

**PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN**

# **BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA**

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## **President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in Louisiana**

As of February 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 Louisiana. To date, \$4.1 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to Louisiana with over 160 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, Louisiana will receive approximately \$3.2 billion for transportation to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports and roughly \$101 million for clean water. And, as of today, more than 372,000 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 Louisiana – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Louisianians and position the state for success.

**Roads and Bridges:** In Louisiana, there are 1634 bridges and over 3,411 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, Louisiana is expected to receive approximately \$5.9 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$2.3 billion has been announced in Louisiana for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
  - \$1.9 billion in highway formula funding and \$438.2 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges in 2022 and 2023.

- \$63.1 million through the RAISE program, \$59.6 million through the INFRA program, and \$25 million through the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program in 2022 and 2023.

**Internet:** High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet nearly 30% of Louisianians do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. Louisiana 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 869,000 households in Louisiana 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, Louisiana has received \$2 million through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) to help provide access to high-speed internet across the state. In addition, about 372,000 households in Louisiana 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, \$101 million has been announced to Louisiana to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
  - \$101 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, \$42.4 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$26.9 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, Louisiana would expect to receive approximately \$479 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 Louisiana, where non-white households are 4.3 times more likely to commute via public transportation and 24% transit vehicles in the state are currently past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Louisiana has been allocated \$90.8 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, Louisiana has been awarded \$43.8 million for the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program. In addition, communities in Louisiana were awarded \$6.9 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, Louisiana should expect to receive roughly \$73 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** Louisiana has been allocated \$26.5 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

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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.

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 \$375.3 million has been allocated to Louisiana for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022 and 2023. This includes:
  - \$31 million for weatherization;
  - \$10.5 million through the State Energy Program;
  - \$5.3 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
  - \$8.5 million to prevent outages and make the power grid more resilient. Additional grid funding will be made available in the coming months; and
  - \$319.8 million to help strengthen the battery supply chain.

**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 US become more economically competitive globally, creates good jobs, and revitalizes and supports more efficient and enhanced traveler experience.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, Louisiana has received approximately \$44.1 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, Louisiana has received roughly \$545.7 million in 2022 and 2023 for ports and waterways. Louisiana was awarded \$10 million for 1 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, Louisiana has experienced 36 extreme

weather events, costing the state up to \$200 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 \$376.9 million has been allocated to Louisiana for infrastructure resilience in 2022 and 2023 including \$15.3 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 \$47.4 million has been allocated to Louisiana in 2022 and 2023 for capping orphaned oil and gas wells and reclaiming abandoned mine lands and \$5.5 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.

## Louisiana Project Spotlights

### *Bridge Project Spotlight*

#### **Calcasieu River Bridge Replacement**

The Department of Transportation awarded \$150 million to the Louisiana Department of Transportation \$150 million to replace the I-10 Calcasieu River Bridge in Calcasieu Parish, LA. The existing bridge, constructed before the Interstate Highway System, is structurally and functionally deficient, resulting in significant freight bottlenecks. The new bridge will relieve congestion and improve regional mobility, supply chain efficiency, and safety. A workforce agreement will be created for the project that includes ways to target jobs and training opportunities to underserved communities.

See [here](#) for recently announced Mega funding.

## ***Clean Energy and Power Spotlight***

### **Expansion of Battery Manufacturing Facility in Vidalia, Louisiana**

The Department of Energy awarded approximately \$220 million for the expansion of Syrah's commercial-scale natural graphite active anode material (AAM) facility in Vidalia, Louisiana. Upon the start of the production, Syrah's Vidalia facility will be the only vertically integrated and large-scale natural graphite AAM producer outside China and the first large-scale natural graphite AAM producer in the U.S. This new investment will expand domestic manufacturing of batteries for electric vehicles and the electrical grid. The initial expansion of Vidalia's production capacity will add 101 jobs, and the Phase 3 Expansion is expected to add 120 jobs. Syrah's community strategy includes partnering with over 150 local vendors to prioritize local investments and spending.

See [here](#) for the full list of 2022 Battery Materials Processing grant recipients.

## ***Rural Surface Transportation Project Spotlight***

### **Louisiana DOT&D Ferry Design and Construction**

The Department of Transportation awarded the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development \$25 million to design and construct two ferry boats. One ferry boat will provide continued access across the Mississippi River between Highway 23 and Highway 39 at Pointe a la Hache, and between Belle Chasse and Scarsdale in Plaquemines Parish. The other ferry boat will provide continued access across the Calcasieu Ship Channel in Cameron Parish. Project Benefits: The new ferries will improve upon existing ferry services, benefiting the communities with reduced down time, lower operations and maintenance costs, reduced environmental impacts, improved safety, and time savings. Additionally, the project will improve economic opportunity in these communities by providing consistent and reliable ferry service.

See [here](#) for more information on Rural Surface Transportation Grant recipients.

## ***Road Project Spotlight***

### **North Baton Rouge Mobility Project**

The Department of Transportation has awarded \$59.6 million to the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge to fund a project with three components: 1) The Airline Highway North Expansion will improve a five-mile segment of U.S. Route 190 by adding a lane in each direction, improving turn lanes, and adding connections to local transit, bike and pedestrian networks; 2) The Florida Boulevard component will make pedestrian and bus improvements; and 3) The Scotlandville Parkway Mobility Network will convert an existing trail to a new pathway for pedestrians and bicyclists. The project will make pedestrian improvements on key corridors in Baton Rouge, which is one of the more dangerous pedestrian cities in America with disproportionate impacts to communities of color. Proposed improvements benefit an area where 95% of city's

unemployed residents live and will provide more affordable transportation options to help people get to jobs and social services.

See [here](#) for more information on INFRA award recipients.

### ***Battery Manufacturing Project Spotlight***

#### **Battery Manufacturing Plant in St. Gabriel, Louisiana**

The Department of Energy has awarded Koura \$100 million to help build the first U.S. manufacturing plant for lithium hexafluorophosphate (LiPF<sub>6</sub>) on the grounds of the company's existing fluorochemical production site in St. Gabriel, Louisiana. Currently, there are no large-scale domestic producers of LiPF<sub>6</sub> and all of it comes from foreign imports. This new plant will support the broader development of a resilient and stable domestic lithium-ion battery supply chain in the U.S., providing direct benefits to automotive companies that are producing EVs to reduce the use of fossil fuels.

See [here](#) for the full list of 2022 Battery Materials Processing grant recipients.