
Community Project Assistance Fund (CPAF)

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Project Period: Rolling Applications Begin August 28, 2025

The Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (“the Bank”) is soliciting applications from public sector entities for technical assistance grants supporting design, feasibility analysis, needs assessment, strategic planning and engineering projects that advance:

- Community resiliency
- Stormwater management improvements
- Enhancement of public infrastructure

Technical assistance funding may also be used by municipalities to satisfy matching fund requirements for state or federal grants that they are actively pursuing or have already secured. Priority will be given to projects addressing the impacts of extreme weather events and climate change hazards, including but not limited to:

- High-intensity storms and precipitation events
- Coastal, riverine, and inland flooding
- Sea level rise`
- Longer and more intense heat waves

These investments aim to strengthen municipal capacity to plan, design, and implement infrastructure solutions that safeguard communities and improve resilience against environmental challenges that will protect vital infrastructure assets and public property.

Proposal Submission: Electronic submission is required, and proposals must conform to the standards stipulated throughout the NOFO. Proposals should be submitted in PDF format to:

Anthony Hebert
Business Development Officer
Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank
applications@riib.org

Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank Overview

Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank is the centralized hub of local infrastructure project lending in the State. The Bank manages programs that finance infrastructure projects in the areas of clean water, drinking water, municipal road and bridge, energy efficiency and renewable energy,

brownfield remediation, and stormwater and climate resiliency. The Bank actively supports and finances infrastructure investment through the origination of loans and mobilization of sources of public and private capital.

Background & Purpose of NOFO

Climate science projections show that Rhode Island will be profoundly impacted by a multitude of extreme weather impacts in the coming decades, including:

- Chronic coastal flooding due to Sea Level Rise (SLR) and increasingly severe storms,
- Urban/inland flooding due to increased precipitation,
- Increased extreme heat and heat waves, as well as periods of drought.

The impact of more extreme and severe weather events put people, public health, ecosystems, infrastructure, and the built environment at risk. As we plan for, prepare, and adapt to climate change, many municipalities are turning to resources to develop stormwater-retaining and mitigating infrastructure as a strategic tool to increase climate resilience. The combination of nature-based solutions and stormwater mitigation can help prepare a municipality for the long-term impacts of climate change.

Projects submitted for consideration should be focused on stormwater best management practices that address water quantity and quality challenges, with the goal of increasing the resilience of people, businesses, infrastructure, and the built and natural environments. The resilience benefits of stormwater mitigation strategies include reducing flooding through increased flood storage capacity and enhanced stormwater infiltration based on green infrastructure principles, as well as decreasing community vulnerabilities to higher-than-average temperatures.

Proposals can also include requests for matching funds and technical assistance for improvements to general municipal infrastructure including roads, bridges, sidewalks and facility upgrades.

Award Information

The maximum amount which may be requested (for one or more projects) per municipality is \$50,000, and all awards are subject to approval by the Bank's Board of Directors (the "Board"). Priority will be given to projects upgrading the existing infrastructure of municipalities and utilities and to those projects demonstrating readiness to proceed promptly following the execution of a grant agreement.

If a proposed project exceeds the \$50,000 cap, the Board may make an exception based on the project's overall utility and impact (for example, the project has a statewide benefit) and the availability of program funds.

Funding for this CPAF is based on the Bank's FY 2026 budget and all awards are subject to staff review and approval by the Board.

There is no local match requirement as part of the CPAF.

Eligibility Information

Public entities including but not limited to municipalities, publicly established districts including school, fire, and water districts, and public utilities including wastewater/drinking water service providers are encouraged to apply to this Notice of Funding Opportunity. Private entities are not eligible for this program.

Funding may be used for:

1. Technical assistance grants for design and engineering for resiliency, stormwater and local infrastructure projects
2. Local match requirements for state or federal grants for projects pertaining to design and engineering for resiliency, stormwater and local infrastructure projects

Application and Submission Information

All applications should be submitted to Anthony Hebert at applications@riib.org and will be received and reviewed on a rolling basis while funds remain available in the program. This NOFA will be taken down from the Bank's website in the event all available funds have been allocated.

Award Administration Information

Notification of award may be made beginning in the month of October to awardees with funds becoming available by the end of the year. Recipients will be required to execute a grant agreement with the Bank including all State requirements applicable to the approved project, including to the extent applicable, prevailing wage and MBE/DBE requirements.

Agency Contacts

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