

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN**

# **BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA**

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

As of November 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 Montana. To date, \$2.7 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Montana with over 150 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, Montana is set to receive more than \$1.3 billion for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and over \$1.3 billion for clean water. And, as of today, more than 31,000 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 Montana— including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Montanans and position the state for success.

**Roads and Bridges:** In Montana there are 377 bridges and over 1,485 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, Montana is expected to receive approximately \$3.1 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$1.2 billion has been announced in Montana for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
  - \$1.1 billion in highway formula funding and \$90 million in formula funding for bridges in 2022 and 2023.
  - \$41 million through the RAISE program.

**Internet:** High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet nearly 24% of Montanans do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Montana 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 176,000 households in Montana 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 31,000 households in Montana 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:** \$166 million has been announced to Montana to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
  - \$63 million available in fiscal year 2022 to provide clean and safe water across the state through the Environmental Protection Agency. Of this funding, \$28.4 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, Montana would expect to receive about \$160 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transportation options across the state.<sup>1</sup> This funding will expand healthy, sustainable transportation options in Montana, where non-white households are

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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.

1.3 times more likely to commute via public transportation and 29% of transit vehicles in the state are past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Montana has been allocated \$31.1 million to improve public transportation options across the state in fiscal year 2022.

**Clean Buses:** The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests over \$10 billion for clean public transit and school buses. This includes a \$5 billion investment over the next five years to replace existing school buses with zero-emission and low-emission models. Use of clean school buses promotes cleaner air, reduced health risks, especially for children, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions. This year alone, funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will help double the number of clean public transit buses on America's roads.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Montana has been awarded \$4 million for the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program. In addition, communities in Montana were awarded \$16.2 million for clean transit buses and improved bus service through DOT's Low- and No- Emission Bus and Bus and Bus Facilities Program.

**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, Montana should expect to receive more than \$42 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** Montana has been allocated \$15.5 million in 2022 and 2023 to build out a network of EV chargers across the state.

**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:** \$32 million has been allocated to Montana for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022. This includes:

- \$17.9 million for weatherization;
- \$3.6 million through the State Energy Program;
- \$9 million to prevent outages and make the power grid more resilient. 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 replace and modernize airport infrastructure, which helps the US become more economically competitive globally, creates good jobs, and revitalizes and supports more efficient and enhances traveler experience.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Montana has received more than \$49 million in 2022 for airports.

**Ports and Waterways:** Like airports, our ports and waterways are in need of repair and reimagination. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$17 billion in port infrastructure to strengthen our supply chains, address maintenance backlogs, and reduce congestion and emissions near ports— ultimately helping our country move goods more quickly and at lower cost.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Montana has received \$1.5 million in 2022 for ports and waterways.

**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, Montana has experienced 22 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$20 billion in damages. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a \$50 billion 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 \$45 million has been allocated to Montana for infrastructure resilience in 2022 including \$149,000 through the Army Corps of Engineers for flood mitigation.

**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.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, more than \$30.9 million has been allocated to Montana in 2022 for capping orphaned oil and gas wells and reclaiming abandoned mine lands and \$12.1 million has been allocated to cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites.

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

## MONTANA PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

### ***Water Project Spotlight***

#### **Rocky Boy's / North Central Montana Rural Water System**

Overview: The Department of the Interior Rural Water Projects awarded \$57.5 million to ensure a reliable water supply for 30,000 Montanans, including the Rocky Boy's Reservation.

See [here](#) for the full list of the Department of the Interior's first round of BIL-funded Rural Water Projects announced earlier this year.

### ***Airport Project Spotlight***

#### **Missoula Montana Airport Terminal Renovation**

Overview: The Missoula Montana Airport will receive an \$11 million grant from the Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration for a project to construct a terminal building. This project will fund phase 2 of their terminal replacement. The new terminal will provide added capacity for increased demand, while also providing energy efficiency and Americans with Disabilities Act-related improvements while it continues to serve the Flathead Reservation.

See [here](#) for a map and list of the 2022 Airport Terminal awards announced in early July.

### ***Low- and No Emission Bus Grant Spotlight***

#### **The Missoula Urban Transportation District**

Overview: The Missoula Urban Transportation District will receive funding to buy battery electric buses and charging equipment to replace diesel buses on its Mountain Line fleet that have exceeded their useful life. The agency committed to transition the entire fleet of vehicles to zero-emission technology by 2035 and, with this grant, will reach 90% of that goal.

See [here](#) for the full list of Low- and No- Emission Bus Grant recipients

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

#### **Kootenai Complex**

Overview: The Department of Agriculture's Forest Service designated Kootenai Complex as one of its priority landscapes for hazardous fuels treatments and other activities to reduce the risk of wildfire. The Department awarded an initial investment of \$3.6 million to accomplish 900 acres of treatments.

See [here](#) for a full list of initial priority landscapes.

### ***RAISE Grant Program Project Spotlight***

#### **Northern Cheyenne Rosebud Cut-Across US 212 to MT 39**

Overview: The project will reconstruct approximately 3.1 miles of existing gravel road on the Rosebud Cut-Across to include a two-lane paved route with two-foot shoulders, geometric improvements, safety enhancements, improved signage, and a separated multimodal pedestrian and bicycle pathway. It will improve safe transportation infrastructure for travelers between the communities on the Reservation and provide better access for emergency response vehicles. It will also improve the overall air quality for communities and address negative environmental impacts of transportation.

See [here](#) for a full list of the 2022 RAISE Grant recipients.