

WITT OBRIEN'S
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WITH YOU WHEN IT COUNTS

MAXIMIZING FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES ARPA/BIL

Training 2 of 4 | March 14, 2023



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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH (OPR)

FEDERAL GRANT RESOURCES





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CEQA & Federal Grants ▾ Planning & Land Use ▾ Climate & Resilience ▾ Economic Development ▾ Long-Range Research ▾



CEQA: Getting Started
A helpful guide for anyone who is just getting started learning about or implementing CEQA



State Clearinghouse
Review of environmental documents prepared for CEQA



California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
Reducing the potential environmental impacts of proposed projects



Federal Assistance
Executive Order 12372 and federal grant resources

CEQA Guidelines
Key resources for understanding and implementing CEQA

Transportation SB 743
Information on how transportation impacts are analyzed under CEQA

Judicial Streamlining
Judicial streamlining for Environmental Leadership Development Projects (SB 7 and AB 900)

Technical Advisories
Resources to help practitioners use and comply with CEQA

resilience, and high road economic development.

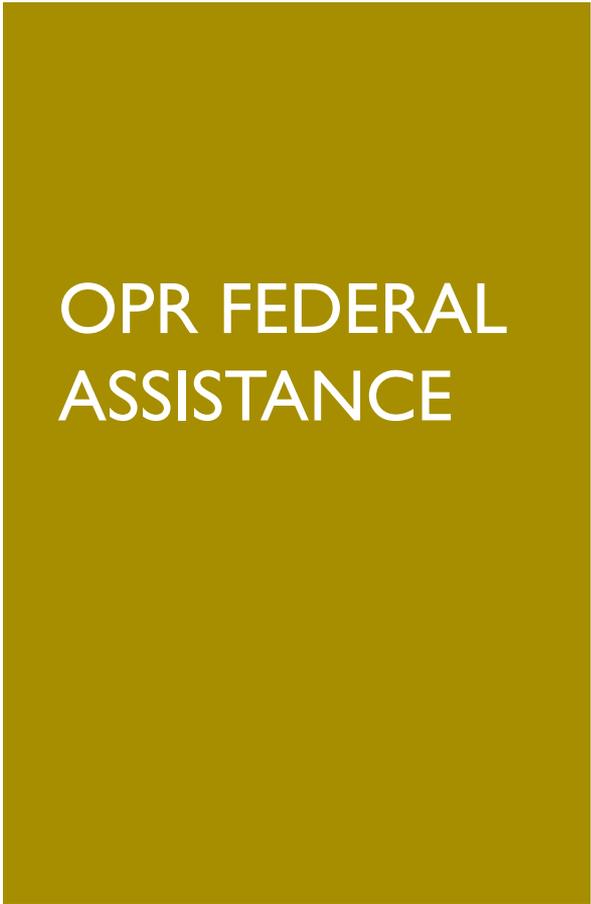
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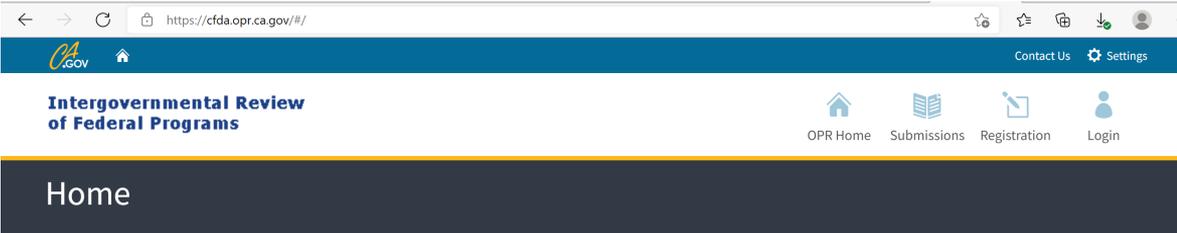
Announcements ▾

Tools and Resources ▾

Initiatives ▾



APPLYING FOR FEDERAL GRANTS E.O. 12372 PROCESS



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://cfda.opr.ca.gov/#/>. The page header includes the CA.GOV logo and navigation links for "Contact Us" and "Settings". Below the header, there are four main navigation icons: "OPR Home", "Submissions", "Registration", and "Login". The main content area features a dark blue banner with the word "Home" in white text.

