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# INVESTING IN AMERICA

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## President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Nebraska

As of May 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 Nebraska. To date, \$1.4 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Nebraska with over 212 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, approximately \$1 billion has been announced for transportation – to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports – and roughly \$163 million has been announced for clean water. And, as of today, more than 74,000 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 Nebraska – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Nebraskans and position the state for success.

**Roads and Bridges:** In Nebraska, there are 1,302 bridges and over 1,125 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, Nebraska is expected to receive approximately \$2.2 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$876.6 million has been announced in Nebraska for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
  - \$777.1 million in highway formula funding and \$90 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges in 2022 and 2023.
  - \$39.3 million through the RAISE program in 2022 and 2023.

*Announced Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding is as of April 20, 2023*

**Internet:** High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet nearly 20% of Nebraskans do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Nebraska 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 260,000 households in Nebraska 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, Nebraska 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 74,000 households in Nebraska 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, \$164 million has been announced to Nebraska to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
  - \$152 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, \$57 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$39 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, Nebraska would expect to receive approximately \$191 million 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 Nebraska, where non-white households are 4.7 times more likely to commute via public transportation and 29% transit vehicles in the state are currently past useful life.

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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.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Nebraska has been allocated \$37.1 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, schools in Nebraska have been awarded \$2.3 million 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. Through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program alone, Nebraska should expect to receive roughly \$30 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** Nebraska has been allocated \$10.9 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 \$45 million has been allocated to Nebraska for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022 and 2023. This includes:
  - \$24.5 million for weatherization;
  - \$4.6 million through the State Energy Program;

- \$4 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
- \$11.6 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 U.S. become more economically competitive globally, creates good jobs, and revitalizes and supports more efficient and enhanced traveler experience.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Nebraska has received approximately \$77.4 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, Nebraska has received roughly \$5.2 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. In the last decade, Nebraska has experienced 25 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$13 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 \$96.7 million has been allocated to Nebraska for infrastructure resilience in 2022 and 2023 including \$68.1 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 \$26.1 million has been allocated to Nebraska in 2022 and 2023 for capping orphaned oil and gas wells and reclaiming abandoned mine lands and \$26.9 million 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.

## **Nebraska Project Spotlights**

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

#### **Lincoln Multimodal Transportation Center**

The Department of Transportation awarded \$23.67 million to complete the planning and construction of the Lincoln Multimodal Transit Center. The new center will include bus bays, protected passenger boarding, better lighting, covered walkways, a waiting room, and administrative offices. The project will improve safety for travelers with new security features and better separation between pedestrians and buses. The updated facility will be more environmentally sustainable and include electrification infrastructure that supports lower-emitting modes of transportation.

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

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

#### **Gavin's Point Dam, Lewis And Clark Lake**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$1.3 million to the Gavin's Point Dam for repairs for 2019 Flood Damages to Joint Features to include surveys and engineering.

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

### ***Clean School Bus Rebate Program Spotlight***

#### **Mc Cool Junction Public Schools**

The Department of Transportation awarded over \$395,000 in rebates to Mc Cool Junction Public School District to replace existing school buses with electric school buses to reduce harmful emissions from older, dirtier buses.

See [here](#) for the full list of Clean School Bus Rebate Program recipients.

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

#### **Eppley Airfield**

The Federal Aviation Administration awarded a \$30 million grant to the Eppley Airfield in Omaha for a new terminal drop-off area and full canopy, increasing capacity by 65% with 7 lines. The project will reduce air pollution and use environmentally responsible infrastructure. The project also includes improved curb areas for ADA access and public transportation.

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

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

#### **Levee Repairs**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$67 million for levee repairs following Missouri River Basin flooding.

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

### ***Community Wildfire Defense Project Spotlight***

#### **Reducing Wildfire Risk in North-Central Nebraska**

The Department of Agriculture's Forest Service has awarded \$182,866 to The Nature Conservancy to reduce hazardous fuels and restore fire adapted ecosystems at the 56,000-acre Niobrara Valley Preserve (NVP). This would reduce the severity and impacts of wildfire on surrounding communities. This project spans three years and includes six target sites totaling approximately 435 acres.

See [here](#) for more information on the Community Wildfire Defense Grants.

### ***Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Spotlight***

#### **Metropolitan Utilities District**

The Department of Transportation awarded \$10,000,000 to the Village of Stuart. The goal is to replace 58 miles of cast iron main and 4,988 services with PE pipe. The applicant also proposes to replace 3,593 inside meters and 2,468 outside meters for safety. In addition, the applicant proposes to replace two regulator stations.

See [here](#) for more information on Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grants

### ***Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Spotlight***

#### **Village of Stuart**

The Department of Transportation awarded \$216,662 to the Village of Stuart. The goal is to replace approximately 1 mile of steel and aging PVC gas mains with PE pipe. The applicant also proposes to install 20 new valves, acquire a GPS mapping of natural gas system and add an automated monitoring information system for 24-hour monitoring of gas system segments. The project will help improve public safety, protect public health, and reduce methane emissions from natural gas distribution pipes.

See [here](#) for more information on Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grants