
INVESTING IN AMERICA

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Arkansas

As of March 2024

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 Arkansas. To date, \$5.2 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Arkansas with over 344 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, approximately \$3.3 billion has been announced for transportation – to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports – and roughly \$260 million has been announced for clean water and water infrastructure. Arkansas received \$1.2 billion to connect everyone in the state to reliable high-speed internet and, as of today, more than 215,000 Arkansas households are already saving on their monthly internet bill 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 Arkansas – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve the lives of Arkansans and position the state for success.

Roads and Bridges: In Arkansas, there are 674 bridges and over 520 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, Arkansas is expected to receive approximately \$3.9 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** \$2.4 billion has been announced in Arkansas for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
 - \$2.1 billion in highway formula funding and \$180.5 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges to date.
 - \$73.4 million through the RAISE program to date.

Announced Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding is as of March 7, 2024

Internet: High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet over 215,621 homes and small businesses in Arkansas do not have access to high-speed internet infrastructure. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to everyone in America. The Biden-Harris Administration worked 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. Now, the Biden-Harris Administration is calling on Congress to extend this program through 2024. Without action from Congress, millions of Americans will lose their internet connection and the economic opportunities that come with it. See ACP enrollment for every state and territory [here](#).

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Arkansas has received \$1.2 billion for high-speed internet. Arkansas has received \$1 billion through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program to provide access to high-speed internet to everyone in Arkansas. In addition, about 215,000 households in Arkansas are enrolled in the Affordable Connectivity Program.

Water: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law represents the largest investment in water infrastructure in American history, including the first-ever dedicated federal funding to replace lead service lines and address dangerous PFAS chemicals.

- **Announced funding to date:** \$260 million has been announced to Arkansas to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
 - \$260 million available to date to provide clean and safe water across the state through the Environmental Protection Agency. Of this funding, \$88 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$79.8 million for safe drinking water investments that can also support lead pipe replacement.

Public Transit: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes the largest investment in public transit in U.S. history. Based on formula funding alone, Arkansas would expect to receive approximately \$244 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 Arkansas, where non-white households are 3.8 times more likely to commute via public transportation and 26% of transit vehicles in the state are currently past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** Arkansas has been allocated \$117.3 million to improve public transportation options across the state.

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 Law 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. Announced funding to date will double the number of clean transit buses on America's roads.

- **Announced funding to date:** Schools in Arkansas have been awarded \$14.1 million through the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program. Communities in Arkansas were awarded \$1.9 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, Arkansas should expect to receive roughly \$54 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** \$31.1 million has been announced in Arkansas to date to build out a network of EV chargers in the state.

Clean Energy & Power: Power outages cost the U.S. economy about \$150 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:** Approximately \$78 million has been allocated to Arkansas for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power. This includes:
 - \$32.9 million for weatherization;
 - \$5.4 million through the State Energy Program;
 - \$4.3 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
 - \$33.7 million to prevent outages and make the power grid more resilient.

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:** Arkansas has received approximately \$101.7 million for airports.

Ports and Waterways: 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:** Arkansas has received roughly \$644 million for ports and waterways. Arkansas was awarded \$6.4 million for a port project 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, Arkansas has experienced 35 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$6 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:** Approximately \$398.2 million has been allocated to Arkansas for infrastructure resilience, including \$39.9 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:** \$1 million has been allocated to cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites. Approximately \$14 million has been allocated to

Arkansas for capping orphaned oil and gas wells and reclaiming abandoned mine lands.

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

Arkansas Project Spotlights

Inland Waterways Project Spotlight

McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS) Three Rivers Project

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has invested \$192 million from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to upgrade and secure the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System (MKARNS), a critical 445-mile waterway that transports 12 million tons of goods and cargo annually across Arkansas and Oklahoma, connecting to the Mississippi River. The MKARNS Three Rivers project will prevent the White and Arkansas Rivers from merging, which would threaten the viability of the entire waterway. These investments will allow shippers to continue to move goods to shelves quickly, reliably, and at low cost.

See [here](#) for the full list of U.S. Army Corps projects announced in 2022.

Grid Innovation Spotlight

True Grid Intelligence with Distribution Automation

The Department of Energy Awarded \$18.3 million to the Arkansas Valley Electric Cooperative Corporation to develop its Smart Grid. aims to increase efficiency, reliability, and flexibility through the development of a Smart Grid using proven industry technologies that are connected and controlled by supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) software. The project will increase efficiency, reliability, and flexibility of AVECC's distribution grid to enhance lives within the rural cooperative territory and Justice40 disadvantaged communities by reducing grid maintenance costs and environmental impacts, as well as improving safety for electric utility workers and the community.

See [here](#) for a full list of Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) program awardees.

RAISE Project Spotlight

Old Stagecoach Road Complete Streets Connector

The Department of Transportation awarded \$25 million to the City of Bryant to reconstruct approximately 3.6 miles of Old Stagecoach Road (Highway 5), create a shared-use path, add continuous sidewalks, make storm drainage improvements, and complete utility work. The new sidewalks and shared use paths will provide users with active transportation options and improve public health and are expected to bring the crash rate in the underserved community of Bryant to below the statewide average.

See [here](#) for a full list of RAISE projects.

Renew America's Schools Project Spotlight

Clinton School District

The Department of Energy awarded \$1.5 million to install a 1 MW Solar PV system that will cover five acres of land and offset 100% of the district's energy use. This solar technology will be accompanied by a STEM career and technical education (CTE) curriculum, including hands-on learning opportunities for high school students on the installation and management of solar PV. This first-of-its-kind investment will help school communities make energy upgrades that will lower utilities costs, improve indoor air quality, and foster healthier learning environments.

See [here](#) to learn more about the Selectees for the Renew America's Schools grant.

Airport Project Spotlight

Northwest Arkansas National Airport Upgrades

The Northwest Arkansas National Airport was awarded \$13 million by the Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration to make significant upgrades that will improve the movement of passengers and baggage, provide better passenger services, support accessibility for passengers with disabilities, and increase energy efficiency. This project will improve the experience of travelers and reduce delays.

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

Resilience Project Spotlight

Flood Risk Reduction in Pine Bluff

The Department of Agriculture invested \$32 million through the National Resources and Conservation Service to reduce flood risks in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Over the past five years, flooding has caused significant problems for the residents and infrastructure in Pine Bluff. Funding will be used to develop solutions to prevent flooding and improve safety, health, and quality of life.

See [here](#) for the full list of Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO) Program projects that were announced in 2022.

Reconnecting Communities Project Spotlight

Little Rock I-30 Deck Park and Green Space

The Department of Transportation awarded the City of Little Rock with a \$2 million planning grant from the Reconnecting Communities Program to study the implementation of a deck park and green space at an I-30 crossing. The deck park could include playgrounds, sports fields and trees.

See [here](#) for a full list of announced Reconnecting Communities Awards.