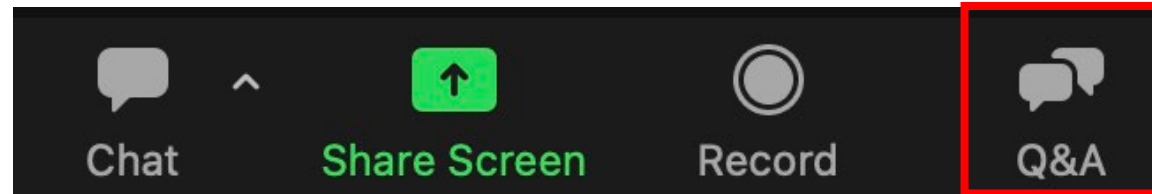
# Housekeeping



All attendees muted.



Send topic questions to the **Q&A** by clicking the Q&A icon on the bottom of screen.



\*Slides, webinar recording, and resources will be posted to **EnergyCommunities.gov** and sent by email.

Send **technical assistance** questions in Chat to **Host**.



# Top Needs for Energy Communities



Upgrade  
Infrastructure



Clean Up  
Environmental  
Damage



Promote  
Entrepreneurship



Support Workforce  
Development

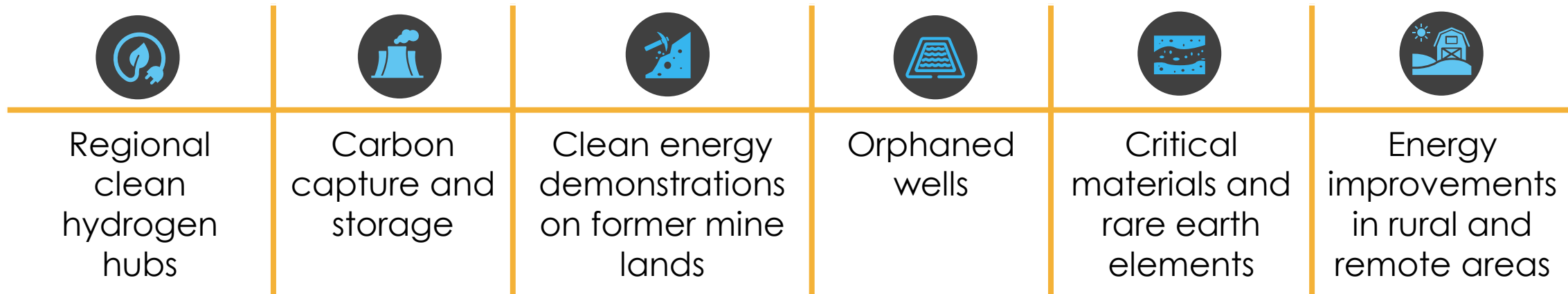
# Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)



IWG agencies are preparing **more than \$100 billion** of infrastructure investments and funding opportunities in areas such as:

- Transportation
- Broadband
- Clean water
- Energy infrastructure

Energy-specific programs include:



# Keynote Remarks

## White House

*Ryan Berni, Special Assistant to the President & Senior Advisor for Infrastructure Implementation*



# **Invest in America**

## **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law updates**

June 28, 2023

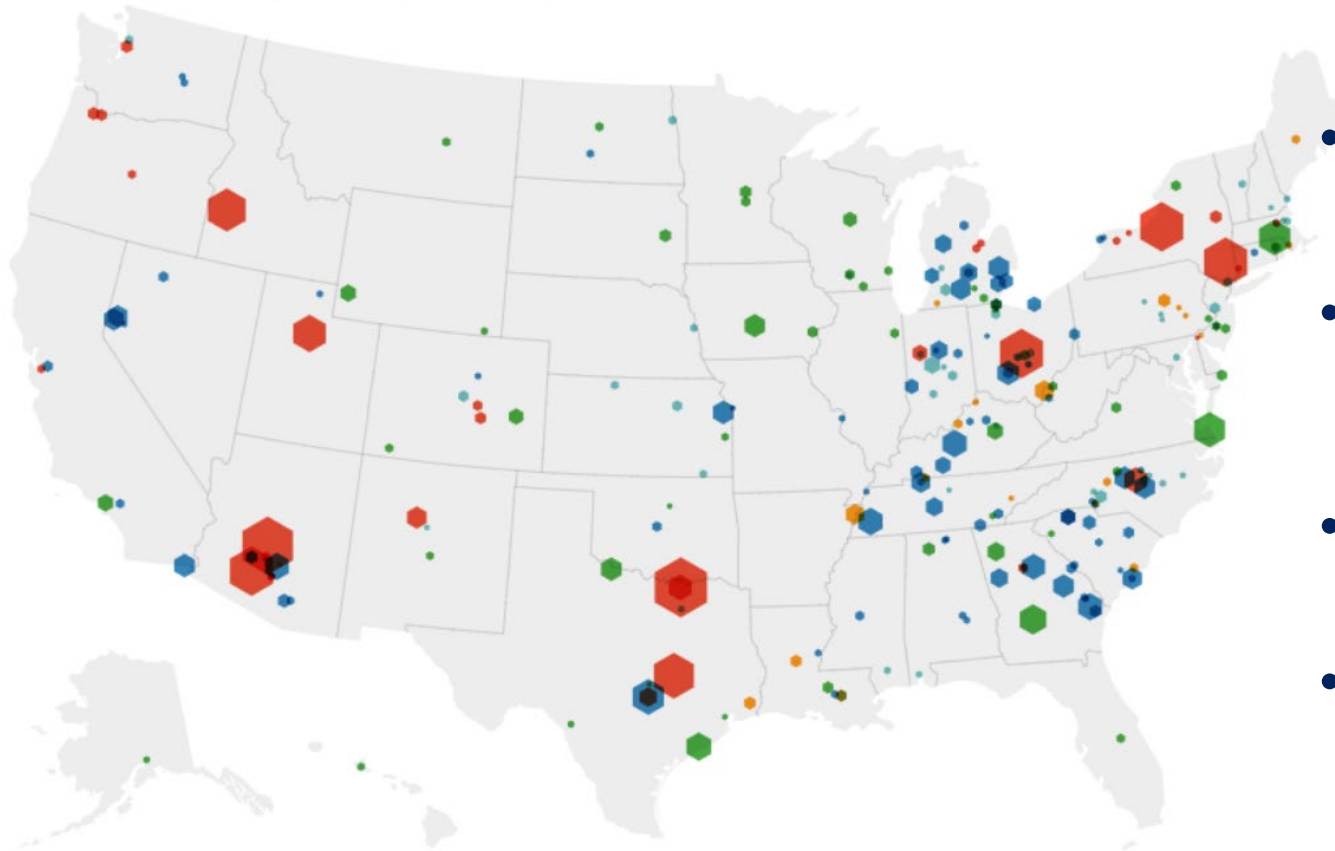
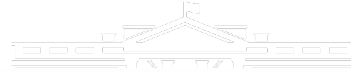


# The Investing in America Agenda: Impact to Date

**Two years in, our work is delivering real results.**

*Major domestic investments announced span all 50 states.*

■ Semiconductors & Electronics ■ Clean Energy ■ EVs & Batteries ■ Biomanufacturing ■ Heavy Industry



- **\$490 billion+** in major private sector manufacturing investments announced since POTUS took office.
- **35,000+** infrastructure projects and awards across **4,500** communities.
- **25% increase** in solar, wind, and battery deployment over next 4 years compared to pre-IRA.
- **19 million households** with affordable internet.
- **3,500 workforce projects** across the country to train Americans for good-paying jobs.





