

ADDITIONS HIGHLIGHTED

REGION 3 MEMBERS & PRIORITY PROJECTS

Get know your fellow partnership communities and some of the projects they have identified as a priority partners. We offer this in hopes of making connections to target future joint projects. If there is a town or project you would like more information about let me help make the connection! Email Yvette at yveunier@avcog.org

Bethel, Carrabassett Valley, Carthage, Chesterville, Farmington, Greenwood, Hallowell, Jay, Norway, Lisbon, Otisfield, Paris, Poland, Waterford, and Woodstock.

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Tactical Urbanism Lightning Grants (NO DEADLINE)

Projects may be transportation-focused (road diets, bike lanes, traffic calming, signage) or community enhancement (park or plaza activation, art installations, pop-up parks, or other public engagement ideas). Formalize or enhance a neighborhood trail link or shortcut. Projects are for up to \$1,000 and are awarded on a rolling basis. Projects could include: Install a protected bike lane, Paint a new crosswalk, Activate an underutilized public space, Activate a vacant lot, Reallocate underutilized road space for public life, Arrow travel lanes to slow vehicular speed, and Add stop signs to improve intersection safety.

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Belvedere Historic Preservation Energy Audit Grants (NO DEADLINE)

The Belvedere Historic Preservation and Energy Efficiency Grant Program invests in the preservation, restoration, and retrofitting of historic buildings in Maine. Energy audit grants are specifically for the cost of an energy audit of a historic building. Criteria: All applicants must meet the Maine Community Foundation's grant eligibility requirements. To receive a grant for an energy audit, the building must, be owned by a nonprofit organization or municipality or quasi-municipal entity, and be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, be determined eligible for listing on the Register, or be a contributing building in a nationally designated historic district. The maximum amount awarded for an energy audit is \$5,000. Energy Audit Grant applications may be submitted at any time. Requests will be considered as they are received and decisions will be made within 4 weeks of submission.

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Flood Mitigation Assistance (CLOSING JAN. 27 2023)

The Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program makes federal funds available to states, U.S. territories, federally recognized tribal governments, and local governments to reduce or

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eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). It does so with a recognition of the growing flood hazards associated with climate change, and of the need for flood hazard risk mitigation activities that promote climate adaptation, equity, and resilience with respect to flooding. These include both acute extreme weather events and chronic stressors which have been observed and are expected to increase in intensity and frequency in the future.

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Municipal Stream Crossing Grant Program (CLOSES NOV. 11)

Allocation: \$3 million. Funds from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan will expand the Municipal Stream Crossing Grant Program, which provides local governments and organizations competitive grants up to \$125,000 towards the upgrade of undersized and failing culvert stream crossings on municipal roads. Administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, this program will help more communities upgrade municipal culverts at stream crossings to cost-effectively improve fish and wildlife habitats, reduce flooding, and increase community safety.

Read the [Request for Application](#) (RFA)

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Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (CLOSES NOV. 17)

Efficiency Maine is pleased to announce a new funding opportunity for Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) chargers that are available to the public in rural communities. The goal of this round of funding is to assist rural communities in the state's 14 northern counties (i.e., all counties except Cumberland County and York County), where public EV chargers are less common, to enhance those communities capacity to attract commerce and tourism as EVs become the dominant form of transportation. Developing comprehensive coverage of public EV chargers throughout the state will also encourage EV adoption in all parts of Maine.

This opportunity will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis and local governments, businesses, and nonprofits in eligible rural towns are encouraged to apply on the Efficiency Maine website. Quick read 1 page program [factsheet](#).

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Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Funding (CLOSES DEC. 1)

The BRIC program is a hazard mitigation assistance program administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) that provides funding for proactive investment in community resilience and projects that seek to mitigate the impacts of hazards and climate change before a disaster occurs. The BRIC program includes a national-competitive grant program and a state allocation for state-competitive grants. For the coming year, \$1.5 million in funding is available for state-competitive grants. The amount available for national grants will be announced in August.

