

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN

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President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Alaska

As of February 2023

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 Alaska. To date, \$3.3 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Alaska with over 601 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, Alaska will receive approximately \$2.1 billion for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and roughly \$296 million for clean water. And, as of today, more than 14,000 households across the state are receiving affordable high-speed 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 Alaska – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Alaskans and position the state for success.

Roads and Bridges: In Alaska, there are 141 bridges and over 577 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, Alaska is expected to receive approximately \$3.7 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$1.4 billion has been announced in Alaska for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
 - \$1.4 billion in highway formula funding and \$90 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges in 2022 and 2023.
 - \$43.5 million through the RAISE program and \$10 million through the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program in 2022 and 2023.

Internet: High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet nearly 28% of Alaskans do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Alaska 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 89,000 households in Alaska 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:** To date, Alaska has received \$5 million through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) to help provide access to high-speed internet across the state. In addition, about 14,000 households in Alaska 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: 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, \$296 million has been announced to Alaska to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
 - \$65 million available in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 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 and 2023.

Public Transit: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes the largest investment in public transit in U.S. history. Based on formula funding alone, Alaska would expect to receive approximately \$404 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the state.¹ This funding will expand healthy, sustainable transportation options in Alaska.

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.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Alaska has been allocated \$77.4 million to improve public transportation options across the state in fiscal year 2022 and 2023.

Clean Buses: The Bipartisan Infrastructure 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, Alaska has been awarded \$395,000 for the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program. In addition, communities in Alaska were awarded \$6.8 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, Alaska should expect to receive roughly \$52 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** Alaska has been allocated \$18.9 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, carbon capture, and batteries, 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 \$59.5 million has been allocated to Alaska for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022 and 2023. This includes:
 - \$18.4 million for weatherization;

- \$3.7 million through the State Energy Program;
- \$3.4 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
- \$29.7 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 enhanced traveler experience.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Alaska has received approximately \$82.5 million in 2022 and 2023 for airports.

Ports and Waterways: Like airports, our ports and waterways are in need of repair and investment. 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, Alaska has received roughly \$402.3 million in 2022 and 2023 for ports and waterways. Alaska was awarded \$112.5 million for 4 port projects through the Port Infrastructure Development Program.

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, Alaska has experienced 7 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$5 billion 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 \$474.9 million has been allocated to Alaska for infrastructure resilience in 2022 and 2023 including \$281.1 million 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, approximately \$33.7 million has been allocated to Alaska in 2022 and 2023 for capping orphaned oil and gas wells and reclaiming abandoned mine lands and \$1 million has been allocated to cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites.

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

Alaska Project Spotlights

Transportation and Transit Spotlight

Alaska Marine Highway

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has announced \$286 million for the Alaska Marine Highway. This funding will bring ferry service to remote areas, build new docks and terminals as well as reduce emissions in the transportation sector.

See [here](#) for more information on awarded projects.

Ports Project Spotlight

Port of Nome

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$250 million to the Port of Nome for modifications that will allow larger vessels to access the harbor and strengthen supply chains.

See [here](#) for the list of U.S. Army Corps projects that has been announced.

Roads and Bridges Project Spotlight

Clarks Point - Ekuk Road Project

Overview: The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded the Bristol Bay Native Association more than \$13.3 million to support the construction of a gravel road

connecting the communities of Clark's Point and Ekuk. The road will provide the only safe surface transportation between the villages of Clarks Point and Ekuk, which are currently only accessible by small skiff or ATV/snowmobile trail. The new road will reduce reliance on these hazardous and environmentally damaging modes of transportation, which impact wetlands, vegetation, and subsistence areas. It also presents economic opportunity, both for residents accessing employment, and by providing access to land that could be developed in areas farther from the threats of coastal erosion. This road will support commercial fishing operations, facilitate shared use of public services (healthcare, education, and power and waste utilities) between the villages, and allow for critical access for emergency services.

See [here](#) for information on RAISE projects that have been announced.

Rural Transportation Project Spotlight

Advancing Connectivity and Equity in the Remote Bering Straits Region

Overview: The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded the nonprofit corporation Kawerak Inc. \$10 million to construct approximately 3.6 miles of access road from the Native Village of Wales, where 99.6% of residents are Alaska Natives, to Tin City Road. The project will facilitate safe transportation from the barge landing in Tin City to the underserved community in the Native Village of Wales, which is only accessible by sea or air. The project road will be the only emergency evacuation route available to the community, which is particularly vulnerable to flooding and erosion. Additionally, the project will improve access to goods, supplies, housing, emergency medical services, and employment opportunities for residents.

See [here](#) for information on Rural Surface Transportation projects that have been announced.