# Infrastructure Implementation Wins

## Deliver Results

- Over **\$225 billion in funding announced** and more in competitive programs available.
- Over **35,000 projects/awards** identified for funding across all 50 states, DC and the territories, many of which are underway

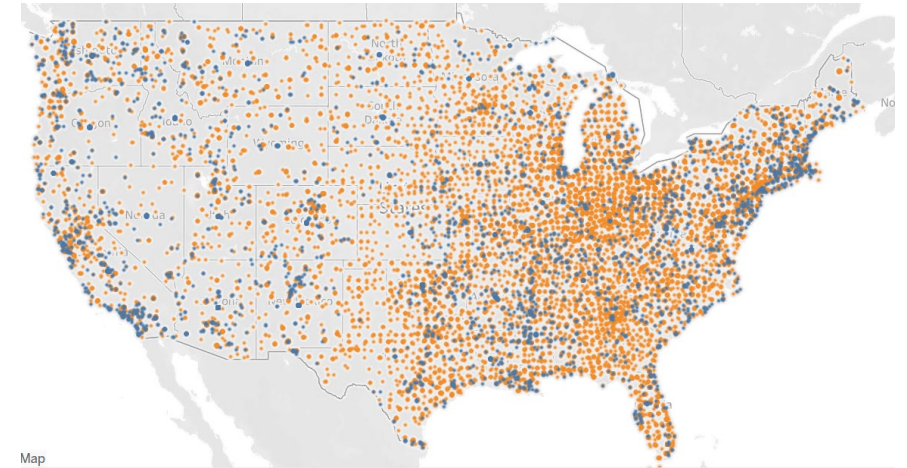
## Build the Team

- **Hired over 5,000 workers** across the federal government
- Held **18 Infrastructure Task Force Meetings**
- **50+ state and territories** have appointed an infrastructure coordinator.
- **Technical assistance and capacity building**, in coordination with federal agencies and philanthropy

## Tell the Story

- **Launched build.gov**, a repository for information on BIL programs, resources, maps and upcoming opportunities
- Lift up **local projects and impact** through 300+ trips, social media, and story banks.

## Map of announced BIL projects



**More than \$225B funding announced for 35,000+ projects**



**Agencies have increased the pace of hiring since BIL passed**



# Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Sector by Sector Investments

## Roads & Bridges (DOT/FHWA)

- **\$40 billion** for bridges; **\$300 billion+** for highways

## Rail (DOT/FRA)

- **\$66 billion** for passenger rail

## Airports (DOT/FAA)

- **\$25 billion** for airports and aviation infrastructure

## Ports & Waterways (DOT/MARAD & Army Corps)

- **\$17 billion** for ports and waterways

## Transit (DOT/FTA) and School Buses (EPA)

- **~\$90 billion** for public transit (DOT/FTA)
- **\$5 billion** for clean school buses (EPA)

## EV Charging (DOT/DOE)

- **\$7.5 billion** in dedicated funding for EV charging



Brent-Spence Bridge (OH/KY)



Soo Locks





# Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Sector by Sector Investments

## Clean Energy & Power (DOE)

- ~\$65 billion for clean energy

## Legacy Pollution (EPA)

- >\$5 billion for superfund and brownfield projects

## Legacy Pollution (DOI)

- \$16 billion to cleanup orphan oil and gas wells and abandoned mine lands on state, private, federal, and Tribal lands

## Water (EPA)

- >\$50 billion for clean and safe water – the single largest investment in water ever

## Resilience (NOAA, FEMA, Army Corps)

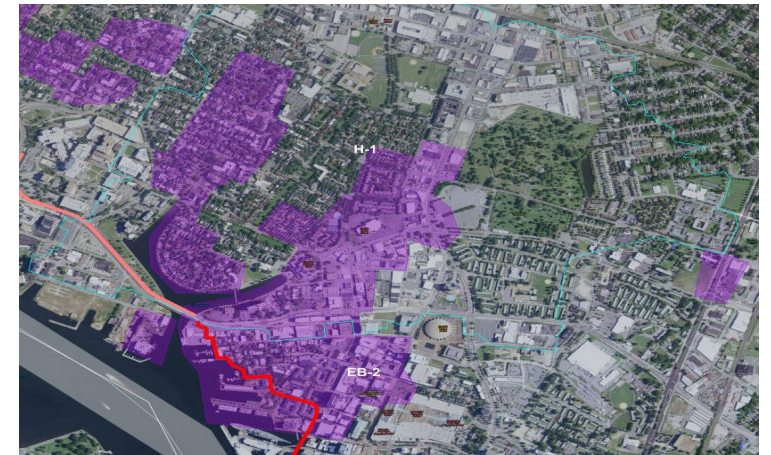
- >\$50 billion for “all hazards” resilience

## High Speed Internet (Commerce, USDA)

- \$65 billion for reliable, affordable high-speed Internet for every American



President Biden speaks about EV deployment



City of Norfolk Coastal Storm Risk Management



# Recent Announcements

## Low- and No-Emission Bus Program Awards (FTA)

- \$1.7 billion for more than 1,700 American-made buses around the country
- Nearly half of the buses will be zero-emission

## Reclaiming Abandoned Coal Mine Lands (DOI)

- **\$725 million** available to 22 states and the Navajo Nation
- This funding will help communities clean up dangerous pollution from past coal mining

## Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants (DOT)

- **\$2.2 billion** in funding for 162 projects across the country
- RAISE has a specific set-aside for historically disadvantaged communities and areas of persistent poverty, helping to make sure that funding reaches those most in need, consistent with the Administration's Justice40 Initiative

## NOFO open for MEGA/INFRA grants (DOT)

- **\$5.575 billion** in funding for projects of regional or national significance
- This funding supports three major discretionary grant programs that involve surface transportation projects designed to strengthen supply chains, spur economic development, and improve safety and daily life



Secretary Pete Buttigieg @SecretaryPete · 22h

Every day, 60,000+ buses take millions of Americans to work, school, and more.

