



**APWA Government  
Affairs--Update on IIJA**

**Arizona Chapter**

**February 16, 2022**

# Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)--Transportation

## Funding and Current Status

- 5-year law through fiscal year (FY) 2026
- No fix for the Highway Trust Fund and no federal gas tax increase
- Total new transportation spending is \$284 billion
- \$50 million from highway research and development funding for a new pilot program on Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
- \$75 million to reauthorize and expand a separate grants program to states for pilot projects
- Federal Government currently under continuing resolution (CR) to Feb. 18, though new CR to March 11
- Full implementation of the first year of IIJA is delayed

# Streamlining

- **Codifies key provisions of “one federal decision”**
  - Requires a lead agency and agency coordination on reviews
  - Complete environmental reviews within 2 years
  - 90-day requirement for authorization decisions on major project construction
  - DOT to create a performance accountability system for tracking major projects
  - DOT to provide other relevant agencies a list of categorical exclusions under the National Environmental Policy Act for highway projects and to accelerate project delivery

# Safety

- \$6.9 billion for NHTSA programs and driver safety programs
- New Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program
  - \$200 million annually in competitive grants for state projects to significantly reduce or eliminate transportation-related fatalities
- Alternative and electric vehicles
  - Joint agency created between Dept. of Energy and Dept. of Transportation
- \$500 million Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant Program
  - Demo projects on smart technologies to improve transportation efficiency and safety, such as autonomous vehicles and smart grids to support electric vehicles

# Emergency Management

## MITIGATION

- Authorizes \$3.37 billion from FY 2022 through FY 2026 for wildfire risk reduction.
- Establishes a federal commission to study and make recommendations on wildfire mitigation/recovery.
- Expands eligibility from several federal-aid highway programs to include transportation resilience and extreme weather mitigation projects

# Emergency Management

- **Other provisions of interest:**
  - FEMA would see approximately \$6.7 billion dollars towards areas such as flood mitigation assistance, grants to help state, local, tribal, and territorial governments upgrade their critical infrastructure
    - This would include \$1 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) to be used for pre-disaster hazard mitigation assistance under FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program

# Cyber Security

- **Cyber Threats & Telecommunications**
  - The measure allows the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary to make a declaration in the event of a significant cyber incident, an imminent incident, or when available resources are insufficient for an effective response
  - The measure would authorize \$1 billion from FY 2022 through FY 2025 to create a grant program to help states, tribal or multistate governments address cybersecurity threats



# Water Resiliency

- **Enhance**
  - \$55 billion in overall funding for water and wastewater infrastructure
  - Funding primarily distributed through Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds
  - \$15 billion for lead service line replacement
  - \$10 billion+ for combatting PFAS and other emerging contaminants
- **Protect**
  - Funding for resiliency/sustainability and cybersecurity of water systems
- **Science**
  - Funding for advanced drinking water and stormwater technologies



# Workforce Development

- **EPA Water/Wastewater Workforce Development Funding**
  - \$5 million per year over 5 years
  - Public works agencies are now eligible due to APWA recommended language
- Various smaller investments and coordination efforts for transportation/water workforce development

# Broadband

- Dept. of Commerce
  - National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA)
- Grants to States for broadband deployment
- ‘Middle mile’ competitive grants

# Climate

- Resiliency
  - \$46 billion overall
  - Emphasis on local expertise
  - Safeguarding Tomorrow Through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Act (fully-funded at \$500 million over 5 years)
  - Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program, \$1 billion over five years
  - \$7.3 billion for new Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) Program

# Recycling

- Grants
  - \$75 million overall
  - Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Program
    - Improve effectiveness of residential and community recycling programs through public education and outreach

# Key Federal Agency Links

- **Dept. of Transportation**
  - <https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law>
- **Dept. of Homeland Security**
  - <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2021/11/15/fact-sheet-how-bipartisan-infrastructure-bill-will-help-dhs-secure-our-homeland>
- **Environmental Protection Agency**
  - <https://www.epa.gov/infrastructure>
- **Federal Highway Admin**
  - <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/>
- **Federal Transit Admin**
  - <https://www.transit.dot.gov/BIL>
- **National Highway Traffic Safety Admin**
  - [Nhtsa.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov)
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin**
  - <https://www.noaa.gov/news-release/statement-from-noaa-administrator-rick-spinrad-on-signing-of-bipartisan-infrastructure-investment>
- **National Telecommunications & Information Admin**
  - <https://www.ntia.gov/>
- **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**
  - <https://www.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/News-Release-Article-View/Article/2903380/army-civil-works-studies-projects-and-programs-to-be-accomplished-with-bipartis/>

# What Next?

- Utilize APWA tools— ‘Contact Congress’ platform
  - Text PWX to 52886
- ‘Tell Your Story’
- Read the *APWA Washington Report*
- Follow @APWAGOVAFFAIRS on Twitter
- Respond to federal agency requests for comment/input
- APWA Resource Page launched—check regularly
- APWA member IJA Webinar March 10
- GAC Review and policy process

# Questions???

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