



Advisory Services Policy Brief

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Policy Brief #1 — Summary of the Bill

President Biden recently signed the **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)**, also referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill. This legislation represents a generational investment in roads, bridges, transit, passenger and freight rail, ports and airports, delivering clean water, moving toward greater renewable energy production, and closing the digital divide by expanding broadband deployment. The IIJA increases funding and modifies eligibility to existing programs and creates new funding programs to restore and rebuild the nation's infrastructure. With these changes in policy and funding, **it's critical that project sponsors understand how their programs and projects align with this unprecedented infusion of funding.** HDR policy briefs provide useful perspective and understanding of this new policy and funding landscape. Our policy experts have combed through the IIJA to pull out the key information that our clients need to plan their programs to optimize and **maximize their ability to secure funding from these new federal opportunities.**

Because of the diversity of infrastructure types touched by the IIJA, our Advisory Services policy briefs provide summaries of the new funding opportunities by project type, along with deeper dives into what the legislative language and the funding programs mean for infrastructure policy moving forward. Our policy briefs will cover topics including:

- IIJA Funding Overview
- Project Delivery
- Energy and the Power Grid
- Discretionary Funding Opportunities
- Equity and Environmental Justice
- Freight and Ports
- Climate Change, Resiliency, and Adaptation
- Next Generation of Transportation
- Transit
- Water and Wastewater
- Passenger Rail
- Broadband

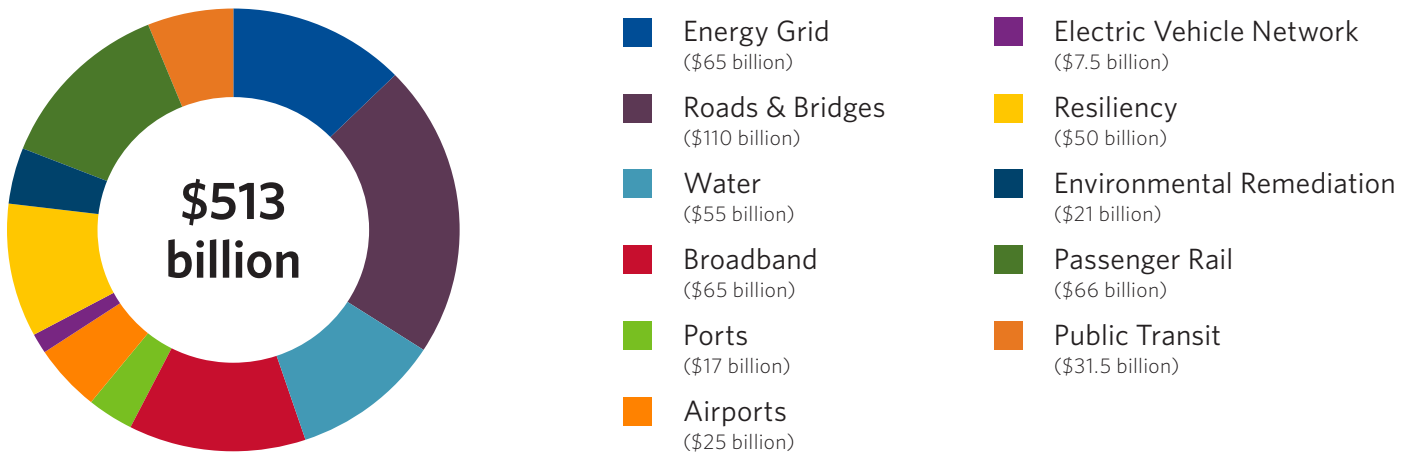
This policy brief summarizes the key elements of the IIJA and provides information on how we can help our clients think through their projects or programs to optimize the opportunities presented by this new legislation.

About HDR's Advisory Services

The Advisory Services team has over 250 management consultants with premium, strategic advice that is rooted in the practical, solid-state service that our infrastructure clients around the world have come to expect. We have expertise in funding and finance, economics and decision analysis, strategic planning and policy, sustainability and resiliency, strategic communications and business improvement.

Advisory Services professionals review infrastructure policy developments and prepare summaries of key provisions to help keep our clients informed of the changing landscape in Washington, D.C.

Proportion of New Funding by Sector



Transportation Investments

The IIJA reauthorizes surface transportation programs for another five years and appropriates over \$257 billion in new investments in our roads, bridges, public transportation, ports, and airports. It creates new funding programs to bring our nation’s transportation system into a state of good repair through this century and into the next, with substantial investments in electric vehicle charging, data-driven planning and intelligent transportation system solutions.

Roads and Bridges

The American Society of Civil Engineers rated our nation’s bridges as a “C” and our roadways as a “D” in its latest “Report Card for America’s Infrastructure,” describing 43% of our public roadways in poor or mediocre condition, with nearly 231,000 bridges in all 50 states needing repair and preservation work. The IIJA tackles those issues with **an infusion of \$110 billion of new investment**. The funding includes new discretionary grant programs such as the Bridge Investment Program, the Promoting Resilient for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) grant program to help states improve the resilience of transportation infrastructure, and a Healthy Streets program, among others. There are also increases in existing formula programs, helping to ease the backlog of maintenance and bring our transportation network into a state of good repair.

