

# INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS AND JOBS ACT SUMMARY

BREAKDOWN AND SUMMARY FOR COMMUNITIES WITH AN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE LENS



NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, CLIMATE, AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

# INTRODUCTION

President Biden signed the bipartisan \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) into law on Nov. 15, 2021. This Act provides monumental investments to improve and repair our roads and bridges, deliver clean drinking water to our schools and homes, mitigate the effects of climate change, improve transportation, and create millions of good-paying jobs.

The purpose of this publication is to highlight the investments within IIJA that have the potential to aid and lift up environmental justice communities specifically. This is to serve as a quick reference guide, broken down section-by-section, into what funds are becoming available for specific projects. This covers transportation infrastructure investments, water, energy, broadband, improving community resilience, and allocations specifically for indigenous communities.

We hope that this document can serve as a useful starting point in our efforts to ensure that funds from IIJA actually reach the frontline and fence-line communities and work to provide long-term solutions to various environmental issues, so that we can be that much closer to forming more viable, resilient, thriving communities.



# NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM TEAM

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# OPENING MESSAGE

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The National Wildlife Federation Environmental Justice Program developed this publication as a valuable resource to share key aspects of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

IIJA makes \$1.2 trillion in funding available over five years for programs across the water, energy, building, and transportation sectors to improve our vast and aging infrastructure. Key priorities and solutions no longer have to be

formed from a place of scarcity. However, plans for spending IIJA money will vary significantly across race, communities, and geographic locations. Whether these inequities stem from archaic protocols, a lack of engagement and information, or the absence of capacity and resources, we are committed to delivering the latest tools and information to ensure vulnerable communities are able to benefit.

By centering intentionality and race, decision-makers can begin to correct infrastructure decisions from the past that represented a legacy of harm, particularly for households with low income and communities of color.

From deteriorating bridges, tunnels, dams, and water systems, to rapid and major transportation, flood controls, pedestrian and telecom system upgrades, we have a collective opportunity to connect and implement sustainable solutions

We aim to communicate connections and ideas that can assist local community and faith leaders, policy makers and influencers, agency leaders, and funders as they prioritize communities most in need. We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to help our most vulnerable communities move from, “Surviving to Thriving.”



**Dr. Mustafa Santiago Ali**

Vice President of Environmental Justice, Climate, and  
Community Revitalization

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# ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, CLIMATE, AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

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The Federation's environmental justice initiatives build upon more than a decade of relationship building and community engagement. Our environmental justice program is rooted in race and social justice by design.

The program is underpinned by a philosophy of listening before talking, giving before asking, sharing resources, and building community capacity. We intentionally prioritize, amplify, and include policy solutions, views, and voices of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, Pacific Islander, people of color, and communities with lower wealth. We invest the time and cultural respect required to build authentic relationships and connect our policy and advocacy efforts to those communities severely impacted by climate change.



**Simone Lightfoot**

Associate Vice President of  
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Much of this work operates at the intersection of opportunity and crisis. From pipelines and PFAS to wetlands and water, our environmental justice efforts connect with issues like climate induced flooding and other natural disasters, infrastructure, poverty, food insecurity, and more. This work connects local conservation concerns and stakeholders with resources and organizations to help them thrive.

As we advocate for much-needed economic stimulus in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have a rich opportunity to create a smarter, more resilient, and nature-based future that builds wealth among vulnerable communities through equitable and just recovery policies and programs. We know that to achieve this, communities most impacted by the climate crisis must be front and center.

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# WHAT DOES THE BILL INCLUDE?

The Infrastructure Investments and Job Act (IIJA) consists of \$1.2 trillion for infrastructure work, including authorizing \$35 billion in water infrastructure investments over five years, supplemented by more than \$62 billion in additional appropriations to augment critical infrastructure programs and address public health threats.<sup>i</sup>

This bill provides investments to improve and repair roads and bridges, deliver clean drinking water to schools and homes, mitigate the effects of climate change, improve transportation, and create millions of good-paying jobs. Some of these investments include \$55 billion to upgrade and maintain water infrastructure, over \$62 billion to increase the availability of reliable, clean, and affordable power across the country, and \$47 billion to improve resiliency in areas such as flood mitigation, wildfire, drought, coastal resiliency, waste management, ecosystem restoration, and weatherization.



Construction workers place concrete for a ramp (Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)



Road damage due to a dam breach in Colorado (Source: USFWS Mountain-Prairie)





# KEY AREAS COVERED

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## Broadband

\$65 billion allocated overall for grants to states for broadband deployment and other efforts to address access issues in rural areas and low-income communities.



## Energy

Over \$62 billion invested to increase the access to reliable, clean, and affordable power across the country and investments in energy manufactures and technological developments.



## Resilience

\$47 billion allocated overall for resiliency in areas such as flood mitigation, wildfire, drought, coastal resiliency, waste management, ecosystem restoration, and weatherization.



## Transportation Infrastructure

\$110 billion allocated overall for roads, bridges, & major projects. This will fund a new, dedicated grant program to replace and repair bridges and increases funding for the major project grant programs.