We're announcing funds for new, clean, made-in-America buses and facilities in 130 communities. That means less pollution, new maintenance and manufacturing jobs, and better commutes for families.

Federal Transit Admn @FTA\_DOT · Jun 26

Buses take millions of people where they need to go every day. Today we're happy to announce \$1.7 billion in bus grants to help transit agencies buy 1,700 buses & modernize fleets and bus depots. #billions4buses rideelectric.gov bit.ly/2023busgrants

**FTA's FY23 Bus Programs Support 1,700 New Buses, Modernize Fleets & Facilities**



#billions4buses

INVESTING IN AMERICA

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Transit Administration



DRAFT – Deliberative



# Recent Announcements

## Orphaned Oil and Gas Well Funding (DOI)

- Nearly **\$64 million** to address legacy pollution on Federal lands and waters, and create good-paying jobs
- This funding will clean up over 300 orphaned oil and gas well sites across the country
- This investment is in addition to the \$560 million in initial grants that were awarded to states last year

## Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grants (Commerce)

- Over \$40 billion to all 50 states, DC, and Territories to provide affordable high-speed internet for every American—urban, suburban, rural, and tribal communities

## Funding to Expedite the Cleanup of Brownfield Sites (EPA)

- **\$315 million** for cleanup and technical assistance at brownfield sites in 262 communities across the country
- EPA's largest investment ever in brownfield communities
- Applications for funding are being solicited together under a single opportunity titled the Multimodal Project Discretionary Grant program



Secretary Gina Raimondo @SecRaimondo · 20h

Under @POTUS' leadership, we're making the largest-ever investment to close the digital divide.



5

42

148

16.9K



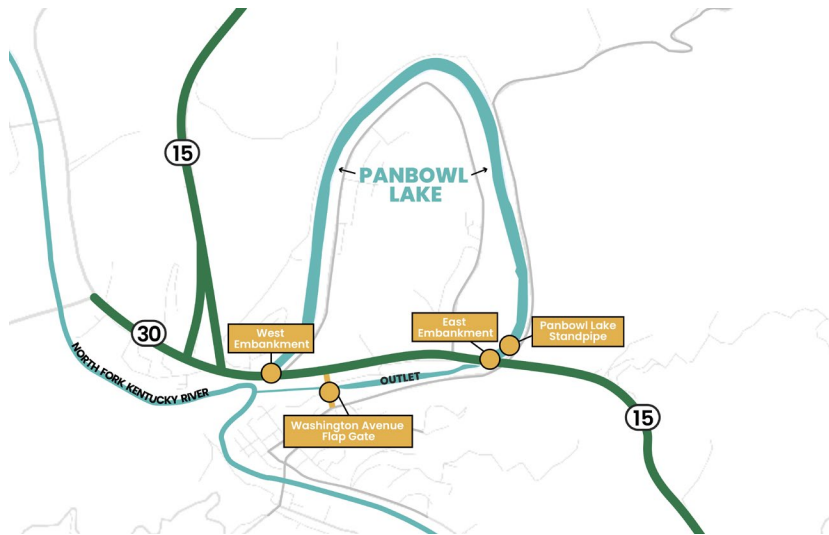
# RAISE Grants in Energy Communities

**Recipient:** Jackson, KY

**Project:** Panbowl Lake Corridor Project

**Funding:** \$21 million

- Funds will improve KY15, the main road through town
- Strengthen a dam that helps protect the community from catastrophic flooding



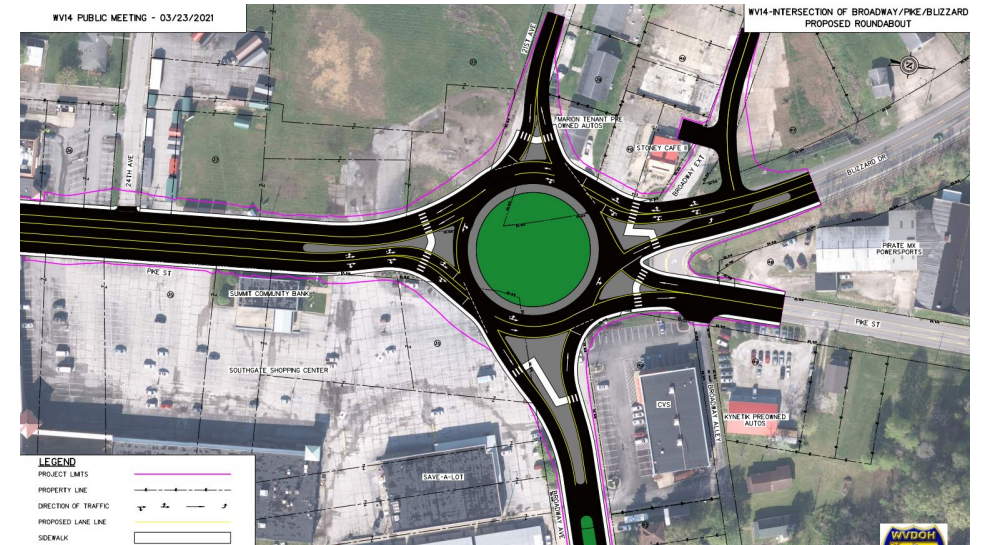
Dam strengthening project at Panbowl Lake

**Recipient:** City of Parkersburg, WV

**Project:** WV-14 Improvements

**Funding:** \$10.9 million

- Funds will improve WV-14 (Pike Street) by increasing lanes, adding sidewalk capacity, and stormwater improvements.
- This project will improve safety, increase mobility and community connectivity, and reduce congestion.



WV-14 expansion proposal



# Major Program Milestones 2023 Q2

## Transportation

*Note: List is not exhaustive and includes estimated dates*

### *Currently Open*

- Safe Streets and Roads for All (**closes July 10**)
- Ferry program NOFOs (**closes July 17**)
- Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization NOFO (**closes July 24**)
- Port Emissions Reduction NOFO (**closes July 26**)
- PROTECT Discretionary Program NOFO (**closes August 18**)
- MEGA/INFRA/RURAL NOFO (**closes August 21**)

### *To Come*

- Advanced Transportation Technologies and Innovative Mobility Deployment (ATTAIN) NOFO
- Rail Vehicle Replacement awards
- Railroad Crossing Elimination awards
- Thriving Communities NOFO
- America's Marine Highway Grants NOFO

