Technology Modernization Fund Call for Proposals: Speeding and Scaling 21st-Century Permitting

September 2026

Summary

TMF seeks high-impact and shovel-ready agency technology projects to advance the outcomes outlined in President Trump's Memorandum on Updating Permitting Technology for the 21st Century. Proposal review will be coordinated across the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (FPISC) to ensure TMF funding optimally complements existing priorities and mechanisms.

For this call, projects should:

- Demonstrably advance the agency's Permitting Technology Action Plan implementation
- Identify the specific service delivery standards and functional requirements the project would address – and how that modernization would improve permitting efficiency and effectiveness for project sponsors and agency staff.

Initial Project Proposals (IPP) received **before October 20, 2026** can be considered for selection and announcement by December 11, 2026. Start your IPP as soon as possible, and contact tmfpmo@gsa.gov to ask questions or request a consultation!

Background

Permitting and environmental review processes are critical to America's economic, energy, and national security; but current Federal technology does not meet the modern standard required to reduce unnecessary burden and red tape for individuals and businesses. Legacy systems prevent the data sharing needed to speed up the decision-making process while retaining its integrity. Alongside the Presidential Memorandum on Updating Permitting Technology for the 21st Century, multiple directives from the Trump Administration reinforce the urgency of this mandate:

- CEQ Permitting Technology Action Plan
- Ensuring Commercial, Cost-Effective Solutions in Federal Contracts (EO 14271)
- Promoting Efficiency, Accountability, and Performance in Federal Contracting (EO 14402)
- Accelerating Federal Permitting of Data Center Infrastructure (EO 14318)
- Ensuring a National Policy Framework for Artificial Intelligence (EO 14365)

Target projects

The TMF aims to help agencies meet this critical moment by investing in permitting technology proposals that often struggle to secure funding and/or leadership buy-in. TMF is particularly interested in projects that address lower-profile, yet high-impact, capability and capacity gaps – that include but are not limited to:

- Data modernization (through refactoring/rearchitecting or an API-based translation layer) that supports CEQ data standards, interagency portability, and system interoperability
- Accelerated development of new, modular core systems that integrate existing strengths across multiple bureau or component legacy systems
- Responsible deprecation or integration of legacy bureau / component systems, to accelerate modernization while minimizing operational disruption
- Middleware that enables greater workflow productivity or automation, both within agencies and across interagency silos
- Modular front-end applications and tools, for staff and/or sponsors, that improve case management, timeline certainty, and transparency

The most competitive proposals will prioritize full repayment to the TMF and specify:

- CEQ, FPISC, and other funding used or committed to date, with high-level purpose and outcomes by source
- How TMF funding would complement, extend, and/or accelerate successful Action Plan implementation
- If TMF funding will be used in addition to other funding sources for the proposed project – *if this is the case, agency IPPs should include a table mapping project activities to each distinct funding source; TMF PMO can provide a simple template for this if needed*

Read more about what makes a great proposal.

How to apply

TMF welcomes relevant proposals of all sizes from any federal agency (as defined in 5 USC 551). Agencies must submit a brief Initial Project Proposal (IPP) to ombtmf@omb.eop.gov and tmf@gsa.gov by **October 20, 2026**. IPPs will be vetted by modernization and permitting subject matter experts, and then considered by the TMF Board.

Early submission is strongly encouraged.

Read more about the rest of the TMF process, including what happens after the TMF Board approves an IPP and how TMF funds and supports agencies after approved investments are announced.