



August 5, 2020

COVID-19 Resilience Stream

The Government of Canada announced today the creation of the COVID-19 Resilience Stream as part of the \$33 billion Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP). The Resilience stream will allow provinces and municipalities to re-allocate up to 10% (\$3.3b) of ICIP dollars this time-limited stream for specific types of infrastructure projects.

These include:

- COVID-19 response infrastructure including measures to support physical distancing
- Active transportation infrastructure, including parks, trails, foot bridges, bike lanes and multi-use paths

This stream is also available for up to 80% federal cost share. Indigenous & Territorial projects are eligible for 100% federal cost share. Eligible projects must:

- Start construction by September 30, 2021
- Complete construction by December 31, 2021 (2022 for Indigenous & Territories)
- Must be under \$10 million

The government has also expanded project eligibility criteria within the current ICIP streams to allow greater flexibility in projects.

These are:

- Public Transit Stream: now allows standalone pathway and active transportation projects
- Green Infrastructure Stream: now allows standalone pathways and AT projects.

Projects applied for under the existing ICIP streams must begin construction by September 30, 2021. All projects are subject to the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Bilateral Infrastructure Agreements.

This is good news for cycling in Canada. VCB has worked hard to ensure that active transportation figures prominently in any infrastructure response by the federal government. The Resiliency stream has very tight timelines and a lot of money on the table. It is time to ensure that our local governments submit every “shovel ready” active transportation project that you have been working hard to make a reality.

Let's capitalize on this moment and build amazing infrastructure.