

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN**

# **BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA**

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

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 Connecticut. To date, \$2.5 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Connecticut with over 55 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, Connecticut will receive approximately \$2.2 billion for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and roughly \$77 million for clean water. And, as of today, more than 130,000 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 Connecticut – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Connecticut residents and position the state for success.

**Roads and Bridges:** In Connecticut, there are 248 bridges and over 2,154 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, Connecticut is expected to receive approximately \$4.1 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$1.6 billion has been announced in Connecticut for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
  - \$1.5 billion in highway formula funding and \$242.3 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges in 2022 and 2023.
  - \$41.6 million through the RAISE 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 17% of Connecticut residents do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Connecticut 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 490,000 households in Connecticut 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, Connecticut 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 130,000 households in Connecticut 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, \$77 million has been announced to Connecticut to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
  - \$77 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, Connecticut would expect to receive approximately \$1.3 billion over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the state.<sup>1</sup> This funding will expand healthy, sustainable transportation options in Connecticut, where non-white households are 2.1

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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.

times more likely to commute via public transportation and 18% transit vehicles in the state are currently past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Connecticut has been allocated \$250.4 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, Connecticut has been awarded \$8.8 million for the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus 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, Connecticut should expect to receive roughly \$53 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** Connecticut has been allocated \$19 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 \$60.6 million has been allocated to Connecticut for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022 and 2023. This includes:
  - \$46.2 million for weatherization;

- \$5.3 million through the State Energy Program;
- \$5.4 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
- \$3.6 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, Connecticut has received approximately \$32.5 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, Connecticut has received roughly \$89.4 million in 2022 and 2023 for ports and waterways. Connecticut was awarded \$17.5 million for 2 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, Connecticut has experienced 21 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$10 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 \$77.3 million has been allocated to Connecticut for infrastructure resilience in 2022 and 2023 including \$2.9 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, \$5.5 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.

## **Connecticut Project Spotlights**

### ***Large Bridge Project Spotlight***

#### **Gold Star Memorial Bridge Rehabilitation**

The Connecticut Department of Transportation will receive \$158 million to rehabilitate the northbound structure of the Gold Star Memorial Bridge, which is part of the Interstate 95 corridor over the Thames River between New London and Groton, Connecticut. The bridge carries five lanes of traffic and 42,600 vehicles per day and is a vital connection on the I-95 corridor for people and goods traveling between New York and New England. The rehabilitation will address structural repairs, increase load capacity and eliminate a load restriction for overweight vehicles. Additionally, the project will add a new multi-use path to foster bike-sharing and pedestrian access to transit services.

See [here](#) for more information on awarded grants through the Bridge Investment Program.

### ***Transportation Project Spotlight***

#### **Waterbury Active Transportation Economic Resurgence (W.A.T.E.R.) Phase II.**

The City of Waterbury has been awarded \$24 million by the Department of Transportation for the Waterbury Active Transportation Economic Resurgence (W.A.T.E.R.) Phase II.

See [here](#) for more information on awarded grants through the RAISE program.

## ***Airport Project Spotlight***

### **Bradley International Airport Expansion**

The Bradley International airport received a \$20 million grant from DOT's Federal Aviation Administration for a terminal expansion project to provide an in-line checked baggage inspection system and implementation of an airport wide baggage handling system with upgrades. This project will improve the experience of travelers, reduce delays, improve energy efficiencies, and increase accessibility of the airport for people with disabilities.

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

## ***Port and Waterways Project Spotlight***

### **Bridgeport Port Authority Operations and Maintenance Wind Port Project**

The U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration announced the grant award of over \$10.5 million to the Bridgeport Port Authority Operations and Maintenance Wind Port Project in Bridgeport, Connecticut. The Project encompasses design and construction of an Operations and Maintenance Wind Port in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Project elements include the installation of anchored bulkheads, dredging to deepen the harbor for larger support vessels, a floating service dock to assist offshore wind support vessels, and the installation of two reinforced crane pads that will also serve as relieving platforms for the new bulkheads. The Port Infrastructure Development Grant Program is funded in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and supports the efficient and movement of commerce, vital to our nation's economy. The grants provide planning, operational and capital financing, and project management assistance to improve port capacity and operations. These investments help to strengthen and modernize maritime systems and gateway ports.

See [here](#) for more information on PIDP programs that were announced in 2022.

## ***Clean School Bus Project Spotlight***

### **Connecticut School District Program**

EPA has awarded \$8.8 million to four Connecticut school districts through its Clean Bus Program. Funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Clean Bus Program provides rebates for the school districts switching to zero emission buses. The grants will help the school districts purchase 28 clean school buses that will accelerate the transition to zero emissions vehicles and produce cleaner air in and around schools and communities. The four school districts in Connecticut awarded with the \$8.8 million were Falls Village Regional School District 1, Sharon Regional District No. 1, Cornwall School District and Hartford/Connecticut Technical Education and Career System.

See [here](#) for more information on the Clean School Bus program grants announced in 2022.