

# RCP RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES PILOT

Applications are due September 30, 2024.

ADMINISTERED BY: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (USDOT)

The Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) program aims to enhance community connectivity by removing, retrofitting, or mitigating eligible facilities such as highways or rail lines. It offers competitive grants for planning and capital construction projects, with a strong emphasis on benefiting disadvantaged communities. The program, funded under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, allocates up to \$607 million for FY 2024 through FY 2026, supporting efforts to improve mobility, access, and economic development while fostering equitable growth and restoration. Applicants can specify their preferred funding year, which will be considered in the award process.



EQUITY & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ACCESS

FACILITY SUITABILITY

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Class I railroads are not eligible applicants under the RCP program; however, they may partner with eligible applicants – as Project Partners – to pursue funding for projects.

RCP Capital Construction Grants:

Owner(s) of the eligible facility proposed in the project for which all necessary feasibility studies and other planning activities have been completed or a partnership between a facility owner and any eligible Planning Grant applicant

RCP Planning Grants:

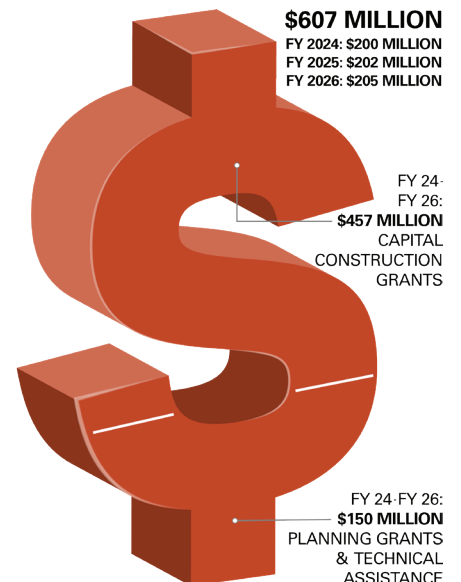
State, unit of local government, Tribal government, Metropolitan Planning Organization, or a non-profit organization



## BNSF PII

BNSF Railway's Public Infrastructure and Investment (PII) team is committed to building strong partnerships that maximize the impact of funding opportunities. As Project Partners, we can collaborate to help secure funding that drives positive change and progress for communities where we work, live, and play.

## RCP



## RCP CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS

**\$457 Million**

Supports eligible construction activities

- Preliminary and detailed design phases, accompanied by environmental studies and pre-construction activities
- Permitting processes, such as the NEPA completion, and actions concerning the removal, retrofit, or mitigation of eligible facilities
- Replacement of qualifying structures with new ones, ensuring community benefits, and addressing potential impacts

**Funding**  
**\$457 Million**

Project Min: \$5M  
Project Max: N/A  
Funding Ceiling: \$457M  
Funding Floor: N/A  
Award Range: \$5M to \$100M

## RCP PLANNING GRANTS

**\$150 Million**

Supports eligible public engagement, feasibility studies, and other planning activities

- Public participation through activities like community visioning, focusing on localized input for project plans
- Assessment and initial planning studies concerning the modification or mitigation of existing infrastructure to reconnect communities
- Advanced planning for construction projects, including preliminary engineering and environmental reviews, alongside technical assistance, and other preparatory transportation planning tasks

**Funding**  
**\$150 Million**

Project Min: N/A  
Project Max: \$2M  
Funding Ceiling: \$150M  
Funding Floor: N/A

## Questions to ask yourself about the project:

### How many applications can a lead applicant submit?

A lead applicant may submit no more than three applications. If a lead applicant submits more, only the last three received will be reviewed. Unrelated project components should not be bundled in a single application.

### Is a Benefit-Cost Analysis required?

Yes, a BCA is required for RCP Capital Construction Grants, but not for RCP Planning Grants.

### What is the Project Cost Share?

It is 20% for RCP Planning Grants and 20% to 50% for RCP Capital Construction Grants. For Capital Construction Grants, other federal funds can be used to bring the total federal share up to a maximum of 80% of the cost.



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