

2024 City Enrichment Fund Bridge Funding Process

Objective: To provide returning City Enrichment Fund (CEF) applicants with an opportunity to receive one-time Bridge funding during a transitional year for the City Enrichment Fund. This is not intended as a multi-year commitment, nor a commitment to offer this process in future years.

Eligibility: To be eligible to apply for one-time Bridge funding, 2024 City Enrichment Fund applicants must meet all the following eligibility requirements. Those applications who do not meet these requirements may consider applying to the Appeals process as an alternative:

- Applicants must have received a funding recommendation as part of the 2024 CEF program.
- Applicants must have received an "A" rating as part of the adjudication process, those with a "B", "C", or "D" rating, DNQ, or applications that were "Withdrawn" are not eligible to apply.
- Applicants must be returning to the program, defined as the following:
 - **Returning Applicants:**
 - Organizations that applied for and received funding for the same program in the same CEF program area and stream in the immediate previous year.
 - Community Services: Includes applicants transitioning from the "Emerging Community Needs" stream to the first year in the stream of impact.
 - Funding must have been granted through program recommendations, not through motion, or other appeals methodology.
- Applicants must have received less funding in 2024 than the total amount received in 2023 through the annual CEF recommendations and appeals funding.
- Receiving Appeals funding in 2023 does not immediately qualify applicants for Bridge Funding in 2024, unless all other criteria are met.

- Applicants are only able to apply either to the Appeals funding process or the Bridge funding process but not both.
- Applicants must submit a brief application requesting and outlining the challenges faced due to the 2024 recommendations.

Implementation and Process:

1. Intake Period:

On July 25, 2024 an application form, through the grant portal, and Bridge funding information will be shared with all CEF applicants. The deadline to complete the form will be August 22, 2024. A reminder will be sent to applicants one week prior to August 22nd Bridge funding deadline.

2. Application Form Contents:

The Application form will require applicants to confirm that they meet the eligibility criteria (verified by CEF staff) and briefly describe the impact due to receiving less funding in 2024, compared to 2023 post-appeals allocations.

3. Rolling Review:

Bridge Funding applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with applicants receiving results in the order in which the completed applications are received.

4. Grant Approval:

The Director of Government Relations & Community Engagement will approve Bridge funding. Applicants must submit a form prior to the deadline, meet all of the criteria, and have enumerated an impact of reduced funding. Bridge funding amounts will be based on the following formulas:

A Rated Returning Applicants	100% of the difference between 2024 Recommended Grant, and 2023 Total CEF Funding (Recommendation + Appeal)
B, C, D Rated Applications, DNQ Applications, Withdrawn Applications, New Applicants of any Rating	No Funding Recommendations will be made.

Example: In 2023, applicant X received \$10,000 in CEF funding, and an appeals amount of \$5000, to a total 2023 funding amount of \$15,000. Applicant X applied again in the same program area and stream for the same program as last year, this year applicant X received an A Rating through adjudication, and a funding recommendation of \$10,300. If a Bridge funding application is

submitted and approved, Applicant X would be eligible for \$4,700 in Bridge funding.

(2023 Funding Recommendation + 2023 Appeals Funding Amount)
– 2024 Funding Recommendation = Bridge Funding Maximum.

5. Funding Agreements:

Funding agreements will be issued to applicants who are approved by the Director of Government Relations & Community Engagement.

6. Reporting:

A communication update will be sent to Council in mid-September outlining all Bridge requests received, and those approved by the Director of Government Relations & Community Engagement.

7. Accountability:

Recipients of Bridge Funding are required to report back on this funding, as part of their 2024 CEF Final Report. All policies around use of funds, payment schedule and requirements of the broader CEF program continue to be applicable.