
INVESTING IN AMERICA

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in the U.S. Virgin 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 U.S. Virgin Islands. To date, \$277.7 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to the U.S. Virgin Islands with over 25 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, approximately \$74.4 million has been announced for transportation – to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports – and roughly \$102 million has been announced for clean water and water infrastructure. The U.S. Virgin Islands received \$30.7 million to connect everyone in the territory to reliable high-speed internet and, as of today, more than 7,000 U.S. Virgin 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 U.S. Virgin Islands – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve the lives of the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands and position the territory for success.

Roads and Bridges: In the U.S. Virgin Islands, there are 71 bridges and over 728 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, the U.S. Virgin Islands is expected to receive approximately \$1.6 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** \$43.5 million has been announced in the U.S. Virgin Islands for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:

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

- \$18.4 million in highway formula funding to date.
- \$25 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 33,646 homes and small businesses in the U.S. Virgin 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 U.S. Virgin Islands has received \$30.7 million for high-speed internet. The U.S. Virgin Islands has received \$28.4 million through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program to provide access to high-speed internet to everyone in the U.S. Virgin Islands. In addition, about 7,000 households in the U.S. Virgin 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:** \$102 million has been announced to the U.S. Virgin Islands to provide clean and safe water across the territory and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
 - \$102 million available to date to provide clean and safe water across the territory through the Environmental Protection Agency. Of this funding, \$46.9 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$24.7 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 U.S. Virgin Islands would expect to receive approximately \$77 million over five years under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to improve public transit across the territory.¹ This funding will expand healthy, sustainable transportation options in the U.S. Virgin Islands, where

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.

non-white households are 2.6 times more likely to commute via public transportation and 35% of transit vehicles in the territory are currently past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** The U.S. Virgin Islands has been allocated \$9.5 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. Through the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program alone, the U.S. Virgin Islands should expect to receive roughly \$21 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the territory.

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 \$8.9 million has been allocated to the U.S. Virgin Islands for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power. This includes:
 - \$1.7 million for weatherization;
 - \$2.6 million through the State Energy Program;
 - \$1.6 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
 - \$3.1 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:** The U.S. Virgin Islands has received approximately \$18.4 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:** The U.S. Virgin Islands has received roughly \$451,000 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, the U.S. Virgin Islands has experienced 3 extreme weather events, costing the territory up to \$7.5 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 \$58.6 million has been allocated to the U.S. Virgin Islands for infrastructure resilience including \$52.7 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.

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

U.S. Virgin Islands Project Spotlights

Airport Project Spotlight

Cyril E King Airport

Overview: The Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration awarded \$7.9 million to Cyril E King Airport to improve the airport. This flexible funding can support projects to modernize infrastructure, improve safety, or address maintenance needs.

See [here](#) for the full list of Airport Infrastructure Grant projects announced.

Transit Project Spotlight

St. Thomas-St. John Ferry Route

The U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Public Works has been awarded \$1.7 million from the Federal Transit Administration's Ferry Grant Program to purchase an additional ferry for service on the St. Thomas-St. John route. The third ferry will improve service reliability and accommodate an increase in ridership on the route.

See [here](#) for more information on FTA's Ferry Grant awards.

RAISE Grant Program Project Spotlight

Veterans Drive Improvements Phase 2

This \$25 million grant from Department of Transportation's will fund the second phase of the Charlotte Amalie Waterfront Revitalization Program: The Veterans Drive (Route 30) Improvements Project. Phase II will extend one mile from Hospital Gade to Kronprindsens Tvaer Gade (Windward Passage Hotel) and construct a tree-lined four lane roadway, divided by a raised median, and a new seawall and promenade. This project will reduce traffic congestion in downtown Amalie and facilitate tourism by connecting more businesses and hotels to ferry, port, and plane terminals.

See [here](#) for the full list of RAISE Grant recipients.