



WSP Federal Infrastructure Funding Update

Bipartisan Deal Promises Generational Infrastructure Investment

Congress has passed monumental legislation that will pave the way for a transformative era in infrastructure investment in the United States. This summary provides an overview of the **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)**, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal. This update outlines the top line spending categories in the IIJA and identifies new and existing competitive grant programs established in the legislation.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT & JOBS ACT (IIJA)

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act passed on November 5 contains \$550 billion in new spending above baseline, and total federal spending of over \$944 billion over five years.

The agreement provides new federal funding to support roads and bridges, public transit, freight and passenger rail, ports and airports; invest in broadband infrastructure; fix water systems; modernize the power sector; and improve climate resilience.

Infrastructure Asset Type	New Funding (\$B)	Total Funding (\$B)
Roads, Bridges and Major Projects	110	351
Safety	11	23
Public Transit	39	107
Passenger and Freight Rail	66	102
Electric Vehicle Infrastructure	7.5	7.5
Electric (School) Buses and Ferries	7.5	7.5
Reconnecting Communities	1	1
Airports	25	25
Ports and Waterways	17	17
Drinking Water/Wastewater/Lead	55	55
High-Speed Internet	65	65
Power Infrastructure	65	65
Environmental Remediation	21	21
Resilience	47	47
Western Water Infrastructure	8	8
Total	\$550	\$944

INCREASED DISCRETIONARY FUNDING

In a change from past legislation, the U.S. Department of Transportation will have over \$100 billion of discretionary funding for projects—a sharp increase from previous years. This funding is a mix of increases in funding for existing programs as well as funding for new programs.

BIPARTISAN AGREEMENT

Over five years, the agreement provides \$121 billion for roads, bridges and highway safety; \$39.2 billion for transit; and \$66 billion for passenger rail and freight rail (including \$30 billion for the Northeast Corridor). In addition, the agreement provides \$65 billion for broadband deployment, especially across under-served communities; \$55 billion for water infrastructure, plus another \$8.3 billion for western water infrastructure. Resiliency, that would address cybersecurity, flood and wildfire mitigation, drought and coastal resiliency, for example, is included at \$47 billion. Funds for power and grid are identified at \$65 billion.

The following programs are competitive discretionary grants that will be available through applications to federal agencies.

Transportation

- **Bridge Investment Programs** (\$36.7 billion): Repair and replace deficient bridges.
- **National Infrastructure Project Assistance Grants** (\$15 billion): Major highway, bridge, freight and/or rail projects.
- **Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grants** (\$7.5 billion): Surface transportation projects of local and/or regional significance.
- **Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grants** (\$8 billion): Highway and rail projects of regional and national significance.
- **Reconnecting Neighborhoods Program**: \$1 billion to improve mobility in disadvantaged communities (e.g. highway teardown).
- **Lo-No Program** (\$5.25 billion): Purchasing or lease of zero- and low-emission transit buses.
- **Fed-State Partnership Intercity Passenger Rail** (\$36 billion): Funding to repair, replace or rehabilitate railroad assets.
- **Capital Investment Grants Program** (\$23 billion): New and expanded commuter and light rail.
- **Safe Streets for All** (\$5 billion): Fund state and local vision zero plans and improvements.
- **Airport Terminal Program** (\$5 billion): Terminal development and other landside projects.

Water and Resiliency

- **Clean Drinking Water** (\$55 billion): Investment in drinking water infrastructure, replacing lead service lines, and PFAS removal.
- **Resiliency** (\$50 billion): Investment in FEMA climate resilience programs, and cybersecurity.

Broadband Infrastructure

- **Broadband Deployment Grants** (\$40 billion): Formula-based grant program to states for broadband deployment. There is a 10 percent set-aside for high-cost deployment areas.
- **Digital Inclusion** (\$2.75 billion): Grants for digital inclusion for communities that lack the skills, technologies, and support needed to take advantage of broadband connection.
- **Private Activity Bonds (PAB)** (\$600 million): Allows states to issue PABs to finance broadband deployment, specifically in rural areas.

Power Infrastructure

- **Grid Infrastructure, Resiliency and Reliability Grants** (\$27 billion): Reduce likelihood and consequence of impacts to electric grid due to extreme weather.
- **Fuels and Technology Infrastructure Investments** (\$27 billion): Funding and financing for energy infrastructure projects.

DETAILED PROGRAM CHANGES

1. Capital Investment Grants (CIG):

- **Small Starts** - Threshold raised to \$400 million total capital cost and \$150 million CIG share.
- **Core Capacity** - Expands planning horizon to demonstrate a corridor will be at capacity, from five years to ten years, without regard to any temporary measures undertaken.
- **Project bundling** - In lieu of the Program of Interrelated Projects, an applicant can enter project development for multiple projects to be considered for future funding.

2. Fed-State Partnership Intercity Passenger Rail:

- **Northeast Corridor**: Up to \$24 billion of funding will be directed toward the Northeast Corridor.
- **Phased Funding Agreement**: The Federal Railroad Administration is permitted to fund eligible projects over multiple years.
- **Broadened Eligibility**: Funding eligible for additional uses and for eligible private rail service.

JOIN WSP'S WEBINAR

The Latest From Washington: The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act: What's Next

WSP will be hosting two informational webinars on November 17 at 1:00 p.m. EST and November 18 at 3:00 p.m. EST, and publishing other updates over the next few months. During the webinars, WSP's experts will dissect sections of the IJA, summarize the highlights and note recommended steps public agencies may consider to strategically position for new funds. To register for the Nov. 17 webinar [click here](#), for the Nov. 18 webinar [click here](#).

WSP has the tools and experience to help your organization identify and apply for funding for infrastructure programs. Our team's national experience—combined with local knowledge—helps agencies devise a winning strategy. Over the past decade, WSP has helped our clients secure nearly \$31 billion in state and federal grants and loans for more than 140 infrastructure projects nationwide.

For more information, visit our [website](#).



CONTACT US

For more information on how we can help you deliver your next project, please contact:

Winsome Bowen, Senior Director of Project Development and Finance
winsome.bowen@wsp.com