The State Clearinghouse (SCH) serves as the state's Single Point of Contact for the submission of Federal assistance applications pursuant to [Presidential Executive Order No. 12372](#) and [SAM Section 0912](#). With the signing of [Assembly Bill 1348](#) the State Clearinghouse is responsible for reporting on all federal grants applied for and received in California regardless if they fall under Executive Order 12372. We have developed the new on-line database to assist with that reporting.

These applications must be provided to the SCH, which in turn publishes this information for review by State and local elected officials. The submittal of the SF-424 form on this website begins a 30-day review period. The SCH does not administer grant programs or offer any grant funding. Please visit [Grants.gov](#) for funding opportunities.

Federal Assistance Application

To apply for a federal assistance program, please upload a copy of your application cover form (Standard Form 424) to the SCH. DO NOT send your full application package or any other supplemental information.

In the appropriate box on Form 424, mark that the federal assistance application was made available for state review under the Executive Order 12372 process before submitting your federal assistance application to the federal funding agency.

* Organization Name

* Email Address

* Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)



[OPR Intergovernmental Review of
Federal Programs | EO 12372 |
California](#)

FEDERAL GRANT RESOURCES

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.opr.ca.gov/sch/federal-grants/resources.html>. The page header includes the CA.GOV logo, navigation links (About OPR, Meetings, Publications, Partners, E-Lists, Settings), and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research logo. A search bar is present with the text "Search this website". Below the header, there are navigation tabs: CEQA & Federal Grants, Planning & Land Use, Climate & Resilience, Economic Development, and Long-Range Research. The main content area features the title "Federal Grant Resources" and a sub-header "Introduction to Federal Grants". The text describes resources for finding, applying for, and managing federal grants. Below this, there are two main sections: "Grants Learning Center" and "Introduction to Grants.gov video series".

Resources to help you find, apply for, and manage federal grants from California's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for the Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.

ON THIS PAGE: [Introduction](#) | [Websites](#) | [Regulations](#) | [OPR Trainings](#) | [OPR Reports](#) | [For More Info](#)

Introduction to Federal Grants

Learn about the basics in federal grants from how to search for a grant, to the application process, post-award management, and how to comply with federal regulations.

-  **Grants Learning Center**
The Grants Learning Center from grants.gov has the latest in training resources for understanding federal grants
[go to grants.gov](#)
-  **Introduction to Grants.gov video series**
Learn about the complete Grants.gov application process, from registration to finding funding opportunities to applying with Grants.gov Workspace

[Federal Grant Resources - Office of Planning and Research \(ca.gov\)](https://www.opr.ca.gov/sch/federal-grants/resources.html)

FEDERAL GRANT EMAIL LIST



Sign up for Federal Grant Updates

Updates on federal grant opportunities, news, and trainings.

* Email

First Name

Last Name

Sign Up

By submitting this form, you are consenting to receive marketing emails from: Governor's Office of Planning and Research or California Strategic Growth Council, 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, US

You can revoke your consent to receive emails at any time by using the [SafeUnsubscribe](#) link, found at the bottom of every email.

[Emails are serviced by Constant Contact](#)

Federal Funding News

EPA Announces \$600 Million in Water Infrastructure Funding for California

The EPA announces \$609 million in funding to California from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to fund water infrastructure through the State Revolving Fund programs.

[Learn more](#)



USDA Awards 23 Grants to CA to Support Local and Regional Food Systems

The USDA Local Agriculture Marketing Program awards 203 grants nationwide, including 23 to California, to support farmers markets, local food promotion, and regional food systems.

[Learn more](#)



New Federal Grant Opportunities

Many more opportunities are at [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).



Grants for Arts Projects

To support public engagement with, and access to, various forms of art across the nation, the creation of art, learning in the arts at all stages of life, and the integration of the arts into the fabric of community life.

Due: February 10, 2022

[Learn more](#)

[Signup Form \(constantcontactpages.com\)](https://constantcontactpages.com)

THANK YOU

- Amy Miller
- Federal Grant Administrator
- Amy.Miller@OPR.CA.GOV
- 916-445-0614





Governor's Office of **Planning and Research**

DISCLAIMER

The information shared here does not represent legal advice or an endorsement of any organization or its commercial products by OPR but is provided as a service to the grants community.

