

# Federal Legislative Update

OCTOBER 2, 2023

# Overview

- ▶ **US Congress Update**
- ▶ **FY 2024 Federal Budget**
- ▶ **Grantmaking**

# US Congress Update

## ► Focus for remainder of 2023:

- FY 2024 federal budget
- Reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration
- FY 2024 National Defense Authorization Act
- Disaster relief
- Freight rail safety
- Artificial intelligence
- Cost of insulin and prescription drugs
- Online safety for kids and teens
- Ukraine assistance
- Nominations (Senate)

# FY 2024 Federal Budget

- ▶ **Under the sponsorship of Congresswoman Adams, three city-requested Community Project Funding requests are advancing through the FY 2024 federal appropriations process**
  - Hospital-Based Violence Interruption Program (Atrium) - \$963,000
  - CMPD CARES Team - \$963,000
  - Westside Community Land Trust - \$500,000
- ▶ **Funding for these projects must be approved as part of the federal 2024 federal appropriations process**

# FY 2024 Federal Budget

## ► **Affordable Connectivity Program:**

- Created by Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021
- Funding intended to last five years (FY 2022 through FY 2026)
- Demand has been greater than anticipated
- Funding is projected to run out by early CY 2024

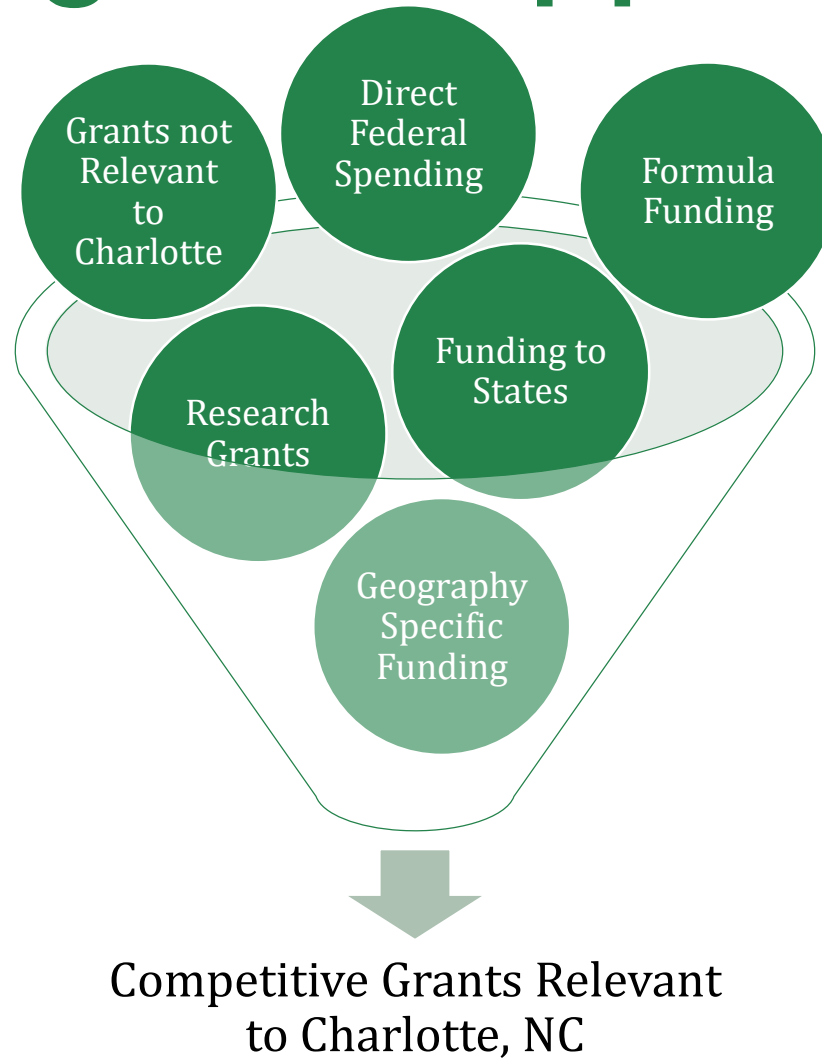
## ► **Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program:**

- Created by American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
- Provides funds for states to assist low-income households with paying water and wastewater bills
- Expired on September 30 but states will continue operating until funding is exhausted
- Need still exists for the program

# Grantmaking

- ▶ **Opportunities for accessing federal competitive grants and other resources have greatly expanded since 2021**
  - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021
  - Inflation Reduction Act of 2022
  - CHIPS and science Act of 2022
  - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022
  - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023
  
