

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will Deliver for American Samoa

President Biden and Vice President Harris support the Senate’s passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the largest long-term investment in our infrastructure and competitiveness in nearly a century. **The need for action in American Samoa is clear and recently released state and territory data demonstrates that the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will deliver for American Samoa.** For decades, infrastructure in American Samoa has suffered from a systemic lack of investment. The historic Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will make life better for thousands of American Samoa residents, create a generation of good-paying union jobs and economic growth, and position the United States to win the 21st century. Specifically, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will:

- **Repair and rebuild our roads and bridges with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and safety for all users, including cyclists and pedestrians.** One in five miles, or 173,000 total miles, of our highways and major roads and 45,000 bridges across the United States are in poor condition. Bridges in poor condition pose heightened challenges in communities in American Samoa, which often may rely on a single bridge for the passage of emergency service vehicles. **Through the Territorial Highway Program, American Samoa would expect to receive nearly \$24 million over five years to rebuild its roads and bridges. American Samoa can also compete for \$7.5 billion in funding over five years for major projects that will deliver substantial economic benefits to communities.**
- **Improve healthy, sustainable transportation options for millions of Americans.** America’s transit infrastructure is inadequate – with a multibillion-dollar repair backlog, representing more than 24,000 buses, 5,000 rail cars, 200 stations, and thousands of miles of track, signals, and power systems in need of replacement. This legislation represents the largest investment in public transit in history, and will make a long overdue investment in American Samoa’s public transportation. **Based on formula funding alone, American Samoa would expect to receive \$7.5 million over five years under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to improve public transportation options across the island.**¹
- **Help connect every American to reliable high-speed internet.** Broadband internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, to participate equally in school learning, health care, and to stay connected. Yet speed test data shows that the median speeds in American Samoa are well below the FCC’s speed benchmark for minimally acceptable broadband. **Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, American Samoa will receive a minimum allocation of \$25 million to help provide broadband coverage**

¹ Transit formula funding amounts are subject to changes resulting from the 2020 census or from annual transit service data reported to FTA’s National Transit Database.

across the territory. And, under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, low-income families in American Samoa will be eligible for the Affordability Connectivity Benefit, which will provide a \$30 per month broadband subsidy and \$100 device subsidy for families with incomes up to 200% of the federal poverty level.

- **Prepare more of our infrastructure for the impacts of climate change, cyber attacks, and extreme weather events.** A recent report from the Climate Program Office at NOAA showed that American Samoa is facing heat waves, stronger tropical storms and cyclones, sea level rise, and challenges for coral reefs from climate change. **The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act makes our communities safer and our infrastructure more resilient to the impacts of climate change and cyber-attacks, with an investment of over \$50 billion. Based on historical formula funding levels, American Samoa will expect to receive \$2.5 million to protect against cyberattacks. American Samoa will also benefit from the bill's historic \$3.5 billion national investment in weatherization which will reduce energy costs for families.**
- **Deliver clean drinking water to every American and eliminate the nation's lead service lines and pipes.** Currently, up to 10 million American households and 400,000 schools and child care centers lack safe drinking water. **Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, based on the traditional revolving fund formula, American Samoa will expect to receive more than \$35 million over five years to improve water infrastructure in the region and ensure that clean, safe drinking water is a right in all communities.**
- **Improve our nation's airports.** The United States built modern aviation, but our airports lag far behind our competitors. **Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, airports in American Samoa would receive approximately \$6 million for infrastructure development over five years².**

Over the coming days and weeks, we will expect to receive additional data on the impact of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in American Samoa.

² Precise allocations would change each year because the formulas use current passenger boarding and cargo data, and this estimate is based on 2019 data.