

Office of Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin

FY2022 Agriculture Appropriations Community Project Request Form

Your funding request should be submitted at slotkin.house.gov/communityprojectfunding and is due by 12pm on April 16, 2021.

Note: Only non-profit entities, public institutions, and state and local government entities are eligible to request projects. Projects cannot be designated for private individuals or for-profit entities. The Subcommittee will only accept legally eligible requests under the following accounts: Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities; Rural Development, Rural Community Facility Grants; Rural Utilities Service, ReConnect Grants.

Entity Requesting Funds (aka non-federal project sponsor):

Primary Point of Contact (name, email, phone number, organization address):

Project Priority (if non-federal sponsor is submitting more than 1 project):

Short description of the project to appear in the report:

Total Project Cost (including breakdown of federal/non-federal shares):

Requested Amount:

Sources of funding for the full share of the cost of the project if amount received is less than amount requested:

Whether the project has received Federal funding previously, and if so, the source and amount:

Complete Description of Project (limit 1000 characters, including spaces):

The website address of the proposed recipient:

If there are additional costs necessary to complete the project, have those been secured?

For rural development projects, is the project for an eligible purpose and does it meet all eligibility requirements under current law (Explain how it meets those requirements)?

Does the entity plan to make grants to other entities from the funds provided and if so, to which entities?

Why is the project a priority the community? Briefly explain the community benefits.

Has any funding for the project been included in any presidential budget and if so, how much, in which fiscal year, and in which agency or agencies and program(s)?

Has the project received federal funding before and if so, how much, when, and from which agency or agencies and program(s)?

For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated start date of the project? How soon could the feasibility/engineering design phase commence? [mm/yy]

For ARS B&F only, does the project have distinct and separable phases?

For ARS B&F only, what is the estimated completion date of the project? When does completion of construction occur? [mm/yy]

For ReConnect requests, please provide relevant information, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms that would be served, what the performance of the service to be offered will be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served.

Additional guidance on Community Project Funding requests for eligible accounts:

Department of Agriculture Community Facilities Grants

Grants to purchase, construct, or improve essential community facilities, to purchase equipment, and pay other related project expenses. Essential community facilities include, but are not limited to, healthcare facilities, public facilities, public safety measures, educational services, or other community support services. Examples of eligible projects include; medical or dental clinics, towns halls, courthouses, childcare centers, police or fire departments, public works vehicles, or distance learning equipment. Any project must serve a rural area as specified in 7 CFR 3570.53, and the Member's request must demonstrate community support.

Such requests are also subject to the maximum grant assistance limitations specified in 7 CFR 3570.63(b). Community Facilities grants generally cannot be used to pay initial operating expenses or annual recurring expenses, refinance existing debt, pay interest, build or repair facilities in non-rural areas, or pay for construction costs of facilities that will be used for commercial rental space.

Department of Agriculture ReConnect Program

ReConnect broadband pilot grants facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. Grants funds can be used for the costs of construction, improvement, or acquisition of facilities and equipment needed to provide broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access, defined as 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream. The area must be rural and lack sufficient access to broadband service. A rural area is any area which is not located within: (1) A city, town, or incorporated area that has a population of greater than 20,000 inhabitants; or (2) an urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants. Sufficient access to broadband is defined as greater than 90% of any rural area in which households have fixed, terrestrial broadband service delivering at least 10 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream. Mobile and satellite services will not be considered in making the determination of sufficient access to broadband.

Stand-alone middle-mile projects are not eligible under the ReConnect Program. However, middle-mile facilities are eligible if they are needed to bring sufficient broadband service to all premises in the area. Members are strongly encouraged to include information in their requests, such as the number of households, businesses, or farms will be served in the area, what the performance of the service to be offered will be, and whether healthcare or educational facilities will be served.

Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service, Buildings and Facilities

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) owns and operates laboratories and facilities across the United States. Many of these laboratories/facilities are decades old, have outlived their functional lifespan, and are badly in need of major repairs, renovation, or replacement. Facility requests must be for ARS-owned facilities or for facilities that will enhance ongoing ARS work. Requests can assist in the acquisition of land, construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities as necessary to carry out the agricultural research programs of the Department of Agriculture. Members are strongly encouraged to provide details on the research to be conducted, why the research is a high priority, as well as details on the modernization and why it is critical in carrying out the research.