For more information about FEMA funding opportunities, please contact Heather Dumais, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, for application and eligibility criteria at (207) 441-9510 or heather.dumais@maine.gov.

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Efficiency Maine Incentives for Small Municipality Retrofits HVAC, Lighting, and Refrigeration (CLOSES AUG. 31 2023)

Efficiency Maine is seeking applications for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), lighting, and refrigeration projects in government facilities of small Maine municipalities and Tribes. Eligible applicants with qualifying projects receive enhanced purchasing incentives intended to accelerate the conversion to high-efficiency equipment in municipal and tribal government buildings across the state.

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Efficiency Maine HVAC, Lighting, and Refrigeration Project Incentives for Schools (UNTIL FUNDS ARE EXHAUSTED OR MAY 31, 2023)

Efficiency Maine is seeking applications for projects that will help schools accelerate the conversion to high-efficiency equipment. Schools can apply to receive purchasing incentives for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC), lighting and refrigeration projects. The program is specifically focused on Maine's public schools in smaller towns and districts.

Efficiency Maine will accept applications for the school retrofits through May 31, 2023, or until funding has been exhausted.

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USDA RD Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant (OPEN)

This program provides affordable funding through low interest direct loans, grants and a combination to develop essential community facilities in rural areas. Funds can be used to purchase, construct, and/or improve essential community facilities, purchase equipment and pay related project expenses.

What can the funds be used for?

- Public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, airport hangars or street improvements
- Community support services such as child care centers, community centers, fairgrounds or transitional housing
- Public safety services such as fire departments, police stations, prisons, police vehicles, fire trucks, public works vehicles or equipment
- Educational services such as museums, libraries or private schools
- Utility services such as telemedicine or distance learning equipment
- Local food systems such as community gardens, food pantries, community kitchens, food banks, food hubs or greenhouses.

What are the funding priorities?

- Priority point system based on population, median household income
 - Small communities with a population of 5,500 or less

- Low-income communities having a median household income below 80% of the state nonmetropolitan median household income.

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Workforce Transportation Funding Opportunity (NO DEADLINE)

The Workforce Transportation Pilot program, an initiative of Governor Mills' Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, to pursue and develop transportation solutions that connect workers with employers across Maine. The \$5M program will provide competitive grants of up to \$750,000 to local and regional partnerships to pilot ways to connect workers and employers through ridesharing, vanpools, and other subsidized transit options.

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Maine DOT Village Partnership Initiative (NO DEADLINE)

The Village Partnership Initiative is designed to be available to all willing communities that have or can agree upon a local vision. Village projects can vary from small, spot improvements to large, once-in-a-lifetime investments if we can successfully partner to access federal discretionary funds through earmarks or BIL grants. Depending upon the vision of each individual municipality, we can look to make investments in the lower-speed areas where people meet, shop, and do business. These village areas need to be built on a human scale: walkable, bicycle-friendly, and business-friendly.

These projects can range from gateway treatments, marking the beginning of a village area to help slow traffic, to improving pedestrian crossings and ADA compliance. They may also be used to enhance on-street parking, improve sidewalks, etc.

- Municipal Property Valuation less than \$150M, 70% State, 30% Municipal
- Municipal Property Valuation a\$150M to \$350M, 60% State, 40% Municipal
- Municipal Property Valuation >\$350M, 50% State, 50% Municipal

The maximum amount of the agreement will be dependent on the complexity of the project and the amount of design needed to be competitive on the federal level. These are complex projects and will take several years to develop.

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Economic Development Administration (EDA) American Rescue Plan Programs

Under the American Rescue Plan, EDA was allocated \$3 billion in supplemental funding to assist communities nationwide in the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and to build local economies that will be resilient to future economic shock. EDA investments will have a focus on underserved communities impacted by COVID-19 and there are six funding opportunities.

