Grant Program Title: Reconnecting Communities Pilot Grant Program
Funding Agency: U.S. Department of Transportation
Award Amount: Up to $607 million is available for planning, capital construction, and technical assistance.

Brief Description:
The Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST) has released an FY24 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP) program. This is a continuation of two previous rounds of RCP Funding in FY22 and FY23. The RCP Program focuses on improving access to daily needs such as jobs, education, healthcare, food, nature, and recreation, and foster equitable development and restoration, and provide technical assistance to further these goals.

Eligible Project Types:
The Department will prioritize grant funding applications that demonstrate the following characteristics:

- Equity and Justice40 (i.e., will benefit economically disadvantaged communities)
- Access
- Facility Suitability
- Community Engagement, and Community-based Stewardship, Management, and Partnerships
- Equitable Development
- Climate Change Mitigation and/or Adaptation and Resilience
- Workforce Development and Economic Opportunity
- Planning Integration

Grant Types
The RCP NOFO solicits grant applications for the Reconnecting Communities Pilot discretionary grant program, established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) USDOT offers two grant types:

Capital Construction ($457 Million available FY24): To fund both reconnecting-focused projects and smaller projects focused on reducing environmental harm and improving access in disadvantaged communities. Projects may address:
- Removal of a dividing facility
- Enhance community connectivity
- Improved access by building or improving Complete Streets.

Community Planning ($150 Million available FY24): To provide funds for planning activities to support future construction projects and allow for innovative community planning to address localized transportation challenges. Projects may address:
- Community engagement activities
- Planning studies to assess the feasibility of removing, retrofitting, or mitigating an existing eligible facility to reconnect communities (for example: mobility, safety, environmental and public health impacts etc.).
- Conceptual or preliminary engineering or design
- Other needs including land-use and zoning reform, transit-oriented development, housing supply, among others

Application Deadline: September 30, 2024
Period of Performance: Funding for this fiscal year is a combined allocation of FY 2024, 2025, and 2026.
Grant Program Link: https://www.transportation.gov/reconnecting