# Major Program Milestones 2023 Q2

## Clean Energy

*Note: List is not exhaustive and includes estimated dates*

### Currently open

- DOE's Industrial Decarbonization and Emissions Demonstrations (concept papers were due by **April 21**; full applications due **August 4**)
- DOE's Clean Hydrogen Electrolysis Program (concept papers were due **April 19**; full applications due **July 19**)
- DOE's Clean Energy Demonstrations on Former Mine Lands (concept papers were due **May 11**; full applications due **August 31**)
- DOE's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program FOA (**open until expended**)
- DOE's Marine Energy Research, Development, and Demonstration FOA (**closes July 25**)
- DOE's Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (**closes August 2**)
- DOE's Energy Efficiency Materials Pilot Program (**letter of intent due June 29**, full application due **August 3**)
- DOE's Building Training and Assessment Centers (concept papers were due **June 16**; full applications due **August 15**)
- DOE's Industrial Assessment Center Expansion (concept papers were due **June 16**; full applications due **August 15**)
- DOE's Clean Energy Demonstrations on Former Mine Lands (**closes August 31**)
- DOE's Direct Air Capture Pre-Commercial Technology Prize (**closes September 26**)
- DOE's Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity Incentives (**letter of intent was due June 22**, full application due **October 6**)
- DOE's Weatherization Assistance Program (concept papers due **August 31**; full applications due **January 5**)

### To Come

- DOE's State Manufacturing Leadership FOA
- DOE's Grid Services FOA
- DOE's State-based Home Efficiency Contractor Training Grants (Formula Allocation)



# Major Program Milestones 2023 Q2

## Climate and the Environment

*Note: List is not exhaustive and includes estimated dates*

### ***Currently Open***

- EPA's Geographic Programs - Chesapeake Bay (**closes July 3**)
- USDA's Grants for States and Tribes for Voluntary Restoration (**closes July 20**)
- DOT's Wildlife Crossings Program (**closes August 1**)
- EPA's Brownfield Job Training Grants RFA (**closes August 2**)
- EPA's Geographic Programs - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (**closes August 11**)
- EPA's Clean School Bus FY23 Grant NOFO (**closes August 22**)
- EPA's Drinking Water and Clean Water SRF (**rolling basis**)
- EPA's Emerging Contaminants in Small & Disadvantaged Communities Grants (via States & Territories) (**rolling basis**)

### ***To Come***

- USDA's Community Wildfire Defense Grants FY23 NOFO
- DOI's State Formula Grants for Orphan Wells

# Major Program Milestones 2023 Q2

*Note: List is not exhaustive and includes estimated dates*

## High-Speed Internet and Community Development

### *Currently Open*

- FCC's National Competitive Outreach Program (**closes June 30**)
- FCC's National Tribal Outreach Program (**closes July 28**)
- ARC's Appalachian Regional Initiative for Stronger Economies (ARISE) (Concept papers accepted on a rolling basis, next round of reviews on **October 31**)
- DRA's Community Infrastructure Fund (**rolling basis**)
- ARC's READY Appalachia: Community Capacity Building (**rolling basis**)

### *To Come*

- NTIA's Tribal Broadband Program NOFO



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

# Resources:

Build.gov

[Infrastructure@who.eop.gov](mailto:Infrastructure@who.eop.gov)

*“Many counties in the Western Pennsylvania non-metropolitan area are at a distinct disadvantage due to the **lack of transportation assets** that spur economic growth in the modern era (such as highways, rail, commuter airports, etc.)...To succeed in the 21st Century, these counties require once-in-a-generation investments in transportation infrastructure... Because of the lack of modern transportation infrastructure, manufacturers and support industries in the region find it increasingly difficult to compete.”—RFI Respondent*



# Transportation Programs

## U.S. Department of the Transportation

Amanda Rogers, Policy Analyst







RURAL OPPORTUNITIES TO  
USE TRANSPORTATION FOR  
ECONOMIC SUCCESS

# ROUTES

***Amanda Rogers – US DOT***  
*June 29, 2023*

***Contact Us!***  
***Rural@dot.gov***  
***www.transportation.gov/rural***



# Rural EV Infrastructure Toolkit

***Charging Forward: A Toolkit for Planning and Funding Rural Electric Mobility Infrastructure* helps rural stakeholders scope, plan, and fund electric vehicle charging infrastructure.**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

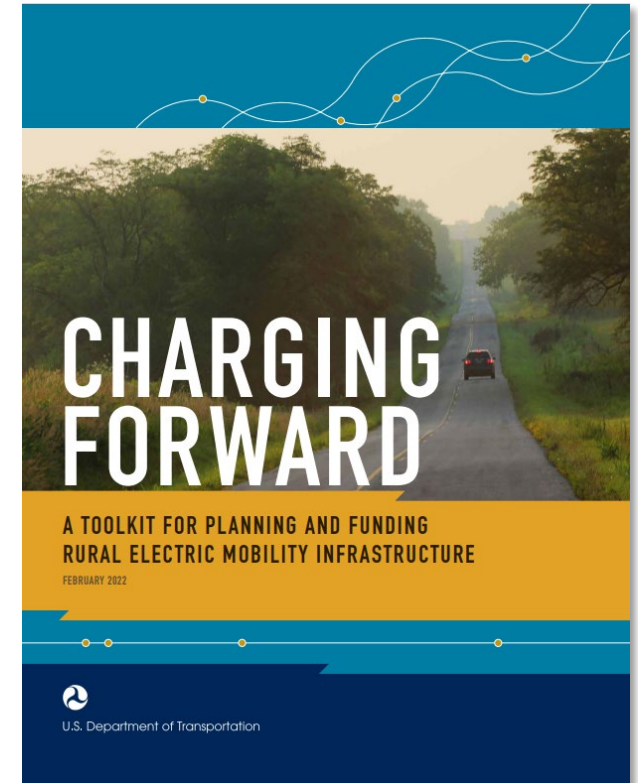
- Electric Vehicle Basics
- Benefits and Challenges of Rural Vehicle Electrification
- Partnership Opportunities
- EV Infrastructure Planning for Rural Areas
- EV Infrastructure Funding and Financing for Rural Areas

## INCLUDES...

- Grant and loan opportunities
- Planning tools and resources
- Rural success stories

## UPDATED (MAY 2023)

- Stakeholder feedback
- Expanded content on
  - Transit vehicles
  - School buses
  - Micromobility
  - Accessible design
- New funding programs, including the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
  - National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program (\$5 billion)
  - Discretionary Grant Program for Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (\$2.5 billion)
  - Clean School Bus Program (\$5 billion)





# Rural Grant Applicant Toolkit

## OVERVIEW

- Illustrates key applicant activities when participating in the USDOT discretionary grants process
- Compiles helpful tools and resources for applicants to maximize the potential for award success