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ANTICIPATED FUNDING:

Maine Infrastructure Adaptation Fund (ANTICIPATED OPENING FALL 2022)

Deadline for the spring grant round is closed. Prepare now for the fall grant round.

Maine DOT is now accepting applications for the new [Infrastructure Adaptation Fund](#), a \$20 million grant program that will provide direct funding to municipalities for stormwater, drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure projects that address climate effects, such as flooding and vulnerability to extreme weather, and support public safety. Stormwater projects may include road repairs and upgrades that interact directly with an eligible stormwater project.

Applicants may request up to:

- \$10,000 to support scoping (problem definition) of eligible adaptation projects
- \$75,000 to support the design of eligible projects
- \$4 million to support implementation and construction of eligible projects that have a complete design

The match requirement or cost share for this grant is only 5% (cash and/or in-kind), with an exception for communities demonstrating affordability as a hardship. Match is reduced to 2% for communities enrolled in the [Community Resilience Partnership](#).

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EVENTS

Influencer – Leading Change Training

Monday – Friday, October 3 – 7, 1:00 – 3:00 PM and Monday – Friday, November 14 – 18, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Zoom Workshops

The Coastal Training Programs of the Wells and Narragansett Bay National Estuarine Research Reserves (NERR)

Influencer training presents valuable strategies for leaders working to build resilience in their communities and organizations. Learn how to solve long-term, persistent, and resistant problems. Based on 50 years of social science research, the course teaches a change model that can increase your influence and ability to change environmental behaviors to benefit coastal communities. The course is being offered in October and November.

Register for the November session: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/329032484017>

AVCOG Planning Day

Wednesday, October 26, 8:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Hilton Garden Inn, 14 Great Falls Plaza, Auburn, Maine, 04210

AVCOG's 35th Annual Planning Day will cover solar siting guidance, affordable housing, role of the state fire marshal office, vernal pool special area management tool as well as a session on the Community Resilience Partnership. Join the Region 3 Community Resilience Partnership

coordinator to review the program's progress in our region. The session will include case studies in the towns of Carthage, Greenwood, and Jay with a chance to hear from those town officials.

[LEARN MORE AND REGISTER](#)

Maine Stormwater Conference

Tuesday and Wednesday, November 1st and 2nd
Portland, Maine

The Cumberland County Soil and Water Conservation District's Maine Stormwater Conference in Portland, Maine will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act with two days of presentations showcasing innovation and embracing challenges from the past 50 years.

[LEARN MORE AND REGISTER](#)

OTHER GRANT RESOURCE PAGES

[Competitive Grant Matrix](#)

The United States Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration have a variety of competitive grant programs used to fund various types of transportation projects and activities. They've created a matrix that lists grant programs (rows), which can be matched with the potential applicant (columns) the program can fund.

[Grant Opportunities](#)

From Kennebec Valley Council of Governments

[Grants and Other Funding Resources](#)

From Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission (SMPDC)
Transportation and infrastructure, economic development, sustainability and resilience funding opportunities

[Grants](#)

Lincoln County Regional Planning Commission (LCRPC)
Coastal Community Grant and Economic and Community Development grants

[Funding Opportunities](#)

UMaine
Water Resources Research Institute Grant Program

[Federal Funding](#)

New England Environmental Finance Center (NEEFC)

[Maine Funding](#)

New England Environmental Finance Center (NEEFC)

[Southeast New England Funding](#)

New England Environmental Finance Center (NEEFC)

[Funding and Technical Support](#)
Casco Bay Estuary Partnership

[MOFGA's Financial Resources](#)

Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA)

Multiple MOFGA grant programs and links to other financial resources for farmers and food businesses

OTHER RESOURCES

Maine Communities Leading on Climate Materials

View helpful materials from panelists and workshops from the June 17th Maine Climate Council – Communities Leading on Climate conference.

[VIEW MATERIALS HERE](#)