

Local Infrastructure Hub

Winning Project: Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program

The Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant Program was created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to equitably improve roadway safety and sustainability.

The first round of RAISE grants awarded more than \$2.2 billion to 166 projects in urban and rural communities across the country to improve the safety and sustainability of transportation infrastructure in communities across the country. The \$2.2 billion RAISE 2023 awards fund 162 projects across 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Cities can use the case study below to submit a competitive application for the forthcoming funding opportunity. View more 2023 RAISE winning applications [here](#).

Phoenix, Arizona: Phoenix Cultural Corridor

Capital, Urban Grant – Awarded at \$10,220,242 • See Phoenix's [winning application](#)

Phoenix, Arizona received funding to create a “Cultural Corridor” that will reconnect several disadvantaged communities near the city’s international airport to downtown Phoenix. This corridor will add around three miles of sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and improved roadways; enhancing the area for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. It will also include historic markers, art installations and signage that celebrates the culture of these historic neighborhoods.

Making the Case: The construction of the Phoenix International Airport caused property demolition and land acquisition, leading several neighborhoods to be disconnected from the city’s economic center and displacing 3,000 residents. The current road that connects these neighborhoods to the downtown is dangerous. There are insufficient streetlights and sidewalks, and there is no dedicated lane for cyclists. Developing the “Cultural Corridor” will address these challenges by improving road safety and connecting residents to services like education and healthcare, and employment opportunities – all while celebrating the cultural heritage of the neighborhoods.



Key Application Features:

<p>Project is Part of a Larger City-wide Strategy</p>	<p>This project is part of a broader effort to redevelop a large swath of city-owned land near the Phoenix airport – a collaboration between Phoenix’s Aviation Department, community organizations, and other frontline stakeholders. Additionally, the project’s scope is informed by both the city’s Road Safety Action Plan and Climate Action Plan. Grant applications are more competitive when they are part of a larger strategic vision that reflects planning and garners community buy-in.</p>
<p>Community Engagement</p>	<p>The city undertook robust community outreach in the development of this project. Over 600 individuals participated in a community planning process to develop an implementation strategy for the Cultural Corridor. Activities included stakeholder interviews, committee meetings, community workshops, and direct mailers to ensure robust buy-in from neighborhoods affected by the project.</p>
<p>Workforce Development</p>	<p>The project will include an apprenticeship program that will be jointly managed by Phoenix’s Street Transportation Department and the Laborers’ International Union of North America which provides workers with the free and fair choice to join a union. Phoenix’s apprenticeship program combines classroom and on-the-job training, a competitive salary, and fringe benefits including retirement, paid time off, and medical coverage.</p>