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WELCOME! TODAY WE WILL:

- Explore current and potential funding opportunities within the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)
- Discover best practices for preparing and applying for funding
- Understand the benefits of intergovernmental coordination

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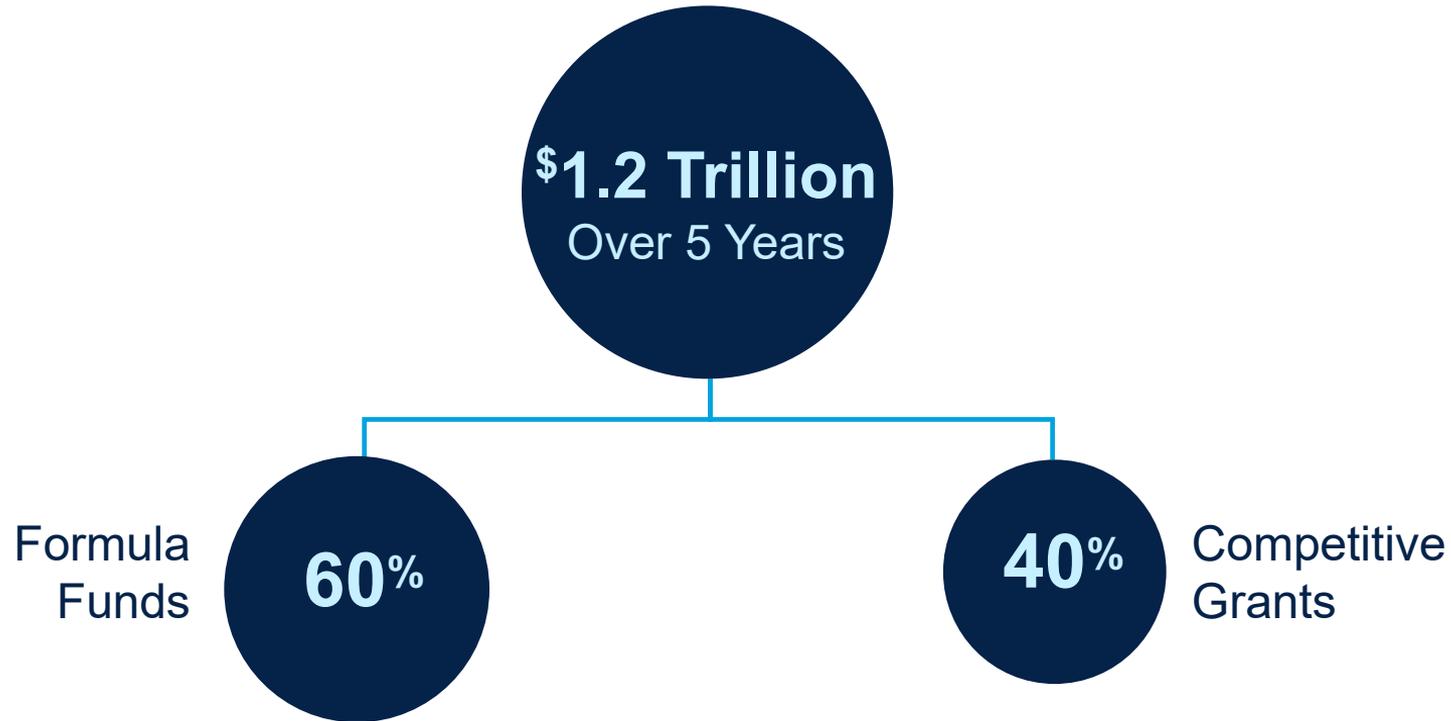
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ABOUT BIL AND IRA

- On November 15, 2021, President Biden signed the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (P.L. 117-58), officially enacting the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The BIL provides \$973 billion over five years from FY 2022 through FY 2026, including \$550 billion in new investments for all modes of transportation, water, power and energy, environmental remediation, public lands, broadband and resilience. In addition to providing authorizations for a wide variety of programs, the BIL also makes advanced appropriations over a number of years to several federal agencies.
- On August 16, President Biden signed the [Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\)](#) into law. The IRA, which aims to reduce the federal deficit, cut carbon emissions and address several issues related to healthcare. **According to an estimate from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO), the IRA would reduce federal deficits by \$102 billion between 2022 and 2031 - the lifespan of the bill - through the implementation of measures intended to reduce inflationary pressures.** In addition to addressing the federal deficit, the IRA aims to reduce carbon emissions by 40 percent below 2005 levels by 2030. It does so by making significant investments in climate and environment programs and providing tax incentives to boost the development and deployment of clean energy.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW: OVERVIEW FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW: OVERVIEW FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

>**375** unique programs at over a dozen federal agencies

>**125** new programs across 9 federal agencies representing >**25%** of total spending

>**90%** of these investments will be delivered by non-federal partners

~**60%** flowing through formula programs

~**38%** of funding contains provisions that allow for expanded federal cost sharing arrangements – particularly for rural and disadvantaged communities.

