

Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) /Community Project Spending (CPS)

What? These are two types of discretionary funding for a contract, loan, loan guarantee, grant loan authority, or other expenditure. A Community Funding Project is an appropriation introduced through the House of Representatives. Each Rep, can make 15 prioritized requests. A Congressionally Directed Spending is sponsored by a Senator. There are no limits on the number of requests.

Why? These funding vehicles continue to grow. In FY22 4,963 projects were funded totaling \$9,064 billion. In FY23 7,200 projects will be funded with \$15 billion. There are several subcommittees that receive and fund requests annually, typically with deadlines in March and April.

Key Considerations for Success	
1	Check Eligibility ONLY organizations with a 501(c)(3) status can apply to these opportunities.
2	Find your US Representative or Senator Use House.gov or Senate.gov.
3	Research subcommittees for your US Representative or Senator Subcommittees that fund CDS or CPS requests include:
4	Identify the types of requests your delegate has funded An ideal pitch for funding has four key features: (1) aligns with interests; (2) it is conceptualized as a 1-year project; (3) can prove it is self-sustaining after the funding period ends; and (4) can be completed with initial funding.
5	Define your project Based on research of funded projects, the following elements can provide a strategic edge: (1) include shovel-ready construction; (2) projects that are intended for capacity building; (3) projects that demonstrate broad community scope; or (4) projects that include major research.
6	Create a project budget Most funded projects range from \$250,000-\$3 million.
7	Gather community support A requirement for CPF is to demonstrate broad community support via letters of support, earned media, or community development plans. Your project must clearly explain how it benefits its community. Projects that have an immediate and visible impact are most successful.
8	Create a timeline for action A timeline includes strategies for connecting with your Representative or Senator, highlighting your project, and ensuring you have enough community support to showcase the impact of your project. For a detailed timeline please reach out to: Julie.alsup@asselgrantservices.com