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Latest News

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grants Available

Yesterday, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration announced it is now accepting applications for the first round of funding under [The Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program](#) (CFI Program). This new program was created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to deploy electric vehicle (EV) charging and other fueling infrastructure projects.

Townships are eligible to apply for funding until **May 30, 2023**. All applications must be submitted online through [grants.gov](#), and a 20% match is required. The CFI Program will award \$2.5 billion over five years through two grant categories:

Community Program Grants will provide \$1.25 billion to deploy publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure, and hydrogen, propane, or natural gas fueling infrastructure at community gathering points like stores and apartment complexes, the latter of which will be prioritized for rural areas and disadvantaged communities. Infrastructure may be located on any public road or other publicly accessible locations (*for example, parking facilities at public buildings, public schools, and public parks*).

Corridor Program Grants will provide \$1.25 billion to strategically deploy publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure and hydrogen, propane, and natural gas fueling infrastructure along PennDOT designated alternative fuel corridors.

Equity will be a major focus of the CFI grants, with the administration aiming to

ensure lower-income and rural areas aren't left behind in the rapid push to electrify.

This first funding round will allocate \$700 million across both categories for FY22 and 23. For more information, including the Notice of Funding, informational webinars about the program, and to apply, visit the [CFI Program page on grants.gov](#).

Inflation Continues to Rise, But Slower

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 0.4% in February, after increasing by 0.5% in January, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The all-items index increased 6.0% for the 12 months ending February, the lowest 12-month increase since the period ending September 2021.

While a positive sign, Tuesday's CPI report showed that inflationary pressures remain stubborn and are likely to continue to keep prices elevated. Rising costs will also keep pressure on the Federal Reserve to raise its benchmark interest rate at next week's meeting in an attempt to drive inflation down to its target 2% inflation rate. However, recent bank failures may force the Fed to veer from its planned actions. [Click here](#) to read more.

The index for shelter contributed to 70% of the indexes increase, with food, recreation, and household furnishings also contributing. Food became more expensive, while energy prices, used vehicles, and medical care saw price decreases. However, eggs dropped 6.7% while meats, poultry, and fish decreased slightly, the first decline since December 2021.

Learn

PSATS educational events will be listed as follows: Mondays – All webinars; Tuesdays – Administrative; Wednesdays – Planning/Zoning; Thursdays – Public Works; Fridays – Public Safety.



[Fundamentals Of Zoning – The Why And How Of Zoning - 3/22/23 - Cumberland County](#)

This workshop explains why we have zoning, how we implement it, and the tools it affords townships to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. The workshop is intended to educate both the newest supervisors and the ones who have seen it all.



Duties Of A Zoning Hearing Board

From making decisions on contentious public issues to learning the ins and outs of the Municipalities Planning Code, being a member of a zoning hearing board can be a challenge. Attend this class to be better prepared for the next meeting or hearing.

[3/23/23 - Monroe County](#)

[3/28/23 - Lancaster County](#)



[2023 PAAZO Spring Seminar - 4/23/23 - Dauphin County](#)

This educational seminar explores issues that zoning officers and planning/zoning officials face on a regular basis, and discusses effective strategies to address them.

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