## REVISED RURAL APPLICANT TOOLKIT

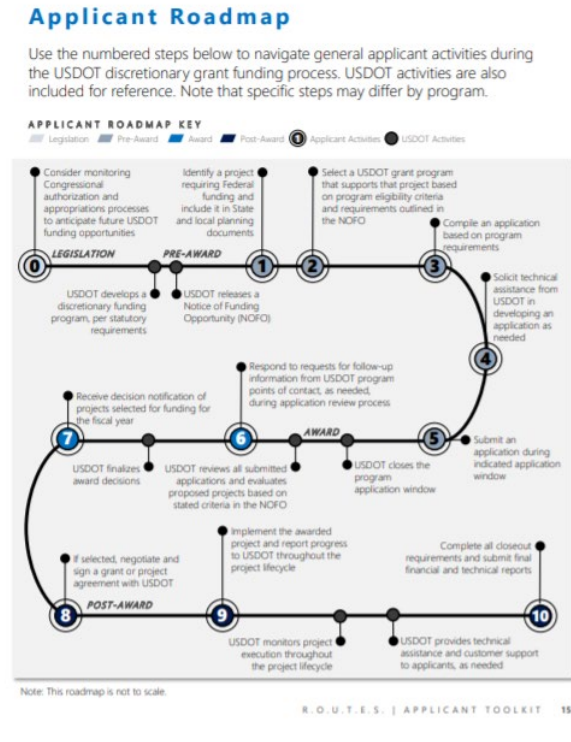
- Coming soon, a revised Rural Grant Applicant Toolkit will help project sponsors navigate the federal discretionary grant process.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

**R.O.U.T.E.S.**  
RURAL OPPORTUNITIES TO USE TRANSPORTATION FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS

APPLICANT TOOLKIT FOR COMPETITIVE FUNDING PROGRAMS AT USDOT







# DOT Discretionary Grants Dashboard

- Searchable database of USDOT and non-USDOT transportation related discretionary grants.
- 90+ grant programs
- Covers DOT and Non-DOT Agencies
  - *8 DOT Agencies*
  - *10+ Non-DOT Agencies*
- Multiple search filters
  - Type of project, organization type, match requirements, etc.
- Customized features for Rural and Tribal communities
- Option to save results as Excel csv file

[Download CSV](#)

Keywords

Eligible Activities  Eligible Applicants

Agency/Office  Transportation Type

Match Waiver  Rural Set-Aside  Tribal Set-Aside  Status

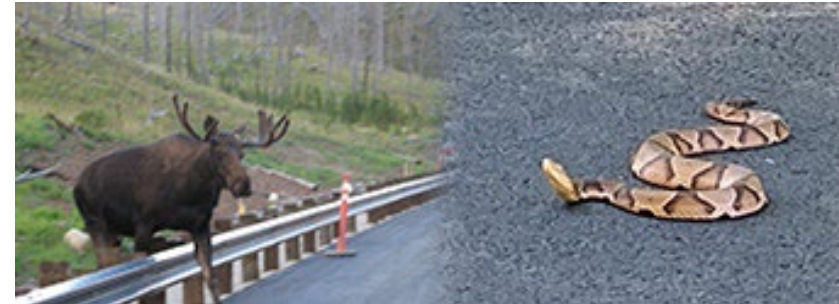
[Apply](#)

***Visit the Dashboard!***



# Wildlife Crossings Program & PROTECT

- Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program
  - Goal of reducing Wildlife Vehicle Collisions (WVCs) while improving habitat connectivity.
  - Construction & Non-Construction Projects
  - \$350 million over next five years
  - Closes Tuesday, August 1, 2023
  
- PROTECT (Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation)
  - To plan for and strengthen surface transportation to be more resilient to natural hazards.
  - Planning, Resilience Improvement, Community Resilience and Evacuation Routes, and At-Risk Coastal Infrastructure Grants
  - FY22 & 23, up to \$848 million
  - Closes Friday, August 18, 2023





# Thriving Communities Program

- The Thriving Communities Program (TCP) facilitates the planning and development of transportation and community revitalization activities.
- This support enables disadvantaged and under-resourced communities to access historic infrastructure funding.
  - Selected communities' infrastructure projects will increase mobility, reduce pollution, and expand affordable transportation options.
- FY22 Selected TCP Awardees
  - City of York, AL
  - Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, ND
  - City of Macomb, IL
  - Henry County, VA
  - Mineral County, NV
  - City of Rexburg, ID
- FY23 NOFO will be announced in the next few months.

**22%**

**of selected lead applicants have never applied for a USDOT grant**

**39%**

**of selected lead applicants have been unsuccessful in obtaining a USDOT grant**

**50%**

**of eligible Tribal applicants selected for participation**

**42%**

**of selected communities are in a rural area**



- DOT Navigator helps communities find grant opportunities and access technical assistance
  - Contacts to DOT regional/field offices
  - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Info
  - Grant writing resources
  - Webinars
  - Best practice documents
- Selected Technical Assistance Resources
  - *Design Recommendations for Accessible Electric Charging Stations*
  - *Federal-Aid Essentials for Local Public Agencies*
  - *How to Navigate Grants.gov to Submit Applications*
  - *Maximizing Award Success: An Introduction to Evaluation Criteria*

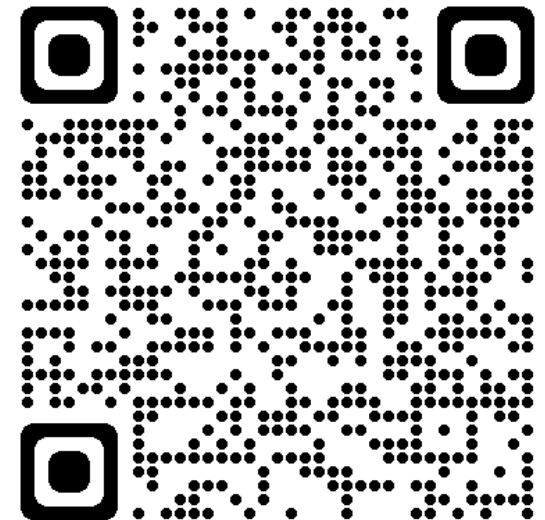
The screenshot shows the DOT Navigator website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the U.S. Department of Transportation logo, a search icon, and links for 'ABOUT DOT', 'PRIORITIES', and 'CONNECT'. Below the navigation bar is a large hero image of a group of people in a meeting. Overlaid on this image is a dark blue box with the text 'DOT Navigator' and a description: 'The DOT Navigator is a new resource to help grant applicants understand the best ways to apply, plan for, and deliver transformative infrastructure projects and services.' A red button with the text 'LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DOT NAVIGATOR' is positioned below the description. To the right of the hero image is a vertical social media sharing menu with icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and a plus sign. Below the hero image is a section titled 'WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?' with three columns of content. The first column is titled 'Apply for DOT Grants' and includes the text 'Resources to help understand the federal grant-making process and key federal requirements'. The second column is titled 'Find Technical Assistance Resources' and includes the text 'Resources available to public agencies and other transportation stakeholders'. The third column is titled 'Learn About the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law' and includes the text 'Information to help access BIL funding programs'. At the bottom of the page is a dark blue footer with the text 'Stay Connected' and 'Receive email updates about the latest information on DOT grant technical assistance resources.'





# Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program

- The Rural and Tribal Assistance Pilot Program will offer \$3.4 million in FY22&23 for eligible entities to hire financial, technical, and legal advisors.
- Eligible pre-development-phase activities include:
  - feasibility studies
  - project planning
  - preliminary engineering and design work
  - environmental review
  - economic assessments and cost-benefit analyses
  - value-for-money (VFM) studies
- The application is available to view and can be submitted starting Monday, August 14 at 2PM ET.
  - Closes Thursday, September 28, considered on a rolling basis.







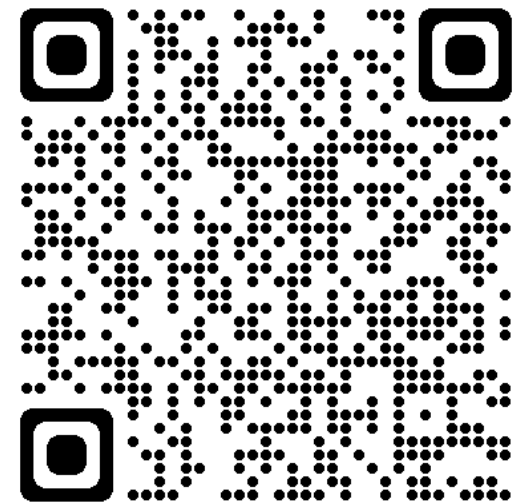
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# Electric Grid



*“There are infrastructure challenges of water and electric lines that are very costly due to isolated communities and residential homes across the reservations. A number of homes on the **reservation lack basic services of water and electricity.**” — RFI Respondent*

# Grid Infrastructure Programs

**U.S. Department of Energy**

*Whitney Muse, Senior Advisor*







# Overcoming Common Infrastructure Challenges in Energy Communities

## Webinar Series Part One: Transportation & Electric Grid Infrastructure

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**Whitney Muse**  
U.S. Department of Energy, Grid Deployment Office



# Grid Deployment Office

**Mission Statement:** The Grid Deployment Office (GDO) works to provide electricity to everyone, everywhere by maintaining and investing in critical generation facilities to ensure resource adequacy and improving and expanding transmission and distribution systems to ensure all communities have access to reliable, affordable electricity.

## Generation Credits Division

The Generation Credits Division works with existing generation facilities to ensure resilience and reliability, and works to improve electricity markets at the wholesale and distribution levels.

## Transmission Division

The Transmission Division supports innovative efforts in transmission reliability and clean energy analysis and programs, and energy infrastructure and risk analysis in support of the Administration's priorities to enhance grid resilience.

## Grid Modernization Division

The Grid Modernization Division oversees activities that prevent outages and enhance the resilience of the electric grid.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
**Building a Better Grid**



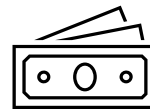
**Engagement and  
Collaboration**

- Federal agencies
- States
- Tribal Nations
- ISOs/RTOs
- Stakeholders



**Enhanced  
Transmission  
Planning**

- National Transmission Planning Study
- Transmission Needs Study
- Atlantic Offshore Wind Transmission Study



**Federal Financing  
Tools (>\$20B)**

- Transmission Facilitation Program (\$2.5B)
- Transmission Facility Financing (\$2B)
- Grid resilience formula grants for states, tribes, and territories (\$2.3B)
- Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Program (\$10.5B)



**Transmission  
Permitting Process**

- Improve federal permitting regimes with federal agency partners
- Public private partnerships
- Designation of national interest electric corridors



**Transmission  
Related R&D**

- Next generation” electricity delivery technologies
- Supporting activities





# DOE's BIL, IRA and Other Transmission Funding Programs

Program Name (DOE)	Total Funding	Program Goal
<b><u>BIL: Transmission Facilitation Program</u></b>	<b>\$2.5 billion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transmission deployment of new and upgrading high-capacity transmission lines. 3 tools: Capacity contracts, loans, and public-private partnerships</li> </ul>
<b><u>IRA: Transmission Facility Financing</u></b>	<b>\$2 billion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loans for projects designated by the Secretary to be necessary in the national interest under section 216(a) of the Federal Power Act</li> </ul>
<b>Loan Programs Office: Title 17 Innovative Clean Energy Loan Guarantee Program</b>	<b>\$40 billion in loan guarantee authority</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Innovative transmission expansion projects and emerging technologies (including HVDC deployment) are eligible</li> </ul>
<b>Loan Programs Office: Title 17 Energy Infrastructure Reinvestment (EIR) Financing (Loan Guarantees)</b>	<b>\$250 billion in loan authority</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retool, repower, repurpose or replace energy infrastructure (including transmission) that has ceased operations or enable operating energy infrastructure to avoid air pollutants</li> </ul>
<b><u>IRA: Transmission Siting and Economic Development Grants</u></b>	<b>\$760 million</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grants to siting authorities and state, local, and Tribal authorities to support activities to facilitate siting and permitting of transmission lines and provide economic development opportunities to affected communities</li> </ul>

# BIL Programs for the grid include transmission and distribution

Program Name (DOE)	Total Funding	Program Goal
<u>Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grants</u>	\$2.3 billion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formula funding for Grid Resilience and Hardening Investments tied to state &amp; tribal led objectives, criteria and methods for resilience investments</li> </ul>
<b>Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Program</b>		
<u>Grid Resilience Utility and Industry Grants</u>	\$2.5 billion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competitive funding for Grid Resilience and Hardening Investments tied to state &amp; tribal led objectives, criteria and methods for resilience investments</li> </ul>
<u>Grid Innovation Program</u>	\$5 billion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large infrastructure projects, including transmission, distribution and storage.</li> <li>• Partnership between state, tribal, and local entities and project/infrastructure developers</li> </ul>
<u>Smart Grid Grants</u>	\$3 billion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deployment of technology at scale, prioritization of technologies that increase transmission capacity, mitigate wildfires, manage load / electrification of “edge devices”, and incorporate secure communications / cybersecurity</li> </ul>

# Learn More about the DOE Grid Deployment Office

- The Grid and Transmission Programs Conductor acts as a clearinghouse for GDO's transmission and grid resilience financing programs
- Find information on Grid and Transmission programs within:
  - ▶ Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
  - ▶ Inflation Reduction Act
  - ▶ And other existing DOE transmission and grid programs

<https://www.energy.gov/gdo/conductor>

## Grid and Transmission Programs Conductor

Grid Deployment Office

Grid Deployment Office » Grid and Transmission Programs Conductor

The Grid and Transmission Programs Conductor acts as a clearinghouse for GDO's transmission and grid resilience financing programs made available through President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Act and Inflation Reduction Act, as well as other existing DOE transmission and grid programs.

