

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN**

# **BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA**

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

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 Vermont. To date, more than \$439 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Vermont with over 30 specific projects identified for funding. This year alone, Vermont will receive more than \$334 million for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and over \$60 million for clean water. And, as of today, more than 14,200 households across the state 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 Vermont – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for the people of Vermont and position the state for success.

**Roads and Bridges:** In Vermont, there are more than 60 bridges and over 660 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, Vermont is expected to receive approximately \$1.6 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Vermont has been allocated nearly \$270 million in highway formula funding and \$45 million in dedicated funding for bridges in 2022.

**Internet:** High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet nearly 21% of Vermonters do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Vermont will receive a

minimum allocation of at least \$100 million to help ensure high-speed internet coverage across the state. Additionally, experts estimate that as many as 109,000 households in Vermont are eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program, which 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 most eligible households can now get high-speed internet without paying a dime.

- **Progress to date:** About 14,000 households in Vermont 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 \$63 million is available in fiscal year 2022 to provide clean and safe water across the state. Of this funding, \$28 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$39 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, Vermont would expect to receive \$77 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the state.<sup>1</sup>

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Vermont has been allocated \$15 million to improve public transportation options across the state 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, Vermont should expect to receive more than \$21 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

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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.

- **Announced funding to date:** Vermont has been allocated \$3 million in 2022, pending the approval of the state’s 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 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, approximately \$14.7 million has been allocated to Vermont in 2022 for weatherization. and \$3.1 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 & Ports:** According to some rankings, no U.S. airports rank in the top 25 of airports worldwide. Our ports and waterways are in need of repair and reimagination too. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$17 billion in port infrastructure and \$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, Vermont has received more than \$5.6 million in 2022 for airports and \$1.3 million in 2022 for ports.

**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. In the last decade, Vermont has experienced two extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$100 million in damages. 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, approximately \$13.4 million has been allocated to Vermont 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.

## VERMONT PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

### ***Environmental Remediation Project Spotlight***

#### **Superfund Sites Cleanup, Williston and Vershire**

Overview: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will fund the cleanup of Commerce Street Plume in Williston and Ely Copper Mine in Vershire as part of a \$1 billion BIL program to clear a national backlog of 49 Superfund sites. The projects will clean up a former wastewater lagoon and a 70-acre groundwater plume at Commerce Street and 30 acres of waste material at the Ely Copper Mine.

See [here](#) for EPA's list of 49 Superfund sites that will be cleaned up with BIL funding.

### ***Water Infrastructure/Resilience Project Spotlight***

#### **Jewell Brook Watershed Dams, Ludlow**

Overview: The U.S. Department of Agriculture will fund the rehabilitation of three dams in the Jewell Brook Watershed to improve safety and reduce the risk of floods. The dams were damaged by erosion caused by Hurricane Irene in 2011.

See [here](#) for more information about USDA's Water Infrastructure Projects and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

### ***Ports and Waterways Project Spotlight***

#### **Highgate Springs Pine Barren Watershed**

Overview: The General Services Administration will provide nearly \$150 million in BIL funds for an expansion of the existing port in Highgate Springs, VT. The project will accommodate greater movement of commercial goods and services between the U.S. and Canada. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law includes \$3.4 billion for GSA to build and modernize land ports of entry on the country's northern and southern borders.

See [here](#) for more information about Land Ports of Entry and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.