## Tribal

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act includes many provisions for which Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations are eligible to receive, several of which are highlighted in sections above.



## Water

\$55 billion allocated to upgrade and maintain our nation's drinking water and clean water infrastructure.



## Western Water Infrastructure

Authorizes and appropriates \$8.3 billion for FY 2022-2026 for Bureau of Reclamation western water infrastructure.





# BROADBAND

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*\$65 billion allocated overall for grants to states for broadband deployment and other efforts to address access issues in rural areas and low-income communities.<sup>ii</sup>*

- \$42.45 billion to the **Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Program**, a formula-based grant program to States, territories and the District of Columbia for the purposes of broadband deployment.<sup>iii</sup> (Section 60102)
  - The funding includes 10% set-aside for high-cost areas and each state and territory receives an initial minimum allocation, a portion of which could be used for technical assistance and supporting or establishing a state broadband office.
  - To increase affordability, all funding recipients must offer a low-cost plan.
  - States would be required to have plans to address all unserved areas before they are able to fund deployment projects in underserved areas. After both unserved and underserved areas are addressed, states may use funds for anchor institution projects.
  - If a state fails to apply for funding, a local government could apply on their behalf.
- \$600 million for **Private Activity Bonds (PABs)** which allows states to issue PABs to finance broadband deployment, specifically for projects in rural areas where a majority of households do not have access to broadband.<sup>iv</sup>(Section 80401)
- \$2 billion for programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, including the **ReConnect Program**, that provide loans and grants (or a combination of loans and grants) to fund the construction, acquisition or improvement of facilities and equipment that provide broadband service in rural areas.<sup>v</sup> (Division J, Title X)
- \$1 billion for the **“Middle Mile”** which creates a competitive grant program for the construction, improvement or acquisition of middle-mile infrastructure.<sup>vi</sup> (Section 60401)
  - Eligible entities include telecommunications companies, technology companies, electric utilities, utility cooperative, etc.
  - The “middle mile” refers to the installation of a dedicated line that transmits a signal to and from an internet Point of Presence. Competition of middle-mile routes is necessary to serve areas, reducing capital expenditures, and lowering operating costs.



- \$2 billion for the **Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program**.<sup>vii</sup> (Section 60201)
    - Established by the December COVID-19 relief package and is administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).
    - Grants from this program will be made available to eligible Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian entities for broadband deployment as well as for digital inclusion, workforce development, telehealth and distance learning.
  - \$2.75 billion establishes two **Digital Equity Act grant programs** which are NTIA-administered grant programs, to promote digital inclusion and equity for communities that lack the skills, technologies and/or support needed to take advantage of broadband connections.<sup>viii</sup> (Section 60304)
    - State Digital Equity capacity grant program: Appropriates funds for planning grants to states to develop State Equity Plans and to support implementation and digital inclusion initiatives. Makes distributions to states based on their populations, demographics, and availability and adoption of broadband.
    - Digital Equity competitive grant program: Appropriates funds for competitive grants to public and nonprofit entities for a range of digital inclusion and broadband adoption activities.
  - \$14.2 billion to establish a permanent **Affordable Connectivity Benefit** (formerly a temporary Emergency Broadband Benefit) to ensure low-income families can access the internet.<sup>ix</sup> (Section 60502)
    - The program provides a \$30 per month voucher for low-income families to use toward any internet service plan of their choosing. It builds on the Emergency Broadband Benefit, making the benefit permanent and expanding eligibility to help more low-income households, while also making it more sustainable for taxpayers.
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# ENERGY

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*Over \$62 billion invested to increase the access to reliable, clean, and affordable power across the country and investments in energy manufactures and technological developments.<sup>x</sup>*

- \$1 billion over five years for the **Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program**. This program will provide funds for projects that remove barriers to opportunity caused by legacy infrastructure. The program will provide dedicated funding for planning, design, demolition, and reconstruction of street grids, parks, or other infrastructure. (Section 11101)<sup>xi</sup>
  - \$150 million for Planning Grants that counties can apply for directly through USDOT for planning funds to carry out feasibility studies on the impact of removing or mitigating physical infrastructure barriers, including within communities, to improve accessibility and facilitate economic development at an 80 percent federal share.<sup>xii</sup>
  - \$350 million for Capital Construction Grants for owners of an eligible facilities to apply through USDOT to carry out projects, including the removal, retrofit or mitigation of an eligible facility and the replacement of an existing facility with a new facility that restores connectivity.<sup>xiii</sup>
- \$750 million to create the **Advanced Energy Manufacturing and Recycling grant program** to support small- and medium-sized manufacturers to enable them to build new or retrofit existing manufacturing and industrial facilities to produce or recycle advanced energy products in communities where coal mines or coal power plants have closed.<sup>xiv</sup> (Section 40209)
- \$5 billion for the **Clean School Bus Program** an EPA competitive grant program to replace thousands of diesel school buses with electric buses.<sup>xv</sup> (Section 71101)
- \$7.5 billion for alternative fuel corridors and a national build out of **electric vehicle charging infrastructure**. The federal funding will have a particular focus on rural and/or disadvantaged communities.<sup>xvi</sup> (Division J, Title VIII)
- \$3.5 billion in the **Weatherization Assistance Program** to increase energy efficiency, increase health and safety, and reduce energy costs for low-income households by hundreds of dollars every year.<sup>xvii</sup> (Section 40551)
- \$500 million to provide **energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements at public school facilities**.<sup>xviii</sup> (Section 40541)



