

Funding Opportunity Update

RESOURCES FOR CLEAN AIR AGENCIES

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Here's a roundup of current open opportunities that local and state agencies may wish to explore for project funding. If NACAA can be helpful in connecting with or applying for funding, we're your team and have experience in this kind of thing – please don't hesitate to ask.

National Association of Clean Air Agencies
Grant and Funding Opportunities for Local and State Agencies
February 20, 2018

* Denotes new opportunity since the last NACAA Grant and Funding Opportunities Newsletter

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

***Environmental Education (EE) Grants**

Under the Environmental Education Grants Program, EPA seeks grant proposals from eligible applicants to support environmental education projects that promote environmental awareness and stewardship and help provide people with the skills to take responsible actions to protect the environment. This grant program provides financial support for projects that design, demonstrate, and/or disseminate environmental education practices, methods, or techniques. See <https://www.epa.gov/education/environmental-education-ee-grants>

***Tribal Participation in E-Enterprise for the Environment**

This EPA grant solicits proposals from organizations that are familiar with tribal environmental issues, programs and data to provide outreach to increase and enhance tribal participation in the E-Enterprise for the Environment. The recipient will promote discussion, collaboration and partnership among tribes, states and federal agency representatives. See <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=300395>

Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) National Grants

EPA expects to offer the next Request for Proposals solicitation in the winter of 2018, pending 2018 budget decisions. See <https://www.epa.gov/cleandiesel/clean-diesel-national-grants>

Volkswagen Mitigation Trust

The U.S. government and VW resolved allegations that VW violated the Clean Air Act by selling diesel vehicles equipped with defeat devices. As part of this settlement, VW is providing significant funding into an Environmental Mitigation Trust. States will develop plans for the use of these funds, including grant programs for nitrogen oxide mitigation efforts. See www.vwclearinghouse.org

Department of Health and Human Services

*Low Income Housing Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

LIHEAP has provides assistance to families for costs associated with home energy bills, energy crises, and weatherization and energy-related minor home repairs. See <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/liheap/about>

National Science Foundation

*Smart and Connected Communities

The goal of the NSF Smart and Connected Communities program solicitation is to accelerate the creation of the scientific and engineering foundations that will enable smart and connected communities to bring about new levels of economic opportunity and growth, safety and security, health and wellness, and overall quality of life. This goal will be achieved through integrative research projects that pair advances in technological and social dimensions with meaningful community engagement. See <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=299083>

IC Bus

*Grants Toward the Purchase of Propane School Buses

This grant program offers qualifying school districts throughout the U.S. \$5,000 in grants per newly purchased propane-powered CE Series school buses. See <https://www.icbus.com/bus>

U.S. Department of Energy

Open 2018 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA)

An “Open” solicitation provides a mechanism for the support of innovative energy research and development that complements the other primary mechanism, which is through the solicitation of research projects in focused technology programs. See <https://arpa-e.energy.gov/?q=open-program/open-2018>

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program

PACE is an innovative mechanism for financing energy efficiency, solar, and related improvements on private property. PACE programs allow local and state governments and other authorities, when authorized by state law, to fund the up-front cost of energy improvements on commercial and residential properties, which are paid back over time by the property owners. See <http://energy.gov/eere/slsc/property-assessed-clean-energy-programs> and <http://www.pacenation.us/resources/all-programs/>

SolSmart Technical Assistance – Nationally Distinguished, Locally Powered

SolSmart is a technical assistance program for local governments. The program is designed to drive greater solar deployment and help make it possible for more homes and businesses to access affordable and renewable solar energy to meet their electricity needs. SolSmart experts will design personalized action plans for communities that outline a path to designation as a SolSmart community, along with a rough timeline. See <http://www.gosparc.org/>

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program Funding for Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS's) Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) for Federal fiscal year (FY) 2018

NRCS is announcing the availability of CIG to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. See <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/cig/>

*Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Loans & Grants

Provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to purchase or install renewable energy systems or make energy efficiency improvements. See <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/rural-energy-america-program-renewable-energy-systems-energy-efficiency>

U.S. Department of Transportation

Accelerated Innovation Deployment (AID) Demonstration

The Federal Highway Administration AID Demonstration provides incentive funding for any project activities eligible for assistance under title 23, U.S.C. in any phase of a highway transportation project between project planning and project delivery including planning, financing, operation, structures, materials, pavements, environment, and construction that

address the program goals. See <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=288651> and <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/grants/>

Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA)

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act authorizes \$1.435 billion in capital over five years for the TIFIA credit assistance program; assistance supports critical infrastructure projects with national or regional significance. Letters of interest may be submitted by states and cities for direct loans, loan guarantees, and standby lines of credit. Transit-oriented development (including pedestrian and cycle facilities) and other projects may be eligible for assistance. See <https://www.transportation.gov/tifia/notice-funding-availability>

National Park Service and Clean Cities

National Parks Initiative

This effort supports transportation projects that educate park visitors on the benefits of cutting petroleum use and vehicle emissions. Since 2010, 35 projects have deployed alternative fuel and fuel-efficient vehicles to the road, reduced vehicle idling, and improved vehicle efficiency. See <https://cleancities.energy.gov/national-parks/>

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Wildlife Habitat Council

Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program

Projects include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education and stewardship. Certain projects covered by this program may have air quality benefits. See <http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar/Pages/2018rfp.aspx>

Ford Foundation

Funding to Fight Inequality

The Foundation supports projects that address inequality; projects should relate to themes including investing in and protecting vital public goods (may include air quality environmental justice-related projects). See <https://www.fordfoundation.org/work/our-grants/>

The Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (FTPF)

*** Orchard Donation Program**

FTPF is a nonprofit charity dedicated to planting fruit trees and plants to alleviate world hunger, combat global warming, strengthen communities, and improve the surrounding air, soil, and water. FTPF programs strategically donate orchards where the harvest will best serve communities for generations, at places such as community gardens, public schools, city/state parks, low income neighborhoods, and Native American reservations. See <http://www.ftpf.org/apply.htm>

CONTACT NACAA AT 202-624-7864 OR ONLINE AT WWW.4CLEANAIR.ORG