INVESTING IN AMERICA

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in the Northern Mariana Islands

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 the Northern Mariana Islands. To date, \$244.5 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to the Northern Mariana Islands with over 22 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, approximately \$47.7 million has been announced for transportation – to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports – and roughly \$82 million has been announced for clean water and water infrastructure. The Northern Mariana Islands received \$83.2 million to connect everyone in the territory to reliable high-speed internet and, as of today, more than 3,000 Northern Mariana Islands 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 the Northern Mariana Islands – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve the lives of the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands 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, the Northern Mariana Islands is expected to receive approximately \$24 million over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

 Announced funding to date: \$19.8 million has been announced in the Northern Mariana Islands for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:

- \$4.6 million in highway formula funding to date.
- \$15.2 million through the RAISE program to date.

Internet: High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet over 10,331 homes and small businesses in the Northern Mariana Islands 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, the Northern Mariana Islands has
received \$83.2 million for high-speed internet. The Northern Mariana Islands has
received \$80.8 million through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment
(BEAD) Program to provide access to high-speed internet to everyone in the
Northern Mariana Islands. In addition, about 3,000 households in the Northern
Mariana Islands 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: \$82 million has been announced to the Northern Mariana Islands to provide clean and safe water across the territory and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
 - \$82 million available to date to provide clean and safe water across the territory through the Environmental Protection Agency. Of this funding, \$11.6 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$24.8 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, the Northern Mariana Islands would expect to receive approximately \$7 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the territory. This funding will expand healthy, sustainable transportation options in the Northern Mariana Islands.

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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.

• **Announced funding to date:** The Northern Mariana Islands has been allocated \$3 million to improve public transportation options across the territory.

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.

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 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 \$8.4 million has been allocated to the Northern Mariana Islands for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power. This includes:
 - \$915,000 for weatherization;
 - \$2.5 million through the State Energy Program;
 - \$1.5 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
 - \$3.4 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: The Northern Mariana Islands has received approximately \$24.2 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.

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:** Approximately \$22.8 million has been allocated to the Northern Mariana Islands for infrastructure resilience.

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 <u>here</u> to see a map of funding and announced projects in your community through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Northern Mariana Islands Project Spotlights

Airport Project Spotlight

Tinian International Airport

The Department of Transportation awarded over \$1 million to Tinian International Airport to improve the airport's facilities. This flexible funding can support projects modernize terminal infrastructure, improve safety, or address maintenance needs.

See here for the full list of announced Airport Infrastructure Grant projects.

Port Infrastructure Project Spotlight

Saipan Harbor Navigation Improvements

The Department of Transportation awarded the Commonwealth Ports Authority a \$3.1 million Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant to support planning work for Saipan Harbor Navigation Improvements. This planning project will study possible navigational improvements in the Saipan Harbor for two potential future projects. This project will help address the most urgent and systemic safety challenges at the facility by expanding the port's capacity. It will also boost economic competitiveness by allowing the port to serve additional ferries, cruise ships, and cargo vessels. The effort will consider innovative technologies during the planning and construction phase, such as using locally dredged materials for project construction to reduce costs and impacts on local marine life.

See here for more information on awarded grants through the RAISE program.

Airport Project Spotlight

Francisco C Ada/Saipan International

The Department of Transportation awarded over \$7.6 million to Francisco C. Ada & Saipan International Airport to improve the airport's facilities. This flexible funding can support projects to modernize terminal infrastructure, improve safety, or address maintenance needs.

See here for the full list of announced Airport Infrastructure Grant projects.

RAISE Grant Program Project Spotlight

Route 310 Mount Tapochao Road and Drainage Improvement

The Department of Transportation awarded CNMI Department of Public Works with approximately \$12 million to pave and widen the gravel Route 310 Mount Tapochao Road to provide enough travel surface for vehicles traveling in opposite direction to pass each other. Additional improvements will include installing a sidewalk, warning signs, striping and pavement delineation devices, new barriers, and an improved drainage system. The project also partners with historically underrepresented community groups to develop workforce strategies.

See here for a full list of RAISE projects.