- ▶ **Acts provide ~ \$1.6 trillion in federal funding for state, regional, and local governments, and in some cases, not-for-profits and for-profit entities to access**

# Sorting through the Opportunities



# Relevant Funding Categories

- ▶ **Active Transportation Facilities – Bicycle and Pedestrian**
- ▶ **Airports**
- ▶ **Broadband**
- ▶ **Economic and Workforce Development**
- ▶ **Electric Vehicles and Buses**
- ▶ **Housing**
- ▶ **Public Transportation, Roads, Bridges, and Railways**
- ▶ **Sustainability and Resiliency**
- ▶ **Water Infrastructure**



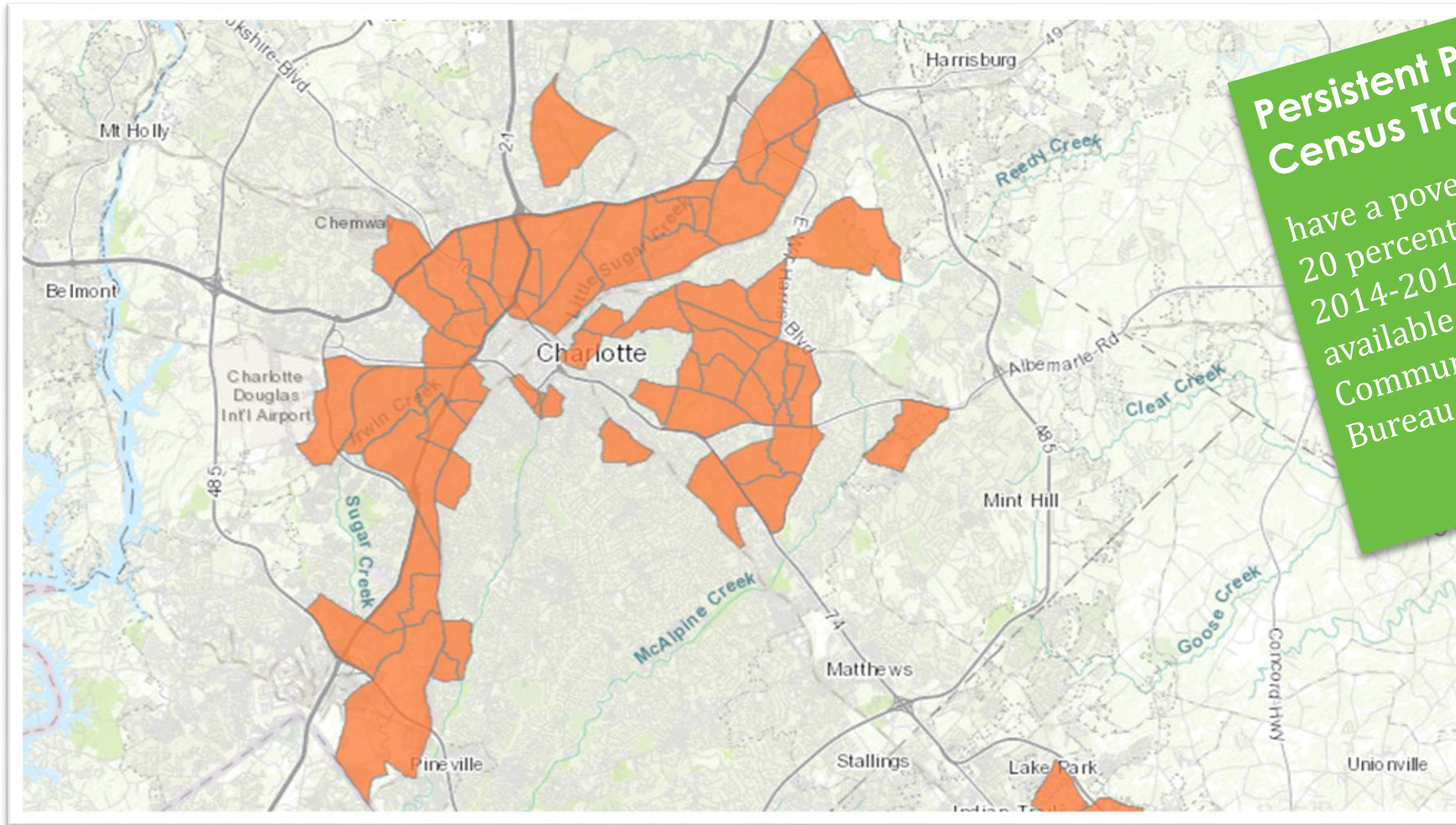
# City Organization for Grantmaking

- ▶ **City Manager tasked Executive Team with leading on competitive federal grant requests available through the BIL, IRA, and the appropriation acts**
  - Executive Team considers whether city needs to work with partners locally, regionally, or statewide on a particular request
  - Prior to submission, Executive Team, departments, and working teams are provided the opportunity to meet with the federal lobbying team to discuss potential grant proposals
  - After submission, federal lobbying team works to secure Congressional letters of support
  - Awarding agencies can reach out to departments and working teams staff contacts and federal lobbying team during the grant review process with questions
  - If not awarded, Executive Team, department, and working teams have the opportunity to review scoring results with awarding agencies

# Implementation Priorities

- ▶ **When the Biden Administration reviews grant applications, federal agencies are to, as appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, prioritize:**
  - Racial Equity
  - Climate Change
  - Environmental and Climate Justice, including the Justice40 initiative
  - Housing Supply
  - Community Connectivity
- ▶ **Additionally, many programs have waived the non-federal match or set aside funds for awards in rural areas, tribal communities, areas of persistent poverty, and/or historically disadvantaged communities**

# Charlotte's Areas of Persistent Poverty



## Persistent Poverty Census Tracts

have a poverty rate of at least 20 percent as measured by the 2014-2018 5-year data series available from the American Community Survey of the Bureau of the Census.