> **\$100 Billion** in first 100 Days announced, allocated or headed to states, territories, and local governments.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW: TRANSPORTATION

- The BIL includes five-year reauthorization (FY22-26) of surface transportation programs and direct advanced appropriations
- Total transportation funding in this five-year package is over \$660 billion
- Includes framework in EPW's Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act and Commerce's Surface Transportation Investment Act
- Transfers \$118 billion from the U.S. Treasury's general fund (GF) to the Highway Trust Fund (\$90 billion to highway account and \$28 billion to Mass Transit account)



BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW: TRANSPORTATION

Total potential funding over five years includes:

\$110B Federal Highway Administration

\$25B Federal Aviation Administration

\$107B Federal Transit Administration

\$8B National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

\$102B Federal Railroad Administration

\$5B Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

\$43B Office of the Secretary

\$2B Maritime Administration

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW: EXPANSION OF EXISTING PROGRAMS

- BIL expands existing grant and financing programs that provide funding to local governments
- **\$15 Billion** Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grants
- **\$14 Billion:** Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grants
- Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) program and Railroad Rehabilitation & Improvement Financing (RRIF) program: Expanded transit-oriented development eligibilities BIL includes formula programs with expanded eligibilities and increased funding which will benefit local governments.

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW: EXPANSION OF EXISTING PROGRAMS

Surface Transportation Block Grants (STBG): \$72 b

- Local governments will see a **24%** increase in STBG funding
- BIL also increases the set-aside within STBG for the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and increases the minimum percentage of TAP funding that is sub-allocated by population to **59%**
- Carbon Reduction Program: **\$6 billion**
- **65%** suballocation to local areas

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW: NEW GRANT OPPORTUNITIES – LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The BIL includes over \$45 billion in new competitive grants for which local governments can apply:

- \$ 6B** Safe Streets and Roads for All
- \$ 15.77B** Bridge Investment Program
- \$ 5.5B** Railroad Crossing Elimination
- \$ 1B** Reconnecting Communities
- \$ 5B** National Culvert Removal, Replacement and Restoration
- \$ 500M** Healthy Streets
- \$ 1.4B** Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation
- \$ 2B** Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program: \$350 million Rural Surface Transportation Program
- \$ 2.5B** MEGA Projects: \$15 billion Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grants
- \$ 1B** Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation Grant Program

HONEST SELF ASSESSMENT

How prepared are you to understand needs and available funding opportunities, go after and secure available funds, and then successfully implement priority projects compliantly?

- Organizational Capacity
- Systems & Processes
- Partnerships & Intergovernmental Relationships



ASSESS YOUR EXISTING CAPACITY & CAPABILITIES

Understand your current needs and organizational capacity.

- Resources
- Infrastructure
- Knowledge & Skills
- Culture & Climate
- Engagement & Partnership

BUILDING INTERNAL CAPACITY

Why should organizations consider enhancing grant and project management capacity?

- **Structure:** Focused, coordinated approach; formalized process; transparency
- **Strategy:** Maximize funding and greater impact
- **Compliance:** Monitoring and auditing; reporting; waste, fraud, and abuse

BUILDING INTERNAL CAPACITY

How can jurisdictions build internal capacity?

- Identify needs to support grant writing and project management: technology, association memberships, certifications/trainings
- Create grant procedures to capture structure in administrative code where feasible
- Identify funding needs across departments with a strategic plan and a Capital Improvement Plan
- Develop program and service overviews
- Establish a “grant team” that can review and assess the suitability of grant opportunities, which includes a representative from each of the various programs and operations

BUILD FOR THE FUTURE

Grants is the name of the game with ARPA and BIL funding opportunities, but is also the bedrock of sustainable funding opportunities for years to come.

Use this historic funding opportunity to build for the future starting with developing a comprehensive grants management framework that cross-cuts departments & functions.



