

Department of Economic and Community Development

March 20, 2023

Please see DECD's responses to the subcommittee's questions in red.

Brownfield Remediation and Revitalization Program

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance?
 - a. If so, for what purpose?
 - b. Within what time frame?
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise?
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects.
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever?
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when?
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds?
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed?

N/A – no unallocated balance.

Social Equity Council (Cannabis-Business Support Programming)

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?

2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance? **Yes.**
 - a. If so, for what purpose? **PA 21-1 Sec (§ 134) authorizes up to \$50 million in state general obligation bonds for DECD and the Social Equity Council to use for specified financial assistance and workforce training programs in the following specified areas:**
 - **low-interest loans to social equity applicants, municipalities, or nonprofits to rehabilitate, renovate, or develop unused or underused real property for use as a cannabis establishment;**
 - **capital to social equity applicants seeking to start or maintain a cannabis establishment;**
 - **development funds or ongoing expenses for the cannabis business accelerator program; and**
 - **development funds or ongoing expenses for the workforce training programs developed by the Social Equity Council.**
 - a. Within what time frame? **DECD and the SEC are expected to announce a new, low-interest loan program for cannabis businesses in early Q2 2023.**
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise? **Yes, per the above, the unallocated balance will be used to fund the programs outlined in PA 21-1.**
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects.
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever? **March 31, 2022.**
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when? **\$10,000,000 was allocated by the State Bond Commission on March 31, 2022.**
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds? **N/A.**
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed? **N/A.**

Community Investment Fund 2030

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?

2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance? **Yes.**
2. If so, for what purpose? **the Community Investment Fund (CIF) 2030 was established by is Sec. 475 of June Sp. Sess., Public Act No. 21-2, to foster economic development in historically underserved communities across the state. CIF will provide a total of up to \$875 million (\$175 million per year) to eligible municipalities as well as not-for-profit organizations and community development corporations that operate within them.**

Grants are available for:

- Capital improvement programs, such as brownfield remediation, affordable housing, infrastructure, clean energy development, and home or public facility rehabilitation
- Small business capital programs, including revolving or micro loan programs, gap financing, and start-up funds to establish small businesses

DECD administers the program by overseeing the application process, vetting applications, sending application summaries to the CIF Board, and managing awards and reporting. The CIF Board and Office of the Governor review applications and the summaries prepared by DECD and make recommendations to the State Bond Commission, who then approves projects for grants.

The CIF Board recently approved a second round of applications, and the remaining unallocated balance will be requested at the next State Bond Commission (SBC) meeting to fund the approved projects.

- b. Within what time frame? **The unallocated balance will be requested at the next SBC meeting.**
3. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise? **Yes, per the above, the unallocated balance will be used to fund the projects approved at the March 14, 2023 CIF Board Meeting.**
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects. **Please see pg. 3 of the [March 14, 2023 CIF Board Meeting Agenda](#) for a full list of approved projects.**
4. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever? **December 8, 2022.**
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when? **\$76,477,835 was allocated by the State Bond Commission on December 8, 2022.**
5. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds? **N/A.**
6. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed?

CIF will continue to hold two applications rounds per year, following a similar schedule to the 2023 fiscal year.

Connecticut Manufacturing Innovation Fund

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance?
 - a. If so, for what purpose?
 - b. Within what time frame?
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise?
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects.
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever?
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when?
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds?
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed?

N/A – no unallocated balance.

Connecticut Small Business Boost Program (formerly Small Business Express)

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance? **Yes.**
 - a. If so, for what purpose? **DECD recently stood up a new and improved version of the Small Business Express program, known as the Connecticut Small Business Boost Program. DECD is now partnering with the lending community, instead of directly issuing loans from the State. The \$9,000,000 unallocated balance will be used to provide seed capital for small business lenders to provide loans to small business.**
 - b. Within what time frame? **We are requesting this unallocated balance at the next State Bond Commission meeting.**
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise? **The funds will be used to provide additional capital to the Boost program.**
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects. **To date, the Boost program has supported a total of 193 loans, for a total of \$24.7 million to small businesses, of which \$15 million (58%) has gone to businesses with a diverse ownership.**
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever? **July 29, 2022.**
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when? **Yes, \$25 million was allocated to DECD at the July 29, 2022 bond commission meeting.**
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds? **N/A.**
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed? **Given the demand for these loans, we expect additional capital to be needed to support the program early in the FY 24.**

CT Strategic Defense Investment Act – Sikorsky

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance?

- a. If so, for what purpose?
 - b. Within what time frame?
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise?
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects.
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever?
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when?
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds?
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed?

N/A – no unallocated balance.