Ports, Airports and Freight

The importance of efficiently moving goods as part of our supply chain has come into sharp focus recently. With **\$17 billion in new investment in port and maritime infrastructure** as well as **\$3 billion to eliminate at-grade crossings of roads and rail**, additional investments will funnel to ports to help reduce truck idling and incentivize the electrification of ports. The IIJA also invests **\$25 billion in airports** to address state of good repair and support expansion to reduce congestion.

Passenger Rail and Transit

With \$66 billion for passenger rail and another \$31.5 billion for public transit, the IIJA marks a significant increase in investment toward more sustainable transportation options. This represents the largest investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak and will provide needed funding to replace transit vehicles powered by carbon-intensive fossil fuels with clean, zero emission vehicles.

Climate Change and Adaptation for the Transportation Network

A key policy theme throughout the IIJA is the emphasis on transitioning to a cleaner, lower emission transportation network. **The IIJA includes \$7.5 billion to establish the first national charging network for electric vehicles** and creates a new Carbon Reduction Program that authorizes funds to support projects that reduce transportation emissions, among others. While we work to reduce our emissions, the effects of climate change continue to threaten our infrastructure. Accordingly, the IIJA incorporates resilience and adaptation into many existing programs and creates new programs, such as the **Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) program, authorized at over \$1.25 billion.**

Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Investments

News of lead in our drinking water shined a spotlight on our nation’s water utility infrastructure and exposed disparities in our communities with access to clean water and working wastewater treatment facilities. **The IIJA invests \$55 billion in water, wastewater, and stormwater funding programs.** It provides a unique opportunity for utilities over the next five years — annual funding over each of the next five years would exceed the record single-year funding levels in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Funding programs for water systems in the IIJA include assistance for disadvantaged communities and rural communities, lead service lines, emerging contaminants, and resiliency (climate change, cybersecurity, etc.). This investment in our nation’s water infrastructure will be administered through existing programs as well as new funding opportunities created by the IIJA, including a competitive grant program for large-scale water recycling and reuse, funded at \$550 million.

Energy and Grid Resilience

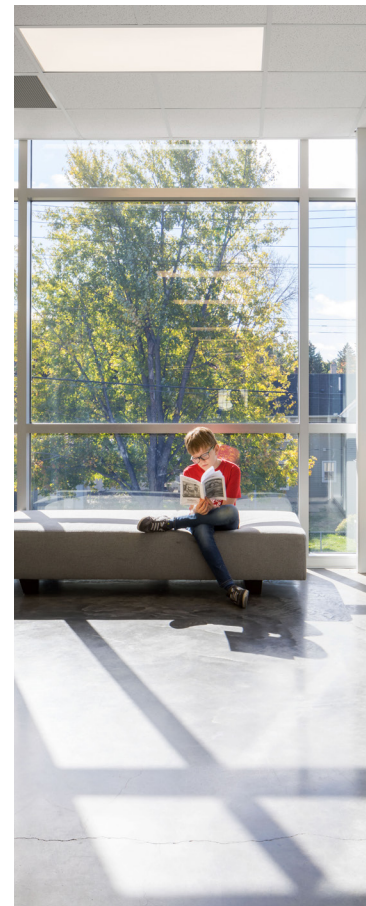
The IIJA tackles the climate crisis through the deployment of sustainable energy and strategies to reduce carbon emissions. **Carbon utilization and carbon capture technologies are funded at \$7.5 billion to help reduce the ambient levels of carbon dioxide in the air.** A new Carbon Dioxide Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Fund, or CIFIA, similar to TIFIA¹ and WIFIA², will help finance the infrastructure needed to transport carbon collected as part of carbon capture technologies. New regional hubs will support carbon capture as well as the broader deployment of clean hydrogen energy. Additional funding is provided to ensure resiliency and reliability of the energy grid through new programs.

Broadband Deployment

Through the IIJA, Congress indicates that access to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband is essential to full participation in modern life in the U.S. To support this, **\$65 billion is invested in deploying broadband infrastructure**, bridging the digital divide and promoting access to rural and underserved communities. Planning for equitable deployment is supported through State Digital Equity Plans, as well as new programs to expand and extend middle-mile infrastructure to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas.

Environmental Remediation and Reclamation

Beyond investing in the infrastructure necessary to move to a more sustainable future, the IIJA also invests in cleaning up historically polluted areas and reclaiming abandoned mines and wells. There will be **\$21 billion** allotted for cleaning up Superfund and brownfield sites, reclaiming abandoned mine land, and capping orphaned oil and gas wells.



¹ Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act

² Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act



How We Can Help

Our Global Advisory Services team has the experience and understanding of the federal programs created or modified by the IJJA to help clients position their projects for success.

Advisory Services blends deep infrastructure knowledge with insightful business management expertise to develop tailored solutions. Our experts help plan, procure, develop, manage, operate and finance projects and programs. Our management consultant professionals create value by leveraging our unparalleled technical expertise of planners, engineers, researchers, policy experts, senior executive advisors, and data scientists to produce performance improvements.

Our approach integrates technical and business professionals who generate sustainable solutions with a rich understanding of challenges. As a trusted advisor, we help clients make lasting, positive change. We value our client relationships over the long term. Our experts provide services in:

- Funding and Finance
- Strategic Planning and Policy
- Economics and Decision Analysis
- Sustainability and Resiliency
- Strategic Communications
- Management and Business Improvements

Our team of experts provide these services in all infrastructure types affected by the IJJA and can help clients chart a path forward to successfully plan, fund, design, and deliver their programs.

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