



October 6, 2021

## **BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE FRAMEWORK STALLS AS LEADERSHIP FAILS TO MEET DEADLINES FOR PASSAGE**

As previously reported, Speaker Pelosi set a new deadline of Oct. 31 for the House to pass the \$1.2 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill. In a "Dear Colleague" letter Pelosi said that "more time was needed" to pass the infrastructure bill along with the larger, \$3.5 trillion budget reconciliation package after scrambling over the past two days to get enough votes. The Speaker said she wants to pass the bipartisan bill by Oct. 31, when the 30-day reauthorization of federal highway programs expires.

Within the attached report from Sante Esposito, who has been working tirelessly on behalf of the CWCC, you have all the details you need to keep your leadership / members informed. In summary, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework (BIF) would appropriate for FY22-26 \$12.838B for the Clean Water State SRF, starting at \$2.127B in FY22 and going up to \$2.828B in FY26, and \$35.713B over five years for the Safe Drinking Water SRF, starting at \$6.702B in FY22 and going up to \$7.403B in FY26. This would represent 2-4x increases in annual funding for the SRFs.

No appropriations are included for the Alternative Water Source Projects program (an authorization of \$125M over 5 fiscal years is). For the USBR, the bill appropriates \$8.3B for FY22-26 with an annual cap of \$1.66B per year. The bill lists a number of programs under USBR's jurisdiction with specific appropriated amounts but does not specify annual funding amounts for each program. Either the Interior Appropriations bill will make that decision or the USBR. For water recycling, the bill appropriates \$1B over 5 FY's, broken down to \$550M for Title XVI and WIIN Act grants and \$450M for "large scale" projects (those with project costs >\$500M). Again, regarding the \$550M, the bill doesn't break this down between the two programs, presumably leaving that to either the Interior Appropriations bill or the USBR. The bill also includes \$400M over 5 FY's for WaterSMART programs, \$1.2B for water storage and groundwater, and \$25M for desalination projects.

Other core infrastructure highlights include:

- \$110B for Roads, Bridges and Major Infrastructure Projects
- \$40B for Bridges
- \$16B for Major Surface Transportation Projects
- \$11B for Transportation Safety
- \$39B for Transit

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Robert Briant, Jr. – Chairman

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\* Steering Committee Member



- \$66B for Passenger and Freight Rail
- \$65B for Broadband
- \$17B for Ports
- \$25B for Airports
- \$7.5B for Zero and Low-Emission Buses and Ferries
- \$7.5B for Plug-In Electric Vehicle Chargers
- \$65B to Rebuild the Electric Grid
- \$21B for Superfund and Brownfield sites

We recommend you and your members continue to reach out to your representatives and encourage them to support the BIF on this new schedule. The recent showdown between President Biden / Speaker Pelosi and the Congressional Progressive Caucus was waged inside the DC beltway. It has now spilled out onto “Main Street” and was panned this weekend on Saturday Night Live.

Last week, CPC Chair Jayapal (D-Wash.) was quoted saying her members would tank last week’s vote if the Senate doesn’t pass the larger multi-trillion-dollar reconciliation bill first. They succeeded temporarily but now it is up to groups like ours to express our dissatisfaction and push for them to go back to keeping these issues separate. Past the branding of social programs as “human infrastructure” they have been and will always be separate matters in the court of public opinion.

### **KEY ADVOCATES REPORT**

Included with this notice is Key Advocates recent report which is current to September 30, 2021.

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