

Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget
Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities
CFDA 210.27 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funds
Notice of Funding Opportunity
August 24, 2022

DISCLAIMER

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (“NOFO”) is intended to be a guide to the application process for prospective applicants applying for consideration of funding through the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities. This guidance is not exhaustive, binding, or final.

I. OVERVIEW

Investments in neighborhood features, including parks, recreation facilities, sidewalks, and healthy food access, can work to improve physical and mental health outcomes. Allowing people access to nature, including parks, has been connected to decreased levels of mortality and illness and increased well-being. Urban park use during the COVID–19 pandemic may have declined among lower-income individuals. Encouraging physical activity can also play a role in health outcomes, as a sedentary lifestyle is a risk factor for chronic diseases and more severe COVID–19 outcomes. Parks, recreation facilities, and sidewalks can promote healthier living environments by allowing for safe and socially distanced recreation during the COVID– 19 pandemic.

The US Treasury final rule includes enumerated eligible uses in disproportionately impacted communities for developing neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes, such as parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks, projects that increase access to healthy foods, streetlights, neighborhood cleanup, and other projects to revitalize public spaces.

The final rule also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID–19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood’s-built environment and features.

II. APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

The primary program specialist for the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Grant Program is Jasmine Esquilin (jasmine.esquilin@opb.georgia.gov). For general questions on our grant programs, applicants may also reach out to grants@opb.georgia.gov.

III. FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR AWARD

OPB anticipates that approximately \$250,000,000 million may be available under this NOFO, which may be increased or decreased at OPB’s discretion. Awards may be made up to up to \$ 2,000,000 per project. OPB reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the applications submitted in response to this NOFO.

IV. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY

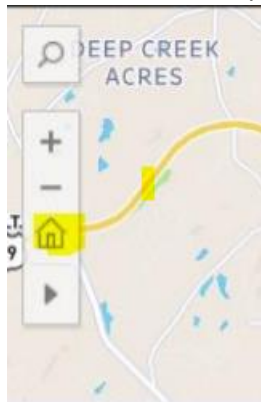
Program Categories:

1. Development of or improvements/maintenance to parks or recreational facilities in Qualified Census Tracts in Georgia.
2. Funding for increased repair or maintenance needs to respond to significantly greater use of public facilities during the pandemic (e.g., increased use of parks resulting in damage or increased need for maintenance).

[Applicants must use the Georgia QCT Tract Dashboard to verify that the project proposed resides within a Qualified Census Tract \(QCT\) in the state. Applications received that are not within a QCT will not be eligible for review.](#)

QCT Verification Steps

1. Go to the [QCT Dashboard](#)
2. Select County Name
3. Select Zip Code
4. Zoom in to view the QCT by street level to see if the proposed address falls within the QCT
5. Click Home to reset your map view if you want to start over



V. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

All ARPA applicants must have an organization, or subrecipient, that will serve as the fiduciary agent and assume overall responsibility for the grant. Eligible ARPA applicants include:

- A unit of local government
- County
- Non-profits
- The project must occur within a Qualified Census Tract
- Due to the timeframe of the grant preference will be given to projects focusing on revitalization and renovation.

VI. SCORING CRITERIA

The following criteria will be used by the committee to score applications for this Grant Program:

- Description of the Issue (30%)
- Project Design and Implementation (30%)

- Capabilities and Competencies (15%)
- Performance Measures (10%)
- Budget (15%)

VII. MATCHING FUNDS

Match funding is encouraged but not required.

VIII. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

All funds must be expended by October 31, 2026, which is the end of the period of performance. The awardee may use Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Grant funds to cover costs incurred beginning from the date of award approval by OPB through October 31, 2026.¹

Only new projects that have not started at the time of the release of this NOFO are eligible for the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Grant Program.

IX. ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS

Allowable costs are determined in accordance with the cost principles identified in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E. Federal funds committed to an award may only be used to cover allowable costs incurred during the period of performance for eligible activity outlined by the program category allowable activity.

X. PAYMENT REQUESTS

All payment requests for allowable activity will be paid using a reimbursement method.

XI. GRANT PROGRAM TIMELINE

August 26, 2022: NOFO Release

September 1, 2022: [Application Period Begins](#)

September 6, 2022: Virtual Applicant Workshop

November 18, 2022: Application Window Closes. Applications due by 11:59 PM EST (OPB Staff will be available until 5pm for technical assistance)

November 19-December 19, 2022: Application Review

January 2023: Final Recommendations and Preliminary Awards Announced (Date is dependent upon the volume of applications received)

XII. APPLICATION

The application link will be posted on the [Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities](#) website on September 1, 2022. Applicants will be required to complete the application and associated tasks. Applicants will be asked for a detail budget breakdown to include a breakout of cost categories within their budget narrative for the following:

- i. Land and Structures
- ii. Architectural and Engineering Fees
- iii. Site Work

¹Award approval requires an executed Terms and Conditions agreement, active UEI, vendor location on file, and approved budget. The award status will move from ‘awarded’ to ‘approved’ when the requirements are met.

- iv. Demolition and Removal
- v. Construction

Applicants will also be required to provide the following:

- Project Images and Photos: Photos should show current site conditions, immediate needs, surrounding environment, and planned areas of work
- Plan or Sketch of the Site Features and Improvements: Identifying the location of planned recreational improvements or other features such as where the public will access the site, parking, etc. Can also be a plan layout or design from a qualified architectural or design professional.
- Recreation Area Map: Map showing the location of the project and the surrounding vicinity within of the QCT.
- Identify the qualified firms the applicant intends to use, has used in the past, or has partnered together on for the project: General Contractors, maintenance contractors, fixture and equipment suppliers or firms, design, and engineering firms, etc.

XIII. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

XIV. All applications will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness, and then evaluated based the priorities and criteria identified herein. Recommendations will be made to the governor for final selection.

XV. APPLICATION AWARD AND NOTIFICATION

All applications will be reviewed and evaluated according to the scoring criteria, priorities, and preferences outlined in this NOFO. All award results will be posted on OPB’s website and applicants notified in writing.

XVI. GRANT AGREEMENT AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

An applicant selected for funding through the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Grant Program that wishes to accept this award must execute the Grant Program Terms and Conditions within 60 days of award announcements. The State will not accept proposed changes or amendments to the Terms and Conditions. Failure or refusal to comply with this requirement will result in award funds being rescinded.

XVII. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, including 2 C.F.R. Part 200 apply to the awarded projects, except for any provisions the Treasury may determine are inapplicable to an award. Each award is further subject to such exceptions as may be otherwise provided by Treasury. More information on applicable policy requirement can be found under the [21.027 assistance listing](#) for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSFRF) and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF).

XVIII. REPORTING

Subrecipients awarded funding though the PSCVRS Grant Program will be subject to all reporting requirements as set forth by the State and Treasury.

XIX. OVERSIGHT

Subrecipients awarded funding through the PSCVRS Grant Program will be subject to audit or review by the Treasury Inspector General and Government Accountability Office. Additionally, all subrecipients will undergo a subrecipient monitoring program.