- Local education agencies and public schools are eligible to apply to USDOE for competitive grants to carry out eligible activities. These include improvements, repairs or renovations to schools that directly decrease energy costs, improvements teacher and student health, installation of alternative fueling infrastructure on school grounds for buses or the public, etc.
- \$550 million in the **Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)** and \$500 million in the State Energy Program to provide grants to communities, cities, states, U.S. territories, and Indian tribes to develop and implement clean energy programs and projects that will create jobs.<sup>xix</sup> (Section 40552)
- \$2.5 billion over 5 years for the **Transmission Facilitation Program**. This revolving loan fund that allows the Department of Energy (“DOE”) to offer loans to, and enter into capacity contracts with, transmission developers in order to provide financial stability to proposed transmission projects. Counties can apply directly to USDOE for these competitive funds to carry out eligible projects. These include constructing or replacing an electric power transmission line, increasing transmission capacities, or connecting an isolated microgrid to an existing infrastructure corridor.<sup>xx</sup> (Section 40106)
- \$3 billion over five years for the new **Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grid Investment Matching competitive grant program**. Counties can apply directly through USDOE for projects that improve the flexibility of the grid. These include upgrading existing transmission and distribution systems, and other actions, like deploying energy storage. Together, it will help the grid accommodate a new energy future where families and businesses often generate their own clean energy through microgrids and other distributed energy sources.<sup>xxi</sup> (Section 40107)
- \$700 million for **existing hydropower facilities** to improve efficiency, maintain dam safety, reduce environmental impacts, and ensure generators continue to provide emission-free electricity.<sup>xxii</sup> (Section 40332-40333)
  - Authorizes DOE to make incentive payments to the owners and operators of hydroelectric facilities for capital improvements related to maintaining and enhancing hydroelectricity generation by improving grid resiliency, improving dam safety, and environmental improvements.<sup>xxiii</sup>
- \$21.5 billion in funding for **clean energy demonstrations and research hubs** focused on next generation technologies needed to achieve our goal of net-zero by 2050, including:
  - \$8 billion for clean hydrogen, which will turbo-charge our progress toward heavy trucking and industrial sectors that run without producing carbon pollution.





- More than \$10 billion for carbon capture, direct air capture and industrial emission reduction, providing skills-matched opportunities for fossil fuel workers.
  - \$2.5 billion for advanced nuclear, which would provide 24/7 clean electricity and create good-paying jobs.
  - \$1 billion for demonstration projects in rural areas and \$500 million for demonstration projects in economically hard-hit communities.<sup>xxiv</sup> (Division J, Title III)
  - \$310 million over five years to establish a **Carbon Utilization Grant Program**. State and local governments are eligible for new grants to procure and use products derived from captured carbon oxides. It expands the DOE's Carbon Utilization Program objectives to include developing standards and certifications to support the commercialization of carbon oxide products.<sup>xxv</sup> (Section 40302)
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# RESILIENCE

\$47 billion allocated overall for resiliency in areas such as flood mitigation, wildfire, drought, coastal resiliency, waste management, ecosystem restoration, and weatherization.<sup>xxvi</sup>

## INFRASTRUCTURE

- \$1 billion for the **FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program**. This is a pre-disaster mitigation program, supporting states, local communities, Tribes and territories undertaking hazard mitigation projects to reduce the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards.<sup>xxvii</sup> (Section 70204)
- \$3.5 billion over five years for the **Flood Mitigation Assistance program**, which helps provide financial and technical assistance to states and communities to reduce the risk of flood damage to homes and businesses through buyouts, elevation and other activities.<sup>xxviii</sup> (Section 70204)
- \$500 million for the **Safeguarding Tomorrow Through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Act** which will provide state and local governments with the ability to create resilience revolving loan funds for infrastructure projects.<sup>xxix</sup>
  - This FEMA grant program may finance water, wastewater, infrastructure, disaster recovery, community and small business development projects.
- \$350 million and other support for the **Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program** to improve habitat connectivity and reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions, including expanded eligibility within existing highway programs to include wildlife crossing and natural infrastructure projects.<sup>xxx</sup> Counties can apply directly to USDOT for this new competitive grant program.<sup>xxxi</sup> (Section 11101 & 11123)
- \$1.4 billion toward a new **Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) grant program**, which will make U.S. surface transportation more resilient to extreme weather, including through natural infrastructure.<sup>xxxii</sup> (Section 11405)
  - This consists of formula and competitive grants to help States improve the resiliency of transportation infrastructure. Resilience grants comprise of resilience improvement grants, community resilience and evacuation route grants, and at-risk coastal infrastructure grants.