OVERVIEW OF GRANT MANAGEMENT MODELS

Decentralized	Hybrid	Centralized
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Departments go their own route with minimal to no coordination• Least desirable model, given lack of overall coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Centralized function provides some coordination across various aspects of grants management lifecycle• Responsibility and accountability is ultimately placed on department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grants management office; oversees / manages grants entity wide• Responsible for partnering with departments on grants management lifecycle 
Considerations:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Centralized and Hybrid models create greater coordination across departments, leading to greater success• Decentralized model inhibits the ability to approach the grants management lifecycle holistically		

PLAN, SECURE, EXECUTE!

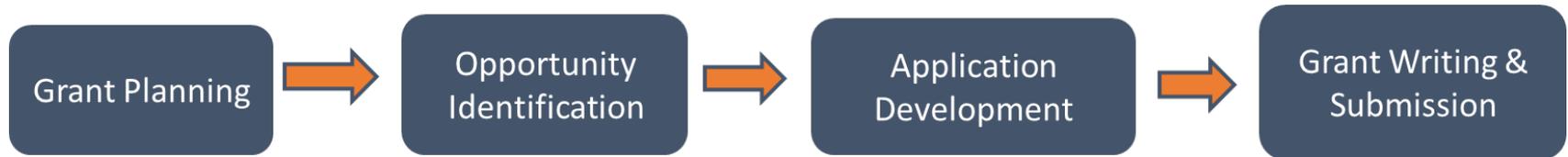
Leverage existing & new resources & infrastructure to properly plan for, apply & secure competitive grants



INTRODUCTION TO GRANT PLANNING

A successful pre-award grants management approach:

- Requires agency departments to work in coordination with each other and a central office
- Prioritizes grant planning and aligns it with organizational wide priorities and policies
- Engages stakeholders in the community
- Closely tracks and evaluates grant opportunities, including ability to implement
- Thoroughly addresses the NOFO's points of emphasis



GRANT PLANNING

Establish an Intelligence Network

- Ever expanding set of funding conduits - need to look beyond federal sources
- Need to develop an increased understanding of funding conduits
- Increase focus on state and philanthropic grant opportunities

Develop a grants plan that reflects entity wide priorities

- Documented grants plan helps define and prioritize opportunities
- Create grants plan in coordination with budget and capital plan development; continuously monitor and update plan
- Key elements include: Elected officials' priorities; current and expected grants; grant funding landscape; strategies and approaches for building and managing the city's grant funds

GRANT PLANNING

Keep inventory of community needs and desired projects

- Focus pursuits based on inventory, regularly update to align with new priorities
- Identify needs that cannot or should not be funded by the general fund

Develop tools and processes to identify a potential “capital stack”

- Few significant projects rely on a single funding source
- Determine how to properly layer funds and optimize funding
- Understand the timing considerations associated with all funds in the stack as well as any potential costs (e.g., interest)

OPPORTUNITY IDENTIFICATION

Track funding opportunities on a regular basis

- Know where NOFOs are posted and register for notifications
- Application timelines are short - team should meet at least once a month
- Track grantor's funding rhythm to prioritize projects
- Consider automation via grants management technology

OPPORTUNITY IDENTIFICATION

Establish a decision criteria

- Ensure grant pursuits align with priorities
- Define key elements to use for vetting opportunities
- Consider ability to implement when making pursuit decisions
- Build off prior successful experiences (internal & past awardees)
- Share grant opportunities that may not be an internal fit with external partners

GRANT APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

Break down the process

- Establish team to understand funding opportunity and map the response
- Closely read NOFO and identify key dates and required information
- Assess prior awardees - attend debriefings, analyze successful applicants, and review grantor websites
- Maintain library of prior responses; identify those relevant to current grant pursuit
- If using partners or subrecipients, ensure all parties are aware of process, understand their role, and provide required information

GRANT WRITING AND SUBMISSION

Thoroughly address grantor's points of emphasis

- Understand grantor's priorities and their perspective on the grant program
- Create an outline to ensure prompts are answered thoroughly
- Review prior library of responses
- Use data and graphics to support arguments where appropriate

Follow directions and take care of the little things

- Direct and action-oriented writing
- Pay attention to page counts, presentation styles, deadlines, and method of delivery
- If submission is electronic, make sure organization is properly registered and has access to portal