The Conductor's goal is to provide resources and open lines of communication to maximize the effectiveness of these programs and work with state and local governments, tribes and territories, utility and industry partners, and other stakeholders to catalyze the development of a resilient, modern grid and transmission infrastructure for a reliable, affordable, and clean energy future.

### Programs Summary

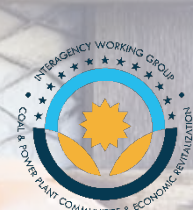
	SOLICITATION	FUNDING MECHANISM	NEXT STEPS
TRANSMISSION FACILITATION PROGRAM	Open Fall 2022	Capacity Contracts	Solicitation for loans, public private partnerships, and additional capacity contracts in Spring 2023
GRID RESILIENCE FORMULA GRANTS - 4010(D)	Opened on July 6, 2022, and closes March 31, 2023.	Formula grant funds disbursed on a rolling basis	TBD
GRID RESILIENCE & INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS (GRIP)	RFI <sup>1</sup> and Draft FOA <sup>2</sup> open for comment August 30, 2022 - October 14, 2022 Funding Opportunity open Fall 2022 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grid Resilience Utility &amp; Industry Competitive Grants - 4010(c)</li> <li>• Grid Innovation Program - 4010(S)</li> <li>• Smart Grid Grants - 4007</li> </ul>	Grants and Financial Assistance	TBD
LOAN PROGRAMS OFFICE TRANSMISSION LOANS	Open for Applications	Loans	
WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM	Open for Applications	Loans	
TRANSMISSION FACILITY LOANS (INFLATION REDUCTION ACT)	Check back November 2022 for additional information.		

View the Grid and Transmission Programs [Conductor Guide](#) and [Briefing Deck](#) for more information about eligibility and application requirements and funding opportunity or grant timelines.

If you have additional questions, please reach out to us at [Transmission@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Transmission@hq.doe.gov) and we will get back to you as quickly as possible.







*“Existing funding opportunities (including through the U.S. EDA) put a heavy **emphasis on documented job creation... that is sometimes difficult to document for projects** that are taking a wider-range approach to core community revitalization, where many of the employment impacts are indirect results of the investment. The federal government should work to revise the scoring process... to recognize that not all impactful projects can document specific job creation.” – RFI respondent*



# Workforce Considerations

**U.S. Department of Labor**

*Molly Bashay, Policy Advisor*



# Spotlight on Workforce

Overcoming Common Infrastructure Challenges in Energy Communities Part One:  
Transportation & Grid Infrastructure



Molly Bashay, Advisor  
Office of the Assistant Secretary  
Employment and Training Administration

June 26, 2023





# Overview

- **A Framework for Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce**
  - Partnership Development
  - Planning Resources
  - Proven Programs
- **Funding Opportunities**
  - National Dislocated Worker Grants
  - Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities Grants
  - Building Pathways to Infrastructure Careers (H-1B)



# Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce

## Partnership Development

- Engage, convene and **link key demand side and supply side workforce partners** positioned to support a comprehensive workforce plan across various project and sector needs.

## Planning Resources

- **Leverage local workforce partners' capacity to support planning** activities and formulate strategies that meet project needs and advance equity in communities and for underrepresented workers.

## Proven Programs

- **Design, deliver and scale proven workforce programs** and practices with a track record for delivering and opening up access to high quality training.



# Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce

## Partnership Development

- **Strategic Partnership & Engagement** – Workforce system partners should actively engage with the community, especially disadvantaged or underserved communities, where the project is based early in the project planning process.
- **Build Diverse Partnerships**, including high-road employers and both traditional and nontraditional stakeholders.
  - Federal agencies and State, Local, and Tribal governments
  - Employers and Industry Associations
  - Contractors who bid on government projects and run project delivery
  - Unions, local labor councils, and labor-management partnerships
  - Job Corps centers and local youth-serving organizations
- **Equity and Job Quality as Shared Priorities** – Advancing shared job quality and equity priorities is critical in building a skilled infrastructure workforce.





# Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce

## Planning Resources

- **Understand the Jobs That Are Going to Be Created and Skills Needs** – Workforce system partners and project leads should engage in strategic planning with community partners and use data (e.g., Labor Market Information or LMI) to inform decision-making.
- **Build Quality Jobs and Quality Training That Reach Underserved Communities into Project Planning and Project Bids** – Consider using
  - Apprenticeship Utilization Requirements
  - OFCCP Participation Goals in Construction Trades
  - Local and Economic Hiring Preferences
  - Project-Specific Agreements (e.g., PLAs or CBAs)
  - Vendor/Contractor Accountability
  - Wage and Equity Standards
- **Determine Funding Sources That Can Be Leveraged for Workforce Development Needed to Support Infrastructure Projects** – A wide variety of federal formula and discretionary funding can and does support quality workforce development initiatives.



# Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce

## Proven Programs

- **Quality Pre-apprenticeships** should provide underserved populations with educational and pre-vocational services and directly connect to RA.
- **Registered Apprenticeships** are industry-driven, paid training programs that produce strong results for both employers and workers.
- **Sector Strategies** connect employers, education and training entities, economic development, workforce systems and community organizations to collaboratively meet the workforce needs of a regional labor market.
- **Labor-Management Partnerships** coordinate employee and worker representation to develop training programs with job quality embedded.
- **Project Labor Agreements** are collective bargaining agreements between building trade union and contractors. PLAs can promote workforce development by including local hire and disadvantaged worker provisions, along with apprenticeship utilization requirements.
- **Supportive services** enable underserved populations to access and complete training. Consider supports like basic needs, cash, transportation, and childcare assistance to remove barriers to participation.



# Dislocated Worker Grants

**National Dislocated Worker Grants** (DWGs) are discretionary grants awarded under Section 170 of WIOA to provide employment-related services for dislocated workers. The Department funds two types of DWGs:

- Disaster Recovery DWGs
- Employment Recovery DWGs

Learn more about each grant type at [Training and Employment Guidance Letter 16-21, Updated National Dislocated Worker Grant Program Guidance.](#)



# DWGs – Qualifying Events

Qualifying Events	Disaster Recovery DWG	Employment Recovery DWG
Emergencies and major disasters or relocation of a substantial number of individuals due to a declared disaster or emergency	✓	
Mass layoffs or plant closures that affect 50 or more workers from one employer, or multiple small dislocations, or higher-than-average demand for employment and training activities from dislocated military service members and dislocated military spouses		✓

Learn more about DWG grant types, qualifying events, eligible applicants and participants, and allowable grant activities at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/dislocated-workers/grants>.