- \$500 million for a **Healthy Streets Program** which includes grants the development of “cool” and “porous” pavement and tree-cover expansion projects that will mitigate some of the impacts of rising urban temperatures and reduce stormwater risks.<sup>xxxiii</sup> (Section 11406)
  - The goals of the program are to mitigate urban heat islands, improve air quality, and reduce the extent of impervious surfaces, storm water runoff and flood risks, and heat impacts to infrastructure and road users.
- \$2.55 billion for coastal storm risk management, hurricane and storm damage reduction projects, and related activities for states that have been impacted by federally declared disasters over the last six years. (Division J, Title III)

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

- \$75 million for the **RECYCLE Act**, which authorizes a new \$15 million per year grant program at the EPA to help educate households and consumers about their residential and community recycling program. This helps decrease contamination in the recycling stream and helps support recycling infrastructure.<sup>xxxiv</sup> (Section 70402)
- \$100 million for the **EPA Pollution Prevention program**, where the EPA provides grants and technical assistance to help businesses adopt pollution prevention practices. (Division J, Title VI)
- \$200 million for the **NOAA Marine Debris program**, which promotes action to reduce debris in our ocean, including clean up and response actions needed as a result of severe marine debris events.<sup>xxxv</sup> (Division J, Title II)
- \$275 million for the **Save Our Seas 2.0 Act**. This will provide post-consumer materials management grants, at \$55 million per year, to support improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling program.<sup>xxxvi</sup> (Division J, Title VI)

## FLOOD

- \$3.5 billion for **FEMA flood mitigation assistance grants** to support mitigation activities for socially vulnerable or economically disadvantaged property owners.<sup>xxxvii</sup> (Division J, Title V)
  - This competitive grant program provides funding to state and local governments for projects that reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured by the national flood insurance program.



- \$492 million for **NOAA coastal and inland flood inundation mapping, observations, and modeling** including modernized precipitation frequency and probably maximum studies. (Division J, Title II)
- \$491 million for contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements to provide funding and technical assistance for **restoring marine, estuarine, coastal, or Great Lakes ecosystem habitat, or constructing or protecting ecological features** that protect coastal communities from flooding or coastal storms. (Division J, Title II)
- \$492 million for **NOAA National Coastal Resiliency Fund** (National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund).<sup>xxxviii</sup> (Division J, Title II)
  - Grant program for conservation projects that restore or expand natural features such as coastal marshes and wetlands, dune and beach systems, oyster and coral reefs, forests, coastal rivers and floodplains, and barrier islands that minimize the impacts of storms and other naturally occurring events on nearby communities.

## DROUGHT

- \$3.2 billion over 5 years for the **Aging Infrastructure Account** (created in the 2020 Consolidated Appropriations bill). This provides funds and funding assistance to The Bureau of Reclamation for costs of certain major, nonrecurring maintenance of bureau owned water infrastructure at water infrastructure projects across the West that need major upgrades or replacement.<sup>xxxix</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$100 million for reserved or transferred works that have suffered a critical failure.
  - \$100 million for dam rehabilitation, reconstruction or replacement.
- \$300 million for **Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plan** implementation, including \$50 million for Upper Basin States.<sup>xi</sup> (Section 40901).
- \$400 million for **WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants**, including \$100 million for natural infrastructure projects.<sup>xii</sup> (Section 40901)

## WILDFIRE

- \$3.3 billion to the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service for **wildfire risk reduction and management**. This will provide funding for community wildfire defense grants, mechanical thinning, controlled burns, the Collaborative Forest Restoration Program, and firefighting resources.<sup>xlii</sup> (Section 40803)





- \$225 million over 5 years for the Department of Interior to carry out **Burned Area Rehabilitation** activities.<sup>xliii</sup> (Division J, Title VI)
- \$200 million over 5 years for the Forest Service to carry out **State and Private Forestry grants** to states for hazardous fuel work. <sup>xliv</sup> (Division J, Title VI)
  - This includes \$88 million over 5 years for State Fire Assistance Grants for hazardous fuels projects and \$20 million over 5 years for Volunteer Fire Assistance grants.
- \$500 million over 5 years for **Forest Service Community Defense Grants** to at-risk communities, with a priority for high wildfire hazard and low-income communities.<sup>xlv</sup> (Division J, Title VI)
- \$50 million for **wildfire prediction, detection, observation, modeling, and forecasting** FY 22. <sup>xlvi</sup> (Division J, Title VI)

## ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

- \$2.1 billion for **ecosystem restoration**.<sup>xlvii</sup> (Section 40804)
  - \$400 million shall be made available to the Secretary of the Interior to provide grants to states, territories of the United States, and Indian Tribes for implementing voluntary ecosystem restoration projects on private or public land.
- \$350 million and other support for the **Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program** to improve habitat connectivity and reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions, including expanded eligibility within existing highway programs to include wildlife crossing and natural infrastructure projects.<sup>xlviii</sup> (Section 11101 & 11123)
  - Counties can apply directly to USDOT for this new competitive grant program. <sup>xlix</sup>
- \$150 million for **NOAA marine debris assessment, prevention, mitigation and removal**, with an additional \$50 million for marine debris prevention and removal through National Sea Grant Program.<sup>l</sup> (Division J, Title II)



# TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

\$110 billion allocated overall for Roads, Bridges, & Major Projects. This funds new, dedicated grant program to replace and repair bridges and increases funding for the major project competitive grant programs. Preserves the 90/10 split of federal highway aid to states.<sup>li</sup>

## ROADS / BRIDGES

- \$36.7 billion for the **Bridge Investment Grant Program**, a competitive grant program to assist the repair and replacement of deficient and outdated bridges and ease the national bridge repair backlog.<sup>liii</sup> (Section 11101)
  - In addition to the competitive program, this funding also supports a bridge formula program for States to help support the \$125 billion bridge repair backlog (as estimated by the American Society of Civil Engineers).
  - Counties can apply directly to USDOT for the competitive portion of this program.
- \$2 billion to establish a **Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program**, these competitive grants will be provided to eligible entities to improve and expand the surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas.<sup>liiii</sup> (Section 11101)
  - Counties can apply directly to USDOT for these funds to carry out a wide variety of highway and bridge projects that increase connectivity, improve safety, and facilitate the movement of goods and people.<sup>liv</sup>
- \$7.5 billion in **Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants**, which supports surface transportation projects of local and/or regional significance. <sup>liv</sup> (Division J, Title VIII)
- \$15 billion over 5 years for the establishment of the **National Infrastructure Project Assistance grant program** which supports multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects of national or regional significance. These are competitive grants that counties can apply for directly through USDOT to assist with a number of eligible projects, including: highway and bridge projects, at-grade rail crossings, intercity passenger rail systems, and public transit. <sup>lvi</sup> (Division J, Title VII)



- \$3.2 billion over 5 years for the **Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program**, which supports highway and rail projects of regional and national economic significance.<sup>lvii</sup> (Division J, Title VIII)
- \$1.25 billion over 5 years for the **Appalachian Development Highway System Formula Program**. The Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS) consists of a series of highway corridors connecting 13 Appalachian states, from New York to Alabama. The routes are designed as local and regional routes for improving economic development in the historically isolated region. This dedicated funding will help complete the ADHS and spur economic development in Appalachia.<sup>lviii</sup> (Division J, Title VII)
- \$95 million for the **University Transportation Centers Program**, which advances the state-of-the-art in transportation research and technology.<sup>lix</sup> (Division J, Title VIII)
- \$1 billion for a new **Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Program** that will provide grants to states for the removal, replacement, and restoration of culverts to address flow of water through roads, bridges, railroad tracks, and trails.<sup>lx</sup> (Division J, Title VII)
- \$10 billion in funding for roadway safety. Of this, \$5 billion is set aside for a **Safe Streets for All Program**, which funds state and local "vision zero" plans and other improvements to reduce crashes and fatalities, especially for cyclists and pedestrians.<sup>lxi</sup> (Division J, Title VII)
- \$1 billion over 5 years for the **Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program**. This program will provide funds for projects that remove barriers to opportunity caused by legacy infrastructure. The program will provide dedicated funding for planning, design, demolition, and reconstruction of street grids, parks, or other infrastructure. (Section 11101) <sup>lxii</sup>
  - \$150 million for Planning Grants that counties can apply for directly through USDOT for planning funds to carry out feasibility studies on the impact of removing or mitigating physical infrastructure barriers, including within communities, to improve accessibility and facilitate economic development at an 80 percent federal share. <sup>lxiii</sup>
  - \$350 million for Capital Construction Grants for owners of an eligible facilities to apply through USDOT to carry out projects, including the removal, retrofit or mitigation of an eligible facility and the replacement of an existing facility with a new facility that restores connectivity. <sup>lxiv</sup>
- \$7.2 billion over five years for the **Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)**. Counties can use TAP funds to carry out eligible projects that include planning, design and construction of trails, environmental mitigation activities to address stormwater management, and the construction of overlooks, among other approved uses.<sup>lxv</sup> (Section 21202)



- \$2.1 billion over five years to establish a **Carbon Dioxide Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation (CIFIA) Program**. This loan program will provide flexible, low-interest loans for carbon dioxide transportation infrastructure projects and grants for new infrastructure to facilitate future growth.<sup>lxvi</sup> (Section 40303)

## PUBLIC TRANSIT

- \$66 billion for **passenger and freight rail**. This provides targeted funding for the Amtrak National Network for new service and dedicated funding to address repair backlogs and increases funding for freight rail and safety.<sup>lxvii</sup> (Division J, Title VIII) This also includes:
  - \$5 billion for the existing Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) program which funds projects that improve the safety, efficiency and reliability of intercity passenger and freight rail.
  - \$3 billion set aside for the Railroad Crossing Elimination Program.
- \$33.5 billion for the **Urbanized Area Formula grant program** to support transit operations in 500 communities across the country.<sup>lxviii</sup> (Section 30015)
- \$23.1 billion for the **State of Good Repair program** to assist in financing capital projects to upgrade older rail and bus systems.<sup>lxix</sup> (Section 30016)
- \$5.25 billion in **Low or No Emission Vehicle competitive grants** to support the transition of transit vehicles to low or zero emission technologies.<sup>lxx</sup> (Division J, Title VIII)
- \$5.1 billion in **Buses and Bus Facilities** formula and competitive grants.<sup>lxxi</sup> (Section 30018)
- \$4.6 billion for **Rural Area Formula Grants** to support transit investments and operations in rural areas communities, including \$229 million for Public Transportation on Indian Reservations formula and competitive grants.<sup>lxxii</sup> (Section 30016)
- \$7.5 billion to fund and authorizes the adoption of **low-carbon and zero-emission school buses**, including through hydrogen, propane, LNG, compressed natural gas, biofuel, and electric technologies. Provides support for a pilot program for low emission ferries and rural ferry systems. (Section 71101)
- \$2.2 billion for the **Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities program**.<sup>lxxiii</sup> (Section 30017)
- \$966.4 million to support **Metropolitan and Statewide Planning programs**.<sup>lxxiv</sup> (Section 30019)