GRANT PURSUANCE MATRIX

<p style="text-align: center;">CONSIDER APPLYING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Formula grant o Fits agency's mission, vision, and values o Incorporated into agency's strategic plan o Agency is eligible? o Realistic deadlines - aware of application with strong interest o Appropriate funding amount available o Appropriate funder o Normal application, requirements and grant terms o Agency capacity - moderate staffing needed o Sustainable beyond the grant period o Administrative/indirect costs allowed o Match requirement - minimal agency investment o Partners - already in onboard if needed o Approved internally (agency policy) 	<p style="text-align: center;">PURSUE APPLICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Continuation grant o Fulfills agency's mission, vision, and values o Already incorporated into agency's strategic plan o Agency still eligible? o Realistic deadlines - preparations already in place o Appropriate funding amount still available o Still an appropriate funder o No changes in application, requirements, and grant terms o Agency capacity - strong, committed o Sustainable beyond the grant period o Administrative/indirect costs allowed o No match requirements/matching funds in place o No partners needed/warranted o Approved internally (agency policy)
<p style="text-align: center;">TENTATIVE ABOUT APPLYING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pass-through grant o No alignment with agency's mission, vision, and values o No alignment to agency's strategic plan o Agency is eligible? o Realistic deadlines - unprepared for grant o Inappropriate funding amount - limits o Inappropriate funder - political, conflict of interest, etc. o Agency capacity - limited to no staffing resources o Complex application, requirements, and/or grant terms o No sustainability beyond the grant period o Administrative/indirect costs are not allowed o Match requirement - major agency investment o New partners are required o Approved internally (agency policy) 	<p style="text-align: center;">ENCOURAGED TO APPLY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Competitive grant o Odds - <25%, 25-50%, >50% o Matches elements of agency's mission, vision, and values o Considering incorporating into strategic plan o Agency is eligible? o Realistic deadlines - aware of application and interested o Appropriate funding amount available o Appropriate funder o Is this a speculative proposal by the agency? o Complex application, requirements, and/or grant terms o Sustainable - questionable short- and long-term potential o Administrative/indirect costs allowed o Match requirement - marginal agency investment o Partners (collaboration) would make for a stronger application o Approved internally (agency policy)

WORK SMARTER, NOT HARDER

- We have seen time and time again that counties and states squander administrative **'easy buttons'** and lose funding optimization opportunities
- Use these shortcuts to prepare best for the future



WAYS TO LEVERAGE ARPA FUNDS NOW

ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund provides 2 simple ways to use funding in a highly flexible manner to invest in building your capacity and infrastructure

- Revenue loss (automatic \$10M presumption regardless of size, for larger jurisdictions it is stackable)
- Improving public sector capacity IS an eligible category

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

- ARPA and many IIJA funded initiatives allow for administrative cost recovery through a streamlined mechanism – leveraging a federally approved indirect cost rate – or – a de minimis 10%.

HOW TO USE ARPA FUNDS

Build Capacity

- Centralized & Enterprise Grant Management
- Hire/Train Staff focused on maximizing your organization's chances for securing state and federal grants

Avert leverage risk by enhancing governance compliance/ESG

Don't simply rely on existing Capital Improvement Plan unfunded projects –

- “Dust off” by completing new studies & plans
- Investment in community engagement to better understand problems, priorities or emerging pressures

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION IS KEY

Most formula programs and many competitive programs will be distributed at the State level.

It is critical that you develop strong understanding of which State agencies will be administering many of these federal funding opportunities. Attending plenary sessions, conferences, summits will elevate your jurisdiction's profile with these State agencies.

Many of these grant programs will look for interjurisdictional coordination and collaboration.

- Build coalition with adjacent counties and municipal entities
- Take lead on driving regional summits to understand needs and how pooling funding can leverage greater cost efficiency

EQUITY IS MORE THAN JUST A TALKING POINT

Recipients of local fiscal recovery funds – and future recipients of IIJA Funds have already agreed to Title VI / Civil Rights Act Assurances

If this is the first time you're hearing this, it's not too late to quickly fully understand what that means and what your organization should be doing to ensure compliance

Future federal funding can be impacted by noncompliance!



QUESTIONS

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

Following today's training, the following will be sent to you:

- Post-training survey
- Resource Guide – Grant Pursuance Matrix

We will see you at the next training!

CAL OPR TRAINING SERIES

MARCH 21ST / 12-1PM / PST

**ARPA GRANT IMPLEMENTATION: ADMINISTRATIVE, INDIRECT,
AND DIRECT COSTS**

MARCH 28TH / 12-1PM / PST

ARPA COMPLIANCE SUPPLEMENT ADDENDUM

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