

Topics:

1. CA Financing Coordinating Committee
2. Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
 - a. Justice 40
 - b. Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
 - c. Environmental Finance Center coming

Other funding opportunities for Tribes and under-represented communities

- CA Financing Coordinating Committee (CFCC) Funding Fairs
 - Spring 2022 Virtual CFCC Funding Fairs on May 17 and 25 from 9 am -2:15 pm
 - Featuring 7 CA State Agencies and 3 Federal Agencies presenting and virtual/Breakout booths
 - Flyer with Pre-Registration Link <https://www.events.rcac.org/assnfe/ev.asp?ID=3187> and Handbook posted at www.cfcc.ca.gov (and attached)
- CA Grants Portal, www.grants.ca.gov
- Federal Grants Portal, www.grants.gov
- To receive emails on DWR grants, we encourage you to subscribe to Department of Water Resources' List Serves via link at the bottom of List Serve Notices [Subscribe or Unsubscribe to Future Emails](#) or https://listserv.cecnra.ca.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DWR_IRWM_INFO&A=1

Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

- Of the \$1.2 Trillion in the BIL, there is \$50 Billion over 5 years for water infrastructure investments
The \$1.2 Trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) (passed in November 2021) is a **once-in-a-generation commitment** to improving roads, bridges, transit, water and wastewater systems, broadband, energy and other infrastructure areas. The law contains funding for **375 different federal programs** that will then provide money or projects in states and communities. The White House released a BIL Guidebook, entitled “A Guidebook to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Governments, and Other Partners” at www.build.gov.
- **BIL/Justice40 Initiative**
The goal of the Justice40 Initiative is to provide 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments in seven key areas to disadvantaged communities. These seven key areas are: climate change, clean energy and energy efficiency, clean transit, affordable and sustainable housing, training and workforce development, the remediation and reduction of legacy pollution, and the development of critical clean water infrastructure.
The link for the federal Justice40 Initiative is: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/briefing-room/2021/07/20/the-path-to-achieving-justice40/>

- Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool <https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/>
Screening tool
The tool will provide important information for the Justice40 Initiative. **The purpose of the tool is to help Federal agencies identify disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.** The current version of the tool provides socioeconomic, environmental, and climate information to inform decisions that may affect these communities. The tool identifies disadvantaged communities through publicly-available, nationally-consistent datasets.
[show]
The current version of the tool is in a public beta form and will be updated based on feedback and research. The White House is convening public feedback session on May 12 (12 pm-4 pm). Members of the public are encouraged to provide comments relevant to climate resilience, the beta version of the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, and the WHEJAC draft recommendations on the implementation of the Justice40 Initiative.
Register for the May 12th WHEJAC public meeting here:
https://usepa.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_BpW9hpP8TD6apLQe62pxCg
- Providing Feedback:
 - [CEJST listening session #4](#)
CEQ is hosting public listening sessions to seek input and feedback on the beta version of the tool, including on the datasets it includes and the methodology it uses. This feedback is critical to the development and enhancement of the tool. This feedback will help CEQ update and refine the tool to ensure that it reflects the environmental, climate and other challenges that communities are experiencing.
Event info: Thursday, May 19th (1:00 PM Pacific, 4:00 PM Eastern)
[Registration link](#) or
https://pitc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_1PR73vLDQpg1zoAWkhKB5g
 - [Federal Register :: Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool Beta Version](#) or <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/04/25/2022-08774/climate-and-economic-justice-screening-tool-beta-version>
 - The Council on Environmental Quality published a request for information (RFI) to solicit feedback on the beta version of the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. This notice extends the deadline date for receiving comments until **May 25, 2022**.
- Upcoming request to the 12 DACTI grantees, if you decide to comment, please also provide your comments to IRWM DACTI Program via DWR_IRWM@water.ca.gov

Note:

Example of BIL Funding: \$68 Million in USEPA Grants to **establish Environmental Finance Centers** to *help communities who have struggled to secure public funding* [i.e., Disadvantaged Communities, Tribes, Underrepresented Communities] to find, apply and manage grants. EPA encourages non-profit organizations, universities, and other eligible entities to apply to be an EFC by Friday, June 17, 2022 by 8:59 am (PDT). For more information, go to:
<https://www.epa.gov/waterfinancecenter/environmental-finance-center-grant-program>

EPA Announces Request for Applications for the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) Grant Program

Section I of EFC RFA

- Through this grant program, EPA seeks to support projects that **help communities address environmental and financial resource challenges** they face.
- EPA also seeks to **maximize the impact of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)**, signed in November 2021.
 - BIL includes over *\$50 billion in water infrastructure investments*, most of which will be available through the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs) programs.
 - EFCs will play an important role in helping to ensure that *communities that have struggled to secure public funding receive the help they need to access resources to support infrastructure improvements that protect public health, safeguard the environment, and mitigate environmental justice concerns.*