## AIRPORTS

- \$25 billion to increase **Airport Improvement grant** amounts for runways, gates, & taxiways and authorizes a new Airport Terminal Improvement program.<sup>lxxv</sup> (Division J, Title VIII)

## PORTS / WATERWAYS

- \$16.6 billion to provide funding for **waterway and coastal infrastructure, inland waterway improvements, port infrastructure, and land ports of entry** through the Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Transportation, Coast Guard, General Services Administration, and Department of Homeland Security.<sup>lxxvi</sup>
- \$2.25 billion over 5 years for the **Transportation's Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP)** will allow significant improvements to improve port facilities on our coasts, rivers and Great Lakes. PIDP grants can improve port infrastructure, including intermodal connections, or reduce or eliminate pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>lxxvii</sup> (Division J, Title VIII)
- \$25 million over 5 years for the **Marine Highways Program (MHP)** funds will work to expand the use of America's navigable waters, working to expand marine highway service options and facilitate their further integration into the U.S. transportation system.<sup>lxxviii</sup> (Division J, Title VIII)



# TRIBAL ASSISTANCE

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act includes many provisions for which Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations are eligible to receive, several of which are highlighted in sections above. Below consists of a summary of Tribal specific provisions.

## WATER

- \$2.5 billion for the **Indian Water Rights Settlement Completion Fund** to satisfy long-neglected water rights obligations to Native American Tribes.<sup>lxxix</sup> (Section 70101)
- \$3.5 billion over five years for **Indian Health Services Sanitation Facilities Construction Enhancement**.<sup>lxxx</sup> (Division J, Title VI)
  - This funding will be provided for sanitation facilities construction within Indian Health Services at HHS. Such funds would provide for the planning, design, construction, modernization, improvement, and renovation of water, sewer, and solid waste sanitation facilities that are funded, in whole or part, by the Indian Health Service.
- \$150 million Tribal set-aside for **orphaned well site plugging remediation and restoration**.<sup>lxxxi</sup> (Section 40601)
- \$270 million over six years for the EPA's **Indian Reservation Drinking Water Program** to implement projects that will improve water quality, pressure, or services through means such as connecting to, expanding, repairing, improving, or obtaining water from a public water system or improve water quality or sanitation or wastewater services.<sup>lxxxii</sup> (Section 50111)
- \$230 million over six years for grants to Alaska to **Improve Sanitation in Rural and Native Villages**. The EPA will administer grants for the development and construction of public water systems and wastewater systems to improve the health and sanitation conditions in the villages; and training, technical assistance, and educational programs relating to the operation and management of sanitation services in rural and Native villages.<sup>lxxxiii</sup> (Section 50212)



## ROADS / TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- \$1.2 billion over five years for **brownfields competitive grants**. This provides funds to help communities, States, Tribes and others to assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse contaminated properties. (Division J, Title VI)
- \$3.01 billion for the **Tribal Transportation program (TPP)** to provide safe and adequate transportation and public road access to and within Indian reservations, Indian lands, and Alaska Native Village communities.<sup>lxxxiv</sup> (Section 11101)
- \$100 million over five years as part of the **Bridge Investment program** for Tribal bridge projects.<sup>lxxxv</sup> (Section 11118)
- \$887.5 million for tribal projects from the **Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects program**. This is a Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) competitive grant program that allows 100 percent Federal share for Tribal projects and requires an even split in total use of funds between Federal lands projects and Tribal transportation projects.<sup>lxxxvi</sup> (Section 11127)
- \$150 million for a **Tribal High Priority Projects Program** (reinstatement of program). This provides fund for the repair or reconstruction of eligible facilities in the national inventory of Tribal transportation facilities.<sup>lxxxvii</sup> (Section 11128)
- \$270 million for the **BIA Road Maintenance Program**.<sup>lxxxviii</sup> (Section 14005)
- \$229 million for the **Public Transportation on Indian Reservations (“Tribal Transit”) program**. This program provides formula grants as a set-aside from the Formula Grants for Rural Areas program.<sup>lxxxix</sup> (Section 30006)

## BROADBAND

- \$2 billion for the **Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program**.<sup>xc</sup> (Section 60201)
  - Established by the December COVID-19 relief package and is administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).
  - Grants from this program will be made available to eligible Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian entities for broadband deployment as well as for digital inclusion, workforce development, telehealth and distance learning.



