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# INVESTING IN AMERICA

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## President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Delivering in South Carolina

As of May 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 South Carolina. To date, \$2.6 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been announced and is headed to South Carolina with over 160 specific projects identified for funding. Since the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, approximately \$2.2 billion has been announced for transportation – to invest in roads, bridges, public transit, ports and airports – and roughly \$203 million has been announced for clean water. And, as of today, more than 335,000 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 South Carolina – including rural communities and historically underserved populations – the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for South Carolinians and position the state for success.

**Roads and Bridges:** In South Carolina, there are 745 bridges and over 3,786 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, South Carolina is expected to receive approximately \$4.9 billion over five years in federal funding for highways and bridges.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, \$1.9 billion has been announced in South Carolina for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects. This includes:
  - \$1.8 billion in highway formula funding and \$118.5 million in dedicated formula funding for bridges in 2022 and 2023.
  - \$12.8 million through the RAISE program in 2022 and 2023.

*Announced Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding is as of April 20, 2023*

**Internet:** High-speed internet is necessary for Americans to do their jobs, participate in school, access health care, and stay connected. Yet nearly 27% of South Carolinians do not have an internet subscription. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$65 billion to provide affordable, high-speed internet to every American. South Carolina 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 827,000 households in South Carolina 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, South Carolina has received \$5 million through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment Program (BEAD) to help provide access to high-speed internet across the state. In addition, about 335,000 households in South Carolina 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, \$204 million has been announced to South Carolina to provide clean and safe water across the state and improve water infrastructure. This includes:
  - \$204 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, \$68.5 million is dedicated to lead pipe and service line replacement, with another \$49.6 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, South Carolina would expect to receive approximately \$373 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 South Carolina, where non-white

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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.

households are 4.4 times more likely to commute via public transportation and 15% transit vehicles in the state are currently past useful life.

- **Announced funding to date:** To date, South Carolina has been allocated \$71.3 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, schools in South Carolina have been awarded \$58.5 million through the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program. In addition, communities in South Carolina were awarded \$3.9 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, South Carolina should expect to receive roughly \$70 million in formula funding over five years to support the expansion of electric vehicle charging in the state.

- **Announced funding to date:** South Carolina has been allocated \$25.3 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 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 \$66.1 million has been allocated to South Carolina for clean energy, energy efficiency, and power in 2022 and 2023. This includes:

- \$42.6 million for weatherization;
- \$6.9 million through the State Energy Program;
- \$6.1 million through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program;
- \$10.5 million to prevent outages and make the power grid more resilient. Additional grid funding will be made available in the coming months.

**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:** To date, South Carolina has received approximately \$75.1 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, South Carolina has received roughly \$21.5 million in 2022 and 2023 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, South Carolina has experienced 40 extreme weather events, costing the state up to \$15 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 \$66.3 million has been allocated to South Carolina for infrastructure resilience in 2022 and 2023 including \$99,000 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 \$1 million has been allocated to cleaning up brownfield sites.

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

## **South Carolina Project Spotlights**

### ***Waterways Project Spotlight***

#### **Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway**

Overview: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awarded \$12.6 million for upland placement area maintenance and haul-out of South Carolina's segment of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. The waterway is an inland channel for commercial shipping and recreational boaters. The projects will improve the condition of the dredging placement area which will support the region's supply chain and reduce risks from disasters.

See [here](#) for the full list of U.S. Army Corps projects announced earlier this year.

### ***Airport Project Spotlight***

#### **Columbia Metropolitan Airport (CAE)**

The Federal Aviation Administration has awarded \$5 million to the Columbia Metropolitan Airport under the Airport Terminal Program. The funds will be used to expand the current terminal by 5,400 sq. ft. and will add a fourth security screening lane. This expansion will reduce travel time for passengers and bring the current check point up to TSA standards.

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

### ***Resilience Project Spotlight***

#### **Sandy Island Flood Prevention**

Overview: The Department of Agriculture awarded \$2.5 million to Georgetown County, South Carolina for watershed and flood prevention operations on Sandy Island, where recent flooding has threatened homes, businesses, and transportation routes.

See [here](#) for the full list of Natural Resources and Conservation Service projects announced.

### ***Public Transportation Project Spotlight***

#### **Clean Buses for Clemson**

**Overview:** The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded the City of Clemson \$3.9 million buy new zero emission battery electric buses to replace older diesel buses that have exceeded their useful life. The project will improve service reliability and air quality for students of Clemson University and residents of the City of Clemson and surrounding areas.

See [here](#) for more information on Low or No Emission Bus programs that were announced.

### ***RAISE Project Spotlight***

#### **Lowcountry Lowline: Reconnecting Disadvantaged Communities near I-26**

Overview: The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded the City of Charleston \$7 million for a project that will fund planning and pre-construction activities such as design engineering, permitting, environmental remediation of contaminated soil, National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) review, equity-focused community engagement, and project management for an approximate 2-mile shared pathway that will create new linkages to metro area's transit system.

Once completed, this project will allow for more affordable transportation options, decreasing the number of miles people need to drive and reducing vehicle emissions. A brownfield site will be rehabilitated and flood management will be improved. This project will create a multimodal network that will connect disadvantaged communities to essential services.

See [here](#) for information on RAISE projects that were announced.