ELEMENTS OF THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL HELPING RURAL COMMUNITIES

ARIZONA RURAL HEALTH CONFERENCE
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FUNDING CATEGORIES IN THE “INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT & JOBS ACT” (AKA BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL)

• Built Environment
• Energy Efficiency Policy
• Transportation Electrification
• Regional Investments
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

• **Repair and rebuild roads and bridges with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity and safety (including bicycles and walkers)**
  - **Az = $5 Billion for road programs and $225M for bridge replacement (over 5 years)**
  - **Az can compete for the $12.5B Bridge Investment Program and $16B for projects that deliver ‘significant economic benefits to communities’**

• **Healthy Sustainable Transportation Options**
  - **Az = $884M (over 5 years) to improve public transportation options across AZ**
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

• Help connect every Arizonan to reliable high-speed internet
  • 13% of AZ households don’t have internet 5% live in places where there is no broadband

• Improve broadband including access to at least 350,000 AZ households that lack broadband

• 1.7M Arizonans will be eligible for the Affordability Connectivity Benefit to help low-income families access broadband

• Arizona to receive $620M over 5 years to improve water infrastructure and ensure clean safe drinking water for communities
$3.5B to provide infrastructure on reservations nationally, including the estimated 15,000 homes on the Navajo Reservation without reliable water and sewage treatment.

$250 million to fund the Lower Basin Drought Contingency plan, to cope with the water rationing triggered by the low water levels in Lake Mead and Lake Powell.

$50 million for drought mitigation measures in the upper basin states and $500 million for the Western Area Power Administration to cope with the loss of electricity caused by the low water levels in the Colorado River reservoirs that generate hydropower.

$2.5 billion to pay for Indian water rights settlements. This includes a water project for the White Mountain Apache Tribe, as well as projects on the Gila River Indian Community and the Tohono O’odham Nation.

AZ set to get $38M over 5 years to protect against wildfires and $17M for cyber attacks.
$3.5 billion earmarked to provide infrastructure on reservations nationally, including the estimated 15,000 homes on the Navajo Reservation without reliable water and sewage treatment.

$2.5 billion to pay for Indian water rights settlements. This includes a water project for the White Mountain Apache Tribe, as well as projects on the Gila River Indian Community and the Tohono O’odham Nation.

The bill includes $3.2 billion for Western water projects, including funding for an estimated 150 projects in Arizona to fix dams, canals, aqueducts and pumping plants.
BUILT ENVIRONMENT

• $38 million for wildfire mitigation, part of $8.25 billion for wildfire management nationally.

• Includes $20 million for Southwest Restoration Institutes, including the one at Northern Arizona University that has played a crucial role in developing plans to restore forest health through thinning projects.
ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICY

- Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants
- Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Improvements at Schools
- Energy Efficiency Career Skills Training
- Energy Efficiency Materials Pilot Program (Nonprofit Energy Efficiency)
- Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Capitalization Grants
- Grants to Prepare Infrastructure for the Impacts of Climate Change
ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICY

Energy Improvement in Towns Less Than 10,000 Population

Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations ($1B nationally from 2022 – 2026)

• Eligible Uses:
  • Overall cost-effectiveness of energy generation, transmission, or distribution systems;
  • Siting or upgrading transmission and distribution lines;
  • Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from energy generation by rural or remote areas;
  • Providing or modernizing electric generation facilities;
  • Developing microgrids; and
  • Increasing energy efficiency.
TRANSPORTATION ELECTRIFICATION

• Network of EV chargers to facilitate long-distance travel and provide convenient charging options
• AZ to receive $76M (over 5 years) to support EV network expansion
• AZ can compete for an additional $2.5B for EV charging infrastructure
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

• Arizona airports to receive $348M (over 5 years) for infrastructure development
WHO DECIDES?

- **Funding goes through federal agencies**, US Department of Energy, USDA, US Department of Interior, US Department of Transportation, US Department of Health and Human Services etc.

- **Wide range of eligible recipients**
  - Businesses
  - State agencies
  - Colleges/Universities
  - Schools
  - County/local government
  - National and other labs
  - Tribes
  - Etc

- **Funding goes over the next 5 years; the next AZ governor will have big opportunities**
WHAT ABOUT IN ARIZONA?

• **For the next 195 days**, the state’s Chief Operating Officer, ‘Sarah Rose Webber’, serves as the “State Coordinator” of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

• **The current task force is a team of Arizona agency heads:**


• **We’ll have a new Governor in 195 days. Yea!**
WHAT ABOUT MORE INFO?

- **BUILDING-A-BETTER-AMERICA_FINAL.pdf (461 Pages of Funding Details)**
- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act: Implementation and Key Resources (ncsl.org)**
- **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) | Federal Funds Information for States (ffis.org)**
  
  • Needs a login to get the Arizona-specific allocations