

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

FROM: MITCH LANDRIEU, SENIOR ADVISOR & INFRASTRUCTURE  
COORDINATOR

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With the signing of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law in mid-November, President Biden marked a new era of building a better America together. I am honored and humbled by the President's trust in me to oversee execution of this historic legislation, and I am especially thankful for all of the work each of you put into this bill from day 1.

From bringing high-speed internet to every American, to replacing lead service lines to bring clean water to people's homes, to repairing thousands of roads and bridges, this law will make a positive impact in Americans' lives in a very real way. These results will create good-paying, union jobs, support domestic manufacturing and supply chains, and position the United States to win the 21st century. As we implement the law, it is imperative we deliver on President Biden's commitment to ensure investments advance equity and racial justice, reach communities all across the country – including rural communities, communities of color, and disability communities – and strengthen the nation's resilience to climate change.

Since President Biden signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law two months ago, our team has hit the ground running to deliver results. Now 60 days in, I am providing this memo to provide an update on the progress made to date. It will be very important we coordinate closely in the coming months.

### **The Infrastructure Implementation Task Force**

On the same day he signed the bill into law, the President released an Executive Order creating an Infrastructure Implementation Task Force responsible for breaking down barriers and driving implementation of infrastructure investments across all levels of government. This Task Force brings together leaders from the federal departments and agencies with the most significant investments in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, as well as agencies and White House offices with important responsibilities to support and assist those agencies. Each Cabinet Member is appointing an Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator. These individuals are charged with leading the implementation of the various infrastructure programs within their agency, as well as working with other Coordinators across agencies on investments where multiple agencies are involved with implementation.

Just as we are closely coordinating with you, I have also reached out to all 50 governors and have spoken to dozens of mayors and other local officials across all 50 states, DC and the territories. Given lessons learned from past programs like ARRA, we have also asked Governors to appoint a high-level person to serve as Infrastructure

Implementation Coordinator in states and territories, along with considering an interagency task force structure.

## **Hit the Ground Running**

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is historic in its size – the largest ever investments in broadband, rail and transit, clean energy, and water, just to name a few – as well as the breadth of programs and sectors included in the law. The infrastructure law allocated funding to over 100 distinct programs across more than a dozen federal departments and agencies. As you are aware, some programs are brand new while others are existing programs.

In our office's first 60 days, we have prioritized providing information to states, territories, and local and tribal governments on formula-based, existing programs as possible, as well as long-range plans to help them prepare for what's coming. For example, we released a Lead Pipe and Paint Action Plan with 15 actions across 10 agencies and our EV Charging Action Plan to outline steps agencies are taking to build a national network of 500,000 chargers, including the establishment of a joint office between the Departments of Energy and Transportation. We have also announced a new \$21 billion Office of Clean Energy Demonstration. In this short period of time, over \$65 billion is already on its way out the door to states, territories, tribes and local governments including:

- U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT)/Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) apportioned \$52.5 billion to states and territories to repair roads & bridges in 2022;
- USDOT/FHWA announced \$5.5 billion dollars to states and tribes to repair and rebuild bridges across the country;
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) outlined \$7.4 billion in funding for states and territories to spend on water infrastructure in 2022, including targeting resources to disadvantaged communities, making rapid progress on lead-free water for all, and tackling dangerous chemicals such as PFAS;
- USDOT/Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced \$3 billion to modernize 3,075 airports across the country;
- EPA announced \$1 billion in funding to clean up 49 hazardous Superfund sites across 24 states;
- The Federal Communications Commission launched the Affordable Connectivity Program providing broadband subsidies of up to \$30/month for low-income households (up to \$75/month for households on Tribal Lands) and up to \$100 towards the purchase of a desktop, laptop or tablet computer;
- Interior released guidance and solicited requests from states for orphan well capping and cleanup;
- USDOT announced \$260 million for highway safety programs and;

- USDOT awarded \$230 million in Port Infrastructure Development Program Grants to modernize 25 port sites across the country. This program will be boosted by an additional \$2.25 billion through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

Linked here is a [fact sheet](#) with a more comprehensive list of wins 60 days in, along with a map of [state-by-state allocations](#) for the Bridge Formula Program announced today.

### **Forthcoming Guidance and Guidebook**

The President has been clear in his charge to me: make sure these programs get implemented without unnecessary bureaucracy and delay to rebuild America's infrastructure – while at the same time being good stewards of taxpayer dollars and working to achieve goals around creating good middle-class jobs, supporting disadvantaged and underserved communities, advancing climate resilience and sustainability, and investing in American manufacturers. Later this month, our team, in conjunction with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), will be releasing formal guidance to agencies on financial oversight and reporting, labor, Made in America/Buy America, equity, climate and resilience, and environmental justice. This will help set the policy parameters for much of the discretionary and remaining formula funding in 2022 and beyond.

Since we haven't spent this kind of money on infrastructure in generations, we're also talking about how to do it with accountability – making sure we can be good stewards of taxpayer dollars and deliver results on time, on task, and on budget. Next week, I will convene the Inspectors General for the relevant federal agencies to let them know we will be implementing this bill in partnership with them, much like the President did when he led the Recovery Act process. This is a high priority for the President and for me personally.

We are also finalizing a guidebook to help recipients of federal funds better understand key information about all of the available sources funding, as well as things they can be doing now to prepare for implementation. Our hope is that sharing this information with all of you will be helpful to communities in your districts, as they prepare for the many streams of funding available through this law.

### **Telling the Story**

While my team is very focused on establishing initial policy guidance and setting agencies, state and local governments up for success, we are also very interested in telling the story of the importance of this massive investment. This requires us to work alongside Members of Congress, Governors, Mayors, Tribal leaders, local officials, community members, and more to make sure the public understands how the historic legislation is changing lives for the better. To more closely coordinate on program announcements and rollouts, we are preparing a tentative calendar of "infrastructure themes" and key program and policy announcements. The brand for this effort will be "Building A Better America."

For example, earlier today the Federal Highway Administration published state apportionment tables for how much money each state will receive under the formula program part of the BIL's funding to repair more than 15,000 bridges. We asked state and local governments, and your offices, to amplify this announcement by hosting local events and sending localized press releases. Additionally, we prepared a toolkit to assist you in that effort. Thank you for your amplification efforts. We anticipate similar coordinated announcements in the first quarter on Electric Vehicle charging program guidance, broadband grants, airport funding, water infrastructure funds and more.

As always, I look forward to working with you in the coming year. I appreciate your feedback and guidance as we implement this very important law for the American people. If you ever need to reach me, please contact me through the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. Thank you for your leadership.