# DWGs – Eligible Applicants

Eligible Applicants	<u>Disaster Recovery DWG</u>	<u>Employment Recovery DWG</u>
A State	✓	✓
Outlying areas	✓	✓
Indian tribal governments (as defined by the Stafford Act, 42 U.S.C. 5122(6)).	✓	
Entities eligible for funding through the Indian and Native American program at <a href="#">WIOA Section 166</a> .		✓
Entities determined appropriate to apply by the Governor.		✓
Entities that demonstrate to the Secretary of Labor their capability to effectively respond to particular dislocation events.		✓

Learn more about DWG grant types, qualifying events, eligible applicants and participants, and allowable grant activities at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/dislocated-workers/grants>.



# DWGs – Eligible Participants

Eligible Participants	Disaster Recovery DWG	Employment Recovery DWG
Dislocated workers as defined in <a href="#">WIOA</a> Section 3(15).	✓	✓
Individuals temporarily or permanently laid off because of the emergency or disaster.	✓	
Long-term unemployed individuals, as defined by the grantee.	✓	
Self-employed individuals who became unemployed or significantly underemployed due to disaster.	✓	

Learn more about DWG grant types, qualifying events, eligible applicants and participants, and allowable grant activities at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/dislocated-workers/grants>.



# DWGs – Allowable Grant Activities

Allowable Grant Activities	Disaster Recovery DWG	Employment Recovery DWG
<p><i>Employment and Training</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Career Services. (See the Career Services section of <a href="#">TEGL 19-16</a> beginning on page 2 for details.)</li> <li>• Training Services. (See the Training Services section of <a href="#">TEGL 19-16</a> starting on page 5 for details.)</li> </ul>	✓	✓
<p><i>Temporary disaster-relief employment</i> that enables</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• clean-up and recovery efforts within the declared disaster area and/or</li> <li>• delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance in the aftermath of a federally declared disaster or emergency.</li> </ul>	✓	
<p><i>Supportive Services</i> to enable individuals to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• participate safely and effectively in disaster-relief employment, and/or</li> <li>• achieve success in employment and training activities (such as assistance with transportation, and child care).</li> </ul>	✓	
<p><i>Supportive Services</i> to enable individuals to participate in employment and training activities</p>		✓

Learn more about DWG grant types, qualifying events, eligible applicants and participants, and allowable grant activities at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/dislocated-workers/grants>.





# Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities

The **Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities** (WORC) Initiative is a partnership with the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Delta Regional Authority, and (starting with WORC Round 5) the Northern Border Regional Commission.

- The WORC Initiative funds grants that support economic mobility, address historic inequities for marginalized communities of color and other underserved and underrepresented communities, and produce high-quality employment outcomes for workers who live or work in rural regions, enabling them to remain and thrive in these communities.
- The WORC Initiative is designed to address persistent economic distress by aligning community-led economic and workforce development strategies and activities to ensure long-term economic resilience and enable workers in the regions to succeed in current and future job opportunities.
- Of the 50 WORC grants awarded in FY21 and FY22, 27 were awarded to energy communities

*Organizations interested in learning more about upcoming funding opportunities for the WORC Initiative should visit the [DOL Funding Opportunity page](#) or register to receive notifications from [grants.gov](#).*



# Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs

The [Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs](#) grant program invests in public-private partnerships to develop, implement, and scale worker-centered sector strategy training programs in H-1B industries and occupations critical to meeting the goals of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

- Applicants will design training programs in infrastructure-related industry sectors that ensure equitable access to good jobs in high-demand occupations offering above-average pay and benefits, and opportunities to advance along a career pathway—specifically those in advanced manufacturing; information technology; and professional, scientific, and technical occupations that support renewable energy, transportation, and broadband.
- DOL anticipates funding two separate rounds of grants with this funding opportunity. Applications for the first round are **due online by July 7, 2023, 11:59 PM ET**.

*View the full description for this funding opportunity ([FOA-ETA-23-31](#)) at [grants.gov](#).*

# Spotlight on Workforce

Overcoming Common Infrastructure Challenges in Energy Communities Part One:  
Transportation & Grid Infrastructure



Molly Bashay, Advisor  
Office of the Assistant Secretary  
Employment and Training Administration

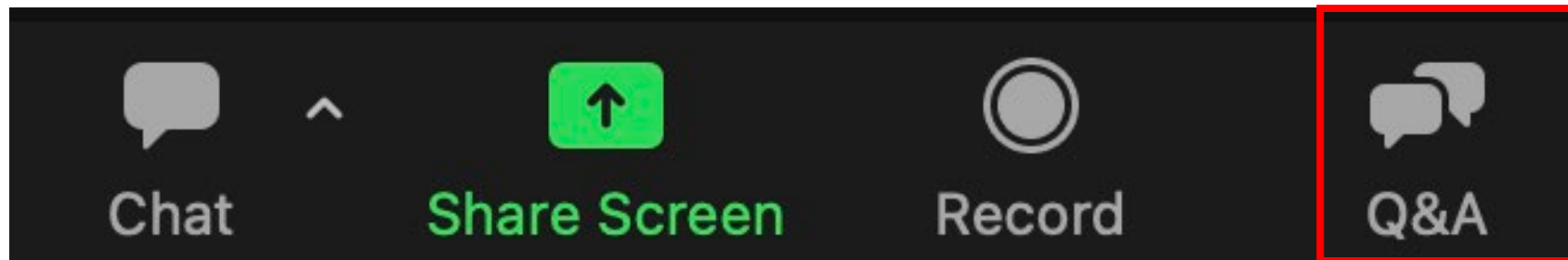
June 26, 2023



# Submit Questions in Q&A



Send topic questions to the **Q&A** by clicking the Q&A icon on the bottom of screen.



energycommunities.gov

## Overcoming Common Infrastructure Challenges in Energy Communities - Part Two



**Monday, July 17**  
**2:00 pm ET**



<https://energycommunities.gov/events/>

# Getting Involved: Calls to Action



## ✓ Stakeholder engagement opportunities

- ✓ Try out the funding clearinghouse
- ✓ Sign up at website/follow social media
- ✓ Attend webinars and workshops

## ✓ Act on BIL & IRA funding opportunities

- ✓ Learn about opportunities
- ✓ Cultivate coalitions
- ✓ Assemble resources for grant writing
- ✓ Secure matching funds, where necessary





# Sharing Information: IWG Website & Social Media



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# Thank you!

## Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization



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