
INVESTING IN AMERICA

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Rhode Island

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 Rhode Island. To date, \$2 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Rhode Island with over 72 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, approximately \$1.5 billion has been announced for transportation – to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports – and roughly \$206 million has been announced for clean water and water infrastructure. Rhode Island received \$147.8 million to connect everyone in the state to reliable high-speed internet and, as of today, more than 84,000 Rhode Island 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 Rhode Island – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve the lives of Rhode Islanders and position the state for success.

Roads and Bridges: In Rhode Island, there are 130 bridges and over 840 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, Rhode Island is expected to receive approximately \$1.8 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** \$1.3 billion has been announced in Rhode Island for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
 - \$888 million in highway formula funding and \$153 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges to date.

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

- \$55.2 million through the RAISE program to date.
- \$163.5 million through the INFRA 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 2,309 homes and small businesses in Rhode Island 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, Rhode Island has received \$147.8 million for high-speed internet. Rhode Island has received \$108.7 million through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program to provide access to high-speed internet to everyone in Rhode Island. In addition, about 84,000 households in Rhode Island 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:** \$206 million has been announced to Rhode Island to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
 - \$206 million available to date 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 \$62 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, Rhode Island would expect to receive approximately \$292 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 Rhode Island, where non-white households are 2.4 times more likely to commute via public transportation.

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:** Rhode Island has been allocated \$137.8 million to improve public transportation options across the state.

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 Rhode Island have been awarded \$9.9 million through the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program. Communities in Rhode Island were awarded \$5 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, Rhode Island should expect to receive roughly \$23 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** \$13.1 million has been announced in Rhode Island 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 \$81.1 million has been allocated to Rhode Island for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power. This includes:
 - \$15 million for weatherization;
 - \$3.3 million through the State Energy Program;

- \$2.8 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
- \$55.1 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:** Rhode Island has received approximately \$27 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:** Rhode Island has received roughly \$16.7 million for ports and waterways. Rhode Island was awarded \$15.1 million for 2 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. In the last decade, Rhode Island has experienced 10 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$360 million 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 \$72.2 million has been allocated to Rhode Island for infrastructure resilience including \$10.4 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:** \$3 million has been allocated to cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites.

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

Rhode Island Project Spotlights

Grid Innovation Spotlight

Smart Grid for Smart Decarbonization

The Department of Energy awarded \$50 million to Rhode Island Energy to deploy advanced technology in service of clean energy. Rhode Island Energy will deploy an integrated suite of information technology (IT) and operational technology (OT) smart grid investments that will provide the requisite capability, visibility, and control grid operators need to manage complex two-way power flows.

See [here](#) for more information on Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership program awardees.

RAISE Project Spotlight

Right-sizing Route 37: Improving Community Connectivity

The Department of Transportation awarded \$25 million to the Rhode Island Department of Transportation to fund multimodal improvements on RI Route 37. The project improves connections to transit, implements transit signal priority, and will better position the area to support future light rail and/or bus transit, increasing affordable transportation choices.

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

Low- and No-Emission Project Spotlight

Rhode Island Public Transit Authority

The Department of Transportation awarded \$5 million to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA) to buy hybrid electric buses to replace older diesel buses. The new buses will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality in disadvantaged communities, and enable RIPTA to improve operations and maintenance.

See [here](#) for a full list of FY23 Bus and Low- and No-Emission Grant projects.

Transportation Project Spotlight

Rehabilitation of the Bronco Highway Bridges

The US Department of Transportation awarded \$2.8 million to the Rhode Island Department of Transportation to rehabilitate the structurally deficient Mohegan Bridge, which carries Bronco Highway over the Branch River in Burrillville. The restoration project is critical to the local community, as the bridge serves as an important connector for residents and commerce in northwest Rhode Island.

See [here](#) for more on the Bronco Highway Rehabilitation Project.

Bridge Project Spotlight

Newport Pell Bridge Rehabilitation Project

The Department of Transportation awarded \$82.5 million to the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority to rehabilitate the Newport Pell Bridge, a 4-lane suspension bridge over Narragansett Bay. This bridge is designated a Critical Freight Corridor and connects mainland Rhode Island to Newport and provides affordable and efficient travel options for residents and tourists.

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

Resilience Project Spotlight

Deep Pond and School House Pond Watershed

The Department of Agriculture awarded \$14 million to projects aiming to address erosion control, water quality, and needed habitat improvement to the Deep Pond and School House Pond watershed in Charlestown, Rhode Island.

See [here](#) for the full list of Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations projects announced.

Brownfields Cleanup Project Spotlight

What Cheer Flower Farm

The Environmental Protection Agency awarded \$500,000 to What Cheer Flower Farm or a Brownfields Cleanup Grant. Grant funds will be used to clean up What Cheer Flower Farm. The site is contaminated with metals, chlorinated volatile organic compounds, petroleum, and inorganic contaminants. The funding will help accelerate clean-up efforts of contaminated sites, spur economic redevelopment, and build safer, more resilient communities for the next generation.

See [here](#) for a list Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (MARC) Grant projects.