INVESTING IN AMERICA

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in American Samoa

As of March 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 American Samoa. To date, $68.6 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to American Samoa with over 9 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, approximately $11.6 million has been announced for transportation and roughly has been announced $50 million for clean water infrastructure projects. And, as of today, more than 2,000 households across the territory 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 American Samoa – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for the people of American Samoa and position the territory for success.

Roads and Bridges: 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, American Samoa is expected to receive approximately $24 million over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, $4.6 million has been announced in American Samoa for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
    - $4.6 million in highway formula funding for bridges 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 0% of the people of American Samoa do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests $65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. American Samoa will receive a minimum allocation of at least $100 million to help ensure high-speed internet coverage across the territory. Additionally, experts estimate that as many as 0 households in American Samoa 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, about 2,000 households in American Samoa 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.

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, $50 million has been announced to American Samoa to provide clean and safe water across the territory and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
    - $50 million available in fiscal years 2022 and 2023 to provide clean and safe water across the territory through the Environmental Protection Agency. Of this funding, $10.7 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another $6.8 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, American Samoa would expect to receive approximately $8 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the territory.[1]

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, American Samoa has been allocated $1.5 million to improve public transportation options across the territory in fiscal year 2022 and 2023.

[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.

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, schools in American Samoa have been awarded $395,000 through 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.

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 $5.6 million has been allocated to American Samoa for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022 and 2023. This includes:
    - $823.8,000 for weatherization;
    - $1.6 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
    - $698.5,000 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, American Samoa has received approximately $1.3 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, American Samoa has received roughly $3 million in 2022 and 2023 for ports and waterways. American Samoa was awarded $2.1 million for 1 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. 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 $1.7 million has been allocated to American Samoa for infrastructure resilience in 2022 and 2023 including $300,000 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.

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

American Samoa Project Spotlights

Ports and Waterways Project Spotlight

Aunu'u Wharf Reconstruction

Overview: The Maritime Administration (MARAD) at the Department of Transportation awarded the Government of American Samoa $2.1 million for the Aunu'u Wharf Reconstruction Project in Pago Pago. The grant will help fund upgrades to the Wharf, which is the only access point in and out of Aunu'u Island in American Samoa. Funding will specifically help reconstruct the existing wharf, perform structural repairs to the existing pilings, construct a new 80-foot-long extension, repair and upgrade the existing ramp structure, dredge any excess material surrounding the wharf, and install a new fendering system, bollards, and cleats. The project will comply with the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard to ensure it's resilience to weather events and the changing climate.

See here for more information about the PIDP awards that have been announced.

Airport Infrastructure Project Spotlight

Runway Rehabilitation at Pago Pago International Airport

The Federal Aviation Administration at the Department of Transportation awarded $1 million for runway rehabilitation at the Pago Pago International Airport.

See here for a map and list of the Airport Terminal awards that have been announced.

Ports and Waterways Project Spotlight

Ferry Boat Program - Department of Port Administration - American Samoa Government

The Federal Highway Administration has made more than $850,000 available in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding for American Samoa's Department of Port Administration for ferries. The program's funds can be used to construct boats and terminal facilities, including ferry maintenance facilities. Ferry boats provide essential travel services for residents and visitors in American Samoa.

See here for more information.

Resilience Project Spotlight

Ofu Island Resilience Project

Overview: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has awarded $250,000 for a storm damage reduction and resilience project on Ofu Island. This project will help protect the Ofu Airport's runway from erosion threatening the saftey area surrounding the runway.

In addition, the Army Corps also awarded $50,000 to complete a feasibility study for a resilience project in Tau Harbor.

See here for a list of announced U.S. Army Corps projects.