

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN**

# **BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA**

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## **President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Puerto Rico**

As of July 2022

The Biden-Harris Administration has hit the ground running to implement the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, and it is already delivering results for the people of Puerto Rico. To date, more than \$688 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Puerto Rico. This year alone, Puerto Rico will receive more than \$380 million for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and over \$78 million for clean water. And, as of today, more than 505,000 households across the Island are receiving affordable internet due to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Many more projects will be added in the coming months, as funding opportunities become grant awards and as formula funds become specific projects. By reaching communities all across Puerto Rico – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for the people of Puerto Rico and position the Island for success.

**Roads and Bridges:** In Puerto Rico there are 282 bridges and over 1,492 miles of highway in poor condition. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will rebuild our roads and includes the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the interstate highway system. Based on formula funding alone, Puerto Rico would expect to receive approximately \$1.1 billion over five years in Federal highway formula funding.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Puerto Rico has been allocated more than \$218 million in federal highway funding.

**Internet:** High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Puerto Rico will receive a minimum allocation of at least \$100 million to help ensure high-speed internet coverage across the region. Additionally, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Affordable Connectivity Program cuts internet bills by up to \$30 per month, or \$75 for households on Tribal lands, and provides a one-time \$100 discount off a connected

device. The Biden-Harris Administration is providing further cost savings by working with internet providers to offer high-speed internet plans that are fully covered by the Affordable Connectivity Program — meaning many eligible households can now get high-speed internet without paying a dime.

- **Progress to date:** About 505,000 households in Puerto Rico are enrolled in the Affordable Connectivity Program, with more signing up every day. Households can check their eligibility, sign up, and find fully covered internet plans at [GetInternet.gov](https://www.getinternet.gov).

**Water:** Currently, up to 10 million American households across the country connect to water through lead pipes and lack access to clean, safe drinking water. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law represents the largest investment in clean drinking water in American history, including the first-ever dedicated federal funding to replace lead service lines and address dangerous PFAS chemicals.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, approximately \$78 million is available in fiscal year 2022 to provide clean and safe water across the region. Of this funding, over \$28 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$18 million for safe drinking water investments that can also support lead pipe replacement in fiscal year 2022.

**Public Transit:** The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes the largest investment in public transit in U.S. history. Based on formula funding alone, Puerto Rico would expect to receive more than \$470 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit in the region.<sup>1</sup>

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Puerto Rico has been allocated nearly \$91 million to improve public transportation options across the region in fiscal year 2022.

**Electric Vehicle Charging:** The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$7.5 billion to build the first-ever national network of electric vehicle chargers in the United States and is a critical element of President Biden's plan to address the climate crisis and support domestic manufacturing jobs. Through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program alone, Puerto Rico should expect to receive more than \$13.6 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** Puerto Rico has been allocated \$2 million in 2022, pending the approval of their Electric Vehicle Charging Plan.

**Clean Energy & Power:** Power outages cost the U.S. economy more than \$70 billion annually. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a historic investment to upgrade our

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

power infrastructure by making the grid more resilient and building thousands of miles of new transmission lines to deliver clean, affordable electricity. The law also makes a historic investment in clean energy technologies like advanced nuclear, clean hydrogen, and carbon capture, as well as a historic \$3.5 billion investment in weatherization to improve energy efficiency of homes and lower energy costs for impacted households by an average of \$372 per year.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$38 million has been allocated to Puerto Rico in 2022 for weatherization and \$3.7 million to help prevent outages and make the power grid more resilient in 2022. Additional grid funding will be made available in the coming months.

**Airports:** According to some rankings, no U.S. airports rank in the top 25 of airports worldwide. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$25 billion in airports to strengthen our supply chains, address maintenance backlogs, and reduce congestion and emissions near ports and airports – ultimately helping our country move goods and people more quickly and at lower cost.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Puerto Rico has received \$20 million in 2022 for airports.

**Resilience:** Millions of Americans feel the effects of climate change and extreme weather every day. More frequent hurricanes, wildfires, heat waves, floods, unprecedented power outages, and persistent droughts devastate our communities and threaten our infrastructure. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a historic investment to bolster our resilience against pressing challenges like impacts of climate change, extreme weather events, and other hazards like cyberattacks.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, more than \$184 million has been allocated to Puerto Rico for infrastructure resilience in 2022.

**Legacy Pollution Cleanup:** Across the country, thousands of former industrial, chemical, and energy sites emit harmful pollutants into surrounding communities. These sites pose harms to health, welfare, and economic prosperity — and disproportionately impact communities of color: 26% of Black Americans and 29% of Hispanic Americans live within 3 miles of a Superfund site, a higher percentage than for Americans overall. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will deliver the largest investment in tackling legacy pollution in American history by cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites, reclaiming abandoned mines, and capping orphaned oil and gas wells.

For more information, click [here](#) to see a map of funding and announced projects in your community through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

## PUERTO RICO PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

### ***Resilience Project Spotlight***

#### **Isabela Irrigation District**

Overview: The U.S. Department of Agriculture awarded nearly \$19 million to repair the Isabela Irrigation channels. Puerto Rico's Irrigation Districts were built in the early 1900s as part of the infrastructure development related to the sugar cane agricultural activities and consist of water reservoirs and channels, mains, and laterals. This infrastructure is mainly still in operation and is a key component of the current and future agricultural development of the Islands but is losing a lot of water along the system. The project comprises 377 miles of channels that provide potable water and water for agricultural purposes. The funding will support planning, design, and construction for the Isabela Irrigation repairs and modernization.

See [here](#) for the full list of Natural Resources Conservation Service projects announced earlier this year.

### ***Resilience Project Spotlight***

#### **Cano Martin Pena Ecosystem Restoration**

Overview: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$163 million to advance construction of the project which will significantly improve the health and well-being of surrounding communities in San Juan by reducing exposure to polluted water and sediment, improving water quality, and restoring marine life and mangrove habitat.

See [here](#) for the full list of U.S. Army Corps projects announced earlier this year.

### ***Ports Project Spotlight***

#### **San Juan Harbor Improvement**

Overview: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$45 million to improve navigation and docking in the channels in the Port of San Juan by deepening and widening the channels. This project will help strengthen supply chains and support goods movement on the Island.

See [here](#) for the full list of U.S. Army Corps projects announced earlier this year.