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# INVESTING IN AMERICA

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## President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Puerto Rico

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 Puerto Rico. To date, \$993.7 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Puerto Rico with over 35 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, Puerto Rico approximately \$565 million has been announced for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and roughly \$97 million for clean water. And, as of today, more than 561,000 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 Puerto Rico – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Puerto Ricans and position the territory for success.

**Roads and Bridges:** In Puerto Rico, there are 282 bridges and over 1,492 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, Puerto Rico is expected to receive approximately \$1.1 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$263.2 million has been announced in Puerto Rico for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
  - \$173 million in highway formula funding and \$90 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges in 2022 and 2023.

- \$25 million through the RAISE program and \$90 million through the INFRA 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 0% of Puerto Ricans do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Puerto Rico 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 Puerto Rico 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, Puerto Rico has received \$5 million through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) to help provide access to high-speed internet across the territory. In addition, about 561,000 households in Puerto Rico 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, \$97 million has been announced to Puerto Rico to provide clean and safe water across the territory and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
  - \$97 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, \$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, Puerto Rico would expect to receive approximately \$473 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the territory.<sup>1</sup> This funding will expand healthy,

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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.

sustainable transportation options in Puerto Rico, where 28% transit vehicles in the territory are currently past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Puerto Rico has been allocated \$91.4 million to improve public transportation options across the territory 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, schools in Puerto Rico have been awarded \$9.9 million through the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program. In addition, communities in Puerto Rico were awarded \$10 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, Puerto Rico should expect to receive roughly \$14 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the territory.

- **Announced funding to date:** Puerto Rico has been allocated \$4.9 million in 2022 and 2023 to build out a network of EV chargers across the territory.

**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 \$53.9 million has been allocated to Puerto Rico for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022 and 2023. This includes:

- \$37.9 million for weatherization;
- \$4.7 million through the State Energy Program;
- \$5.6 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
- \$3.7 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, Puerto Rico has received approximately \$20.3 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, Puerto Rico has received roughly \$46.6 million in 2022 and 2023 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. 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 \$252.7 million has been allocated to Puerto Rico for infrastructure resilience in 2022 and 2023 including \$61.3 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 \$500,000 has been allocated to cleaning up brownfield sites.

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

## **Puerto Rico Project Spotlights**

### ***Restoration Project Spotlight***

#### **Caño Martín Peña Ecosystem Restoration**

Overview: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$163.3 million to the Caño Martín Peña Project, which broke ground in January 2023, to dredge approximately 2.2 miles of the Caño Martín Peña (CMP) canal, stabilize the shoreline and erosion, and plant of approximately 35 acres of mangroves. Restoration of the CMP will re-establish the tidal connection between the San Jose Lagoon and the San Juan Bay, which will improve oxygen and salinity levels, increase biodiversity by restoring fish habitat and benthic conditions, and improve the functional value of mangrove habitat within the San Juan Bay Estuary.

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

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

#### **Rafael Hernandez Airport**

The Rafael Hernandez Airport has been awarded \$6 million to fund a portion of a terminal rehabilitation project. The funding will go toward adding a second level departure hall, and construct a 12,000 square feet Customs and Border Protection facility to process international arrivals.

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

### ***Ports RAISE Grant Project Spotlight***

#### **Wharf C Reconstruction and Resiliency Enhancement**

Overview: DOT awarded \$25 million to improve and repair Wharf C which was damaged in Hurricane Marina including the replacement of a platform that will allow for heavier cargo loads. The project will improve safety for dock workers and increase energy efficiency.

See [here](#) for the full list of RAISE Grants announced.

### ***Transportation INFRA Grant Project Spotlight***

#### **PR-2 Improvement**

Overview: DOT awarded \$90 million to improve a 1.4-mile segment along PR-2 in Mayaguez to reconfigure the roadway and intersections to improve safety for transit users, pedestrians and cyclists in historically disadvantaged communities.

See [here](#) for the full list of INFRA Grants announced.

### ***Ports Project Spotlight***

#### **San Juan Harbor Improvement**

Overview: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$45 million to improve navigation and docking in the channels in the Port of San Juan by deepening and widening the channels. This project will help strengthen supply chains and support goods-movement on the Island.

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

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

#### **Metropolitan Bus Authority Electric Buses**

Overview: DOT's Federal Transit Administration awarded \$10 million to the Metropolitan Bus Authority to buy battery electric buses to replace older diesel busses and build a solar power charging station to bring sustainable transit to the island.

See [here](#) for the full list of FTA's Bus and Low- and Bus Facilities Program.