## RESILIENCE

- \$216 million over five years for **Tribal climate resilience, adaptation, and community relocation** planning, design, and implementation of projects which address the varying climate challenges facing tribal communities across the country.<sup>xc<sup>i</sup></sup> (Division J, Title VI)
    - \$130 million is for community relocation and \$86 million is for climate resilience and adaptation projects.
  - Up to \$60 million appropriated to Indian Tribes or partnerships of Indian Tribes to restore fish passage by removing in-stream barriers and providing technical assistance.<sup>xc<sup>ii</sup></sup> (Division J, Title II)
- 



# WATER

\$55 billion is allocated to upgrade and maintain our nation's drinking water and clean water infrastructure.<sup>xciii</sup>

## WASTEWATER

- \$125 billion over five years for grants under the **Clean Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability program**. This grant program will fund projects that address rising threats to clean water infrastructure from climate change. (Section 50205)
  - An owner or operator of a publicly-owned treatment works can use the grants to assist in the planning, design, construction, implementation, operation, or maintenance of a program or project to increase the resiliency or adaptability of water systems to natural hazards, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, or extreme weather events, including those related to climate change. The section establishes two non-federal cost shares: a 10 percent nonfederal cost-share for small or disadvantaged communities and a non-federal cost-share of 25 percent for all other communities.<sup>xciv</sup>
- \$175 million over five years for technical assistance and grants for **emergencies affecting public water systems**.<sup>xcv</sup> (Section 50101)
- \$1.4 billion over five years for the **Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants** amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to support project funding for projects in rural communities or financially distressed communities for the purpose of planning, design, and construction of treatment works for stormwater and other polluted waters.<sup>xcvi</sup> (Section 50204)
- \$100 million over the next five years for the **Wastewater Energy Efficiency grant pilot program**.<sup>xcvii</sup> (Section 50202)
  - Supports projects by publicly owned treatment works to create or improve waste-to-energy systems. Grants may be awarded for sludge collection systems, anaerobic digesters, methane capture or transfer, and other emerging technologies that transform waste to energy.
- \$150 million over five years for **Decentralized Households grants** to help low-income homeowners construct, repair, or replace failing septic systems. The program gives priority to households that do not have access to sanitary sewer disposal systems.<sup>xcviii</sup> (Section 50208)
- The **Small Publicly Owned Treatment Works Efficiency Grant program** will be established (funding levels still to be determined).<sup>xcix</sup> (Section 50207)





- Owners or operators of small publicly-owned treatment works and nonprofit organizations that seek to assist small publicly-owned treatment works are eligible to receive funding under this program
- \$200 million over the next five years for **connecting homes and communities to publicly owned treatment works**.<sup>c</sup> (Section 50208)
  - This new grant program allows the EPA to provide grants to publicly owned treatment works or nonprofit organizations to cover the costs incurred from connecting a household to a municipal or private wastewater system.

## DRINKING WATER: LEAD / CONTAMINATION

- \$100 million annually for the **Reducing Lead in Drinking Water Program**. (Section 50105)
- \$23.4 billion to the **Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs)**, with states required to award 49 percent of their share of these funds as grants or full principal forgiveness loans.<sup>ci</sup> (Section 50102)
- \$15 billion through the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs) to **support lead service line replacement projects**, with 49 percent of funds required to be distributed by states as grants or principal forgiveness loans.<sup>cii</sup> (Division J, Title VI)
- A total of \$10 billion to help drinking water and wastewater systems address emerging contaminants.<sup>ciii</sup> (Division J, Title VI)
  - \$1 billion through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to specifically address emerging contaminants.
  - \$4 billion will be provided in grants through the Drinking Water SRF to address PFAS in drinking water, available to drinking water systems of all sizes.
  - \$5 billion through the EPA's Assistance to Small and Disadvantaged Communities program and State Response to Contaminants program to address emerging contaminants.
- Authorizes several new EPA programs supported by some water sector groups, such as a new climate resilience program for drinking water systems that has been long championed by AMWA and a low-income water ratepayer assistance pilot program. (Division J, Title VI)
  - Receives no funding through the bill, must wait for later appropriations legislation.



## WATER SOURCE

- \$125 million over five years for the **Alternative Source Water Pilot Program** which amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to support projects that use water, wastewater, or stormwater or treat wastewater or stormwater for groundwater recharge, potable reuse, or other purposes.<sup>civ</sup> (Section 50203)
- \$75 million over five years for the **Water Data Sharing Pilot Program** to establish systems that improve the sharing of information concerning water quality, water infrastructure needs, and water technology, including cybersecurity technology. States, counties, or other units of local government can apply for these grants if they have a coastal watershed or water system with significant pollution levels or have significant individual water infrastructure deficits.<sup>cv</sup> (Section 50213)
- \$25 million over five years for the expansion of **groundwater recharge and protection**.<sup>cvi</sup> (Section 50222)
  - This provides funding to carry out groundwater research on enhanced aquifer use and recharge in support of sole-source aquifers.