CareerConneCT

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

4. What is the goal of the program?
5. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
6. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

Please refer to the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS).

For programs with unallocated balances:

6. Do you need the unallocated balance?
 - a. If so, for what purpose?
 - b. Within what time frame?
7. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise?
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects.
8. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever?
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when?
9. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds?
10. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed?

Please refer to the Office of Workforce Strategy (OWS).

Office of Community Economic Development Assistance

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance? **The Office of Community Economic Development Assistance was established by P.A. 22-118. To date, DECD does not have, and has not received, the available resources to carry out the activities prescribed in the act.**
 - a. If so, for what purpose? **N/A.**
 - b. Within what time frame? **N/A.**
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise? **N/A.**
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects. **N/A.**
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever? **N/A.**
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when? **N/A.**
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds? **N/A.**
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed? **N/A.**

Good to Great Program

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance? **Yes.**
 - a. If so, for what purpose? **The Good to Great 2.0 grant program, funded through Public Act 14-98, is for nonprofit arts, cultural, and historic organizations that connect art, history, and tourism to enhance visitors' experience of an arts/cultural venue and/or historic site (i.e., museums, historic houses, historical societies, arts organizations, cultural centers, and other types of organizations that offer activities such as exhibitions, performances, arts classes, public programs, or walking tours to the general public). \$5 million of the unallocated balance will be used for the for the latest round of the program.**
 - b. Within what time frame? **Applications for the latest round were due March 3, 2023, and we expect to notify awardees by June 12, 2023. DECD will be requesting these funds at the next SBC meeting.**
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise? **The unallocated funds will be used for the awardees of the latest round.**
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects. **N/A.**
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever? **Funds were last allocated on July 25, 2018.**
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when? **DECD will be requesting \$5 million at the next SBC meeting.**
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds? **N/A.**
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed? **N/A.**

Westville Subsidence Grants

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance? **Yes.**

- a. If so, for what purpose? **DECD is coordinating with a third party, Capital for Change, to complete further application rounds, select homes, engineering work, and to complete the repairs to the homes in the Westville area of New Haven.**
 - a. Within what time frame? **The project is currently in progress using the \$1M from PA 17-2 JSS, Sec. 389 (d)(4), and \$1M from the Healthily Homes fund (these are non-bond funds and come from a surcharge on CT residential property insurance policies).**
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise? **These funds will allow for more homeowners to apply under the current project and will allow for more homes to be repaired in the area.**
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects. **N/A.**
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever? **On April 13, 2018, the Bond Commission approved \$1M from PA 17-2 JSS. Healthy Homes funds were made available to DECD in June/July 2020.**
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when? **No.**
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds? **N/A.**
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed? **N/A.**

Children's Museums Grants

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance? **DECD is awaiting action from the receiving entities on whether they need this funding or not.**
 - a. If so, for what purpose? **N/A.**
 - b. Within what time frame? **N/A.**
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise?
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects. **N/A.**
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever? **July 29, 2022.**

- b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when? **No.**
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds? **N/A.**
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed? **N/A.**

Manufacturing Assistance Act (MAA)

For new programs with Governor proposed authorizations, please be prepared to discuss the program, including:

1. What is the goal of the program?
2. What stage of the project does the proposed authorization fund? For example, is this design funding only, with a future authorization expected for construction costs, or is this the annual amount of an ongoing program?
3. Discuss any discrepancy between agency requested amount and Governor proposed, if applicable.

N/A – existing program.

For programs with unallocated balances:

1. Do you need the unallocated balance? **Yes.**
 - a. If so, for what purpose? **The MAA is used to offer businesses grants, loans, tax credits, and other incentives to create and retain jobs in the state.**
 - a. Within what time frame? **DECD expects to request a portion of this unallocated balance in Q2 of FY 23.**
2. Are the unallocated funds obligated, designated, or otherwise attached to projects, or are funds available for future needs as they arise? **Funds are available for future needs as they arise, including the uses listed above, as well as previously committed obligations.**
 - a. If attached to projects, please provide information on the projects. **N/A.**
3. Allocation of Funds
 - a. When was the last time funds for the program were allocated, if ever? **May 26, 2022.**
 - b. Have the funds been requested for allocation by the bond commission? If so, how much and when? **\$4.2 million was requested on May 26, 2022 to finance various small projects and programs and administrative costs, including technical assistance, business development, and other workforce programs and projects.**
4. What impediments, if any, have there been in accessing and using the unallocated bond funds? **N/A.**
5. If new or increased bond authorizations have been proposed for FY 24 or FY 25, what expansion or increase of projects is expected and how quickly are the new funds anticipated to be needed? **N/A.**