# Charlotte's Historically Disadvantaged Communities

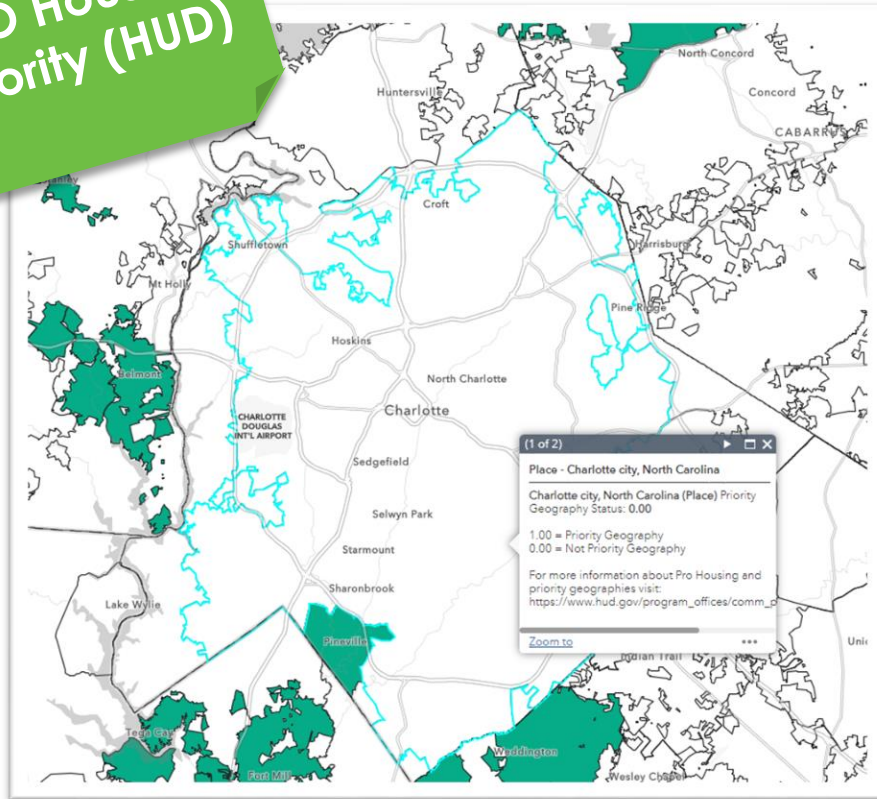


## Historically Disadvantaged Communities

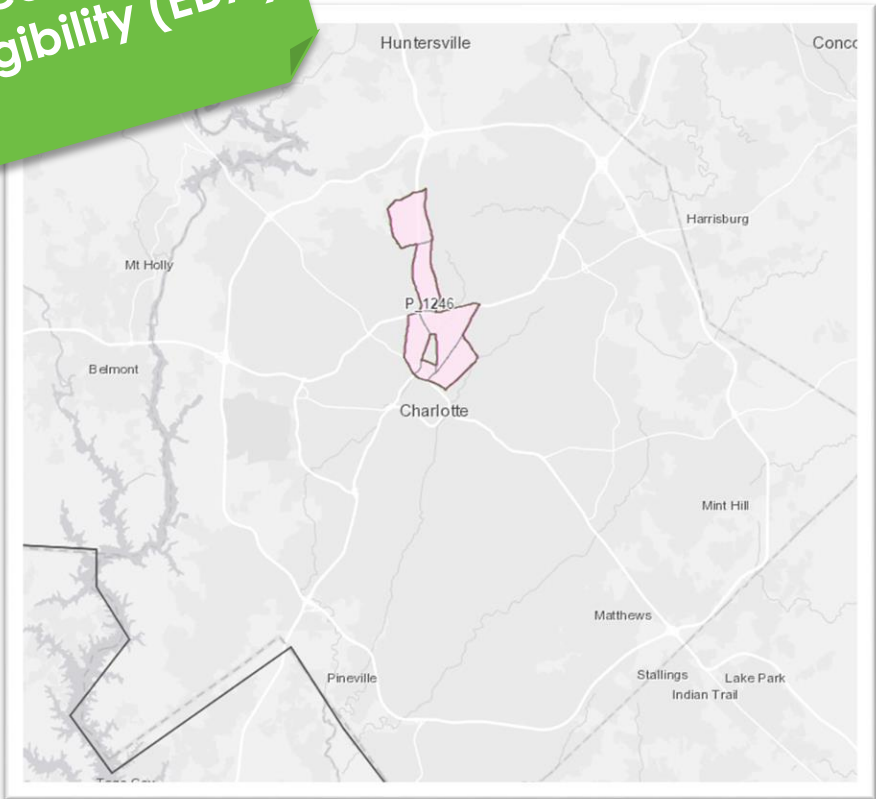
Are defined by the USDOT, consistent with the Justice 40 Initiative. The Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool maps most of the burdens using percentiles to show how much burden each tract experiences compared to other tracts. Thresholds or cut offs are used to determine if communities in a tract are disadvantaged. Certain burdens use percentages or a simple yes/no.

# Grants can Create their own Priority or Eligibility Criteria

PRO Housing  
Priority (HUD)



Recompete  
Eligibility (EDA)



# Grantmaking – 2022 and 2023 Awards

Department	Grant Program	Project	\$ Awarded
Aviation	Airport Terminal	Concourse E Renovation	\$32 million
CATS	Low- and No-Emission Buses	Purchase battery electric and hybrid-electric diesel buses	\$30.9 million
CDOT	Safe Streets and Roads for All	Implement Vision Zero around Schools	\$4.5 million
Corridors Team	Thriving Communities Program	Corridors of Opportunity Capacity Building	Technical Assistance
Corridors Team	Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)	West Sugar Creek Corridor Mobility Corridor	\$12 million
Corridors Team	Reconnecting Communities Planning Grant	Reconnecting the West End	\$1 million
General Services	Urban & Community Forestry	Canopy Care in Corridors of Opportunity	\$600,000
General Services	Urban & Community Forestry	Tree Maintenance in Corridors of Opportunity	\$500,000

**\$81.5 million**

# Grantmaking – Applications Submitted and Under Review

Department	Grant Program	Project	\$ Requested