## WATER PROTECTIONS

- \$2.5 billion for the **Indian Water Rights Settlement Completion Fund** to satisfy long-neglected water rights obligations to Native American tribes.<sup>cvii</sup> (Section 70101)
- \$250 million over five years for the **Forest Service Legacy Road and Trail Remediation Program**. This will fund projects that decommission and clean up old Forest Service roads to restore passages for fish and other aquatic species, taking account foreseeable changes in weather and hydrology and to support other projects in the National Forests that improve the resilience of roads, trails, and bridges to extreme weather events, flooding, or other natural disasters.<sup>cviii</sup> (Section 40801)
- \$5 million for the EPA to complete the **Clean Watershed Needs Survey** at least every 4 years.<sup>cix</sup> (Section 50220)
  - EPA will conduct and complete an assessment of wastewater system capital improvement needs of all treatment works in the United States that are eligible for assistance from State water pollution control revolving funds established under the Clean Water Act.
- \$25 million over five years for **water infrastructure and workforce investment** to reduce the vulnerability of US water systems to cyberattacks, improve water-efficiency programs, and expand job training, diversity, and opportunities in the water and wastewater sectors.<sup>cx</sup> (Section 50211)



- Provides a competitive grant program to promote workforce development in the water utility sector.
- \$1.2 billion over five years for **brownfields competitive grants**. This provides funds to help communities, States, Tribes and others to assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse contaminated properties. (Division J, Title VI)
- \$11.3 billion for the **Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund** to provide annual grants for States and Tribes for abandoned mine land and water reclamation projects. Priority will be given to projects employing current and former coal mine employees.<sup>cxix</sup> (Section 40701)
- \$3 billion for cleaning up **abandoned hardrock mines**, many of which ooze acidic, heavy metal-laden waters into streams, compromising aquatic and sometimes human health. This program provides grants on a competitive or formula basis to States and Indian Tribes that have jurisdiction over abandoned hardrock mine land to reclaim that land.<sup>cxii</sup> (Section 40704)

## STORMWATER

- \$1.4 billion over five years for the **Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants** amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to support project funding for projects in rural communities or financially distressed communities for the purpose of planning, design, and construction of treatment works for stormwater and other polluted waters.<sup>cxiii</sup> (Section 50204)
- \$25 million for the **Stormwater Infrastructure Technology Program** to provide grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible institutions to create five Stormwater Centers of Excellence.<sup>cxiv</sup> (Section 50217)
  - These centers will conduct research for new and emerging stormwater control infrastructure technologies, to be located in various regions throughout the United States, provide technical assistance to State, Tribal, and local governments to assist with the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of stormwater control infrastructure projects that use innovative technologies.

## WESTERN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

*Authorizes and appropriates \$8.3 billion for FY 2022-2026 for Bureau of Reclamation western water infrastructure.*<sup>cxv</sup>

- \$3.2 billion over five years for the **Aging Infrastructure Account** (created in the 2020 Consolidated Appropriations bill). This provides funds and funding assistance to The Bureau of Reclamation water infrastructure projects across the West that need major upgrades or replacement.<sup>cxvi</sup> (Section 40901)



- \$100 million for reserved or transferred works that have suffered a critical failure.
    - \$100 million for dam rehabilitation, reconstruction or replacement.
  - \$1.15 billion in competitive grants to plan and construct **small surface water and groundwater storage projects**, which includes \$100 million for small water storage.<sup>cxvii</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$1 billion in competitive grants for **water recycling and reuse projects**.<sup>cxviii</sup> (Section 40901)
    - Including \$450 million for large water recycling projects.
  - \$250 million for **water desalinization projects**.<sup>cxix</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$1 billion for **rural water projects**.<sup>cxx</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$500 million for **dam safety projects**.<sup>cxxi</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$300 million for **Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plan** implementation, including \$50 million for Upper Basin states.<sup>cxxii</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$400 million for **WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grants**, including \$100 million for natural or nature-based features.<sup>cxxiii</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$100 million for **Cooperative Watershed Management Program** which provides funding to watershed groups to encourage diverse stakeholders to form local solutions to address their water management needs.<sup>cxxiv</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$115 million for **Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Program** for restoring fish and wildlife passage by removing in-stream barriers and provide technical assistance to non-Federal interests carrying out such activities.<sup>cxxv</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$100 million for **multi-benefit watershed projects** that improve watershed health.<sup>cxxvi</sup> (Section 40901)
  - \$50 million for **Colorado River Fish Species Recovery Programs**.<sup>cxxvii</sup> (Section 40901)
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# THANK YOU

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On behalf of the National Wildlife Federation's Environmental Justice, Climate, and Community Revitalization Program, we thank you for your continued support in our efforts to advance environmental justice.

**Center Cover Image:** Features Wassa Inoni one of our partners in Birmingham, AL who is leading the charge for science, transportation, and other infrastructure development and progress in Birmingham and beyond.

See the Birmingham Times article that features Ms. Inoni and her work within the context of IIJA here: [Black Women Leading On Infrastructure](#)



For more information on environmental justice efforts at the National Wildlife Federation, please contact Gabi Rivera at [riverag@nwf.org](mailto:riverag@nwf.org)

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