

From: Tomkowitz, Jeff
Sent: Tue, 4 Mar 2025 21:58:50 +0000
To: Matesic, Hannah (OST)
Subject: Question on Status of RAISE/BUILD Grants
Attachments: SIMPCO RAISE Letter.pdf

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Hannah,

Good afternoon! Our office has a few questions related to constituent concerns for BUILD (fka RAISE) grant projects and what may happen to Round 2 funding for FY25 and wanted to reach out.

From what we're aware of, President Biden/Secretary Buttigieg awarded \$1.32 billion on January 10th for round 1 of RAISE, leaving only \$150 million for round 2's FY2025 RAISE/BUILD projects. Additionally, our understanding is that only a small portion of the funding was supposed to go to FY24 Projects of Merit, but it seems like they're also getting preferential treatment for a portion of the money remaining (our understanding is that this was a Biden/Buttigieg action before the current Administration).

So we have a few questions on this that may be helpful knowledge for our communities:

1. Is there any potential for this remaining \$150 million to be increased for FY25 Projects?
2. With the grant freeze, is there any timeframe for unfreezing BUILD grants for Round 2 FY25 Projects?
3. Will FY24 projects that were highly rated but not awarded funding, still be given preferential treatment?
4. With the limited amount of funding left, is there consideration to award smaller dollar amounts if grants are awarded to?

5. Related to a project in our district, which I've attached our January Letter of Support for - if it was submitted in January is it still eligible for FY25 Round 2 BUILD grants?
6. Also related to the project, would it be worth re-addressing the support letter to Secretary Duffy since my guess is the previous outgoing administration didn't review it?
 - a. *We ended up doing something similar with a DOD letter and re-addressing it to Sec. Hegseth.*

Let me know if you need any more additional information or have any questions for us!

Jeff Tomkowitz

Senior Legislative Assistant

Congressman Randy Feenstra (IA-4)

Please note new Office Location

2434 Rayburn HOB | (b)(6)

