Federal Infrastructure Update

July 27, 2021
Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework

• $579 BILLION IN NEW SPENDING OVER 5 YEARS

• Preserves 2017 Tax Cuts & Jobs Act.

• Investment in nation’s infrastructure - including roads and bridges, ports, rail, airports, and broadband.

• Includes bipartisan Senate-passed water infrastructure bill and bipartisan committee-passed surface transportation bills from Commerce and EPW, along with ENR energy infrastructure bill.
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• Inclusion of enhanced FAST-41 program, which reduces the permitting timeline for larger infrastructure projects.

• The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review process on average took 4.5 years for all projects from 2010-2018, but covered projects took just 2.5 years.

• Includes rural infrastructure development and dedicated new funds for major projects.

• New spending paid for with CBO/JCT scores, CBO estimates & OMB estimates.
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• Roads, Bridges, & major projects: $110B - Includes Commerce and EPW-passed surface transportation reauthorization bills. Funds new, dedicated grant program to replace and repair bridges and increases funding for the major project competitive grant programs. At the same time, the package preserves the 90/10 split of federal highway aid to states.

• Safety: $11B - Funds highway & pedestrian safety programs.

• Public Transit: $48.5B - Funds nation's transit system repair backlog, which DOT estimates is more than 24,000 buses, 5,000 rail cars, 200 stations, and thousands of miles of track, signals, and power systems.
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• Infrastructure Financing Authority: $20B - Blunt/Warner REPAIR Act establishes a national infrastructure financing authority with initial appropriation that leverages up to 10 times the investment in a broad array of infrastructure which will attract major private sector capital for the first time.

• Passenger and Freight Rail: $66B - Provides funding for the Amtrak National Network for new service and dedicated funding to the Northeast Corridor, which has incurred a severe repair backlog after Hurricane Sandy. Increases funding for freight rail and safety
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• EV Infrastructure: $7.5B - Increases funding for the EPW's Electric Vehicle Charging and Fueling grant program, designed to strategically deploy EV, hydrogen fueling infrastructure, propane fueling infrastructure, and natural gas fueling infrastructure.

• Ports and Waterways: $16.3B - Funding for waterway and coastal infrastructure, inland waterway improvements, port infrastructure, and land ports of entry through the Army Corps, DOT, Coast Guard, the GSA, and DHS.

• Airports: $25B - Increases funds for Airport Improvement grant program for runways, gates, & taxiways as well as a new Airport Terminal Improvement program for terminals, concessions, and multimodal connections.
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• Resiliency: $47B - Funding for cybersecurity to address critical infrastructure needs, waste management, flood mitigation, wildfire, drought, and coastal resiliency, ecosystem restoration, and weatherization.

• Water Infrastructure: $55B - Includes the bipartisan Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act, which provides funding for the drinking and wastewater, in addition to other water programs.

• Broadband: $65B - Invests in grants to states for broadband deployment, expands eligible private activity bond projects to include broadband infrastructure, and supports middle-mile deployment efforts
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• Power and Grid: $73B - Includes the bipartisan Energy Infrastructure Act, which includes funds for grid reliability and resiliency, critical minerals and supply chains for clean energy technology, energy efficiency, carbon capture infrastructure, and other next generation energy technologies and energy demonstration projects from the Energy Act of 2020.

• Low-Carbon Buses & Ferries: $7.5B - Funds for the production of low carbon buses and ferries, to include hydrogen fuel cells, liquefied natural gas, and others.
Senate EPW Reauthorization Bill

- Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act of 2021 – Passed May 26 – Vote 20-0
  - Boosts total highway funding from fiscal year 2022 to 2026 by 34 percent over the baseline established by the one-year extension of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation or FAST Act passed in October 2020.
  - Provides $273.2 billion or 90 percent of its total funding via formula apportionments to states and retains all current core formula programs, including a 55 percent sub-allocation for Surface Transportation Block Grant programs.
Senate EPW Reauthorization Bill

- Offers several new discretionary and climate-focused programs, including:
  - The creation of a carbon reduction formula-based program providing an average of $1.3 billion per year.
  - A PROTECT formula-based program to fund resiliency investments at an average of $1.5 billion per year.
  - Restores funding eligibility for non-infrastructure activities and behavioral safety projects up to 10% under Highway Safety Improvement Program.
  - Development support for alternative user fees at the state level through the Strategic Innovation for Revenue Collection program. The bill also establishes a National Motor Vehicle Per-Mile User Fee Pilot program.
Senate EPW Reauthorization Bill

• Offers several new discretionary and climate-focused programs, including:
  
  – Provides $250 million for Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act or TIFIA loans annually
  
  – Funds Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects via Infrastructure for Rebuilding or INFRA grants - $960 million per year
  
  – A spate of new discretionary grant programs such as: a Bridge Investment Program support by $653 million from Highway Trust Fund and another $653 million from general fund; $500 million in Charging and Fueling Infrastructure grants; $400 million for Rural Surface Transportation grants; $50 million for a Congestion Relief Program; $50 million for a Reduction of Truck Emissions at Port Facilities program; and $100 million from the general fund to support a Healthy Streets Program.
For More Information

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