Charlotte Water	Charging and Fueling (EV) Infrastructure	Charlotte Water Electrification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public charging during business hours</li> <li>• Fleet charging after hours</li> </ul>	\$2.87 million
Corridors Team	Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT)	Active Transportation Resiliency Planning in Corridors of Opportunity	\$2.46 million

**\$5.33 million**

# Grantmaking – Not Awarded (yet 😊)

City to reapply

Department	Grant Program	Project	\$ Ask
CDOT	Advanced Transportation, Technology and Innovation	Advancing signal operations in Corridors of Opportunity	\$10.67 million
Stormwater	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	Craighead-Tryon Flood Mitigation Initiative	\$2.19 million
CDOT	Railroad Crossing Elimination Program	Orr Road grade separation and at-grade rail closure	\$4.63 million
CATS	Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART)	Mobility Hubs Engineering and Design	\$2 million

Project & ask subject to change

► **Multiple grant submissions prior to award:**

- Airport Terminal Program
- Low- and No-Emission Buses
- Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)



# The Corridor Connection

- ▶ **Federal grant mapping tools tend to elevate Corridors of Opportunity**
- ▶ **Thriving Communities Program Participant**
  - Two-year cohort-based program
  - Partnership with LISC and United Way
  - Participation in the Thriving Communities network is currently given **extra consideration in federal funding opportunities**
- ▶ **Big Goals**
  - \$100 million dollars in grants/partnerships over the next 3 years

# Questions and Answers