



November 2, 2021

## **BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE FRAMEWORK NUDGES FORWARD**

Speaker Pelosi's revised deadline of Oct. 31 for the House to pass the \$1.2 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill came and went without action. The showdown between President Biden / Speaker Pelosi and the Congressional Progressive Caucus continues to hold up passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill (BIF), passed in a bipartisan basis in the Senate in August.

After a much-publicized trip to the Hill by the President, a pared down \$1.75B Build Back Better (BBB) Act framework was released and was endorsed by the House Democratic progressives subject to seeing a full draft. As the full draft was not ready for release, the President left for Glasgow for the COP21 climate change summit empty handed.

Sante Esposito, in his attached report, expresses that there is optimism that a vote on BIF (which is an up or down vote on the Senate bill with no amendments allowed) may occur as early as this week. On that note, Senators Manchin and Sinema, while agreeing to the \$1.75B BBB funding level, were noncommittal on their voting for the BBB revised bill. We are grateful to Sante for his work on our behalf as he has been working tirelessly on behalf of the CWCC.

The following is a summary of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework (BIF), which hasn't changed since the last report. The 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 US Bureau of Reclamation (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.

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Robert Briant, Jr. – Chairman

AGC of America • AGC of Texas • Alabama Utility Contractors Association • Arizona Utility Contractors Association • Associated Pennsylvania Constructors • Associated Utility Contractors Of Maryland\* • Connecticut Construction Industries Association • CIC of Westchester County & Hudson Valley\* • Engineering Contractors Association • General Contractors Association Of New York • Georgia Utility Contractors Association • Indiana Constructors Inc. • Long Island Contractors Association • Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials Association • Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association • Minnesota Utility Contractors Association\* • National Rural Water Association • New Mexico Utility Contractors Association • NYSLECET • Ohio Contractors Association • Public Works Contractors Association of Maryland • Tennessee RoadBuilders Association • Underground Contractors Association of Illinois\* • United Contractors\* • UCA of Anne Arundel County • Utility Contractors Association of New England\* • Utility & Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey\* • Contractors Association of West Virginia • Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association

\* Steering Committee Member



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
- \$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 are **urging** all CWCC Members along with your employees, business associates, friends, and family to contact your House Members today and urge them to approve this transformational funding package. If you [CLICK HERE](#) you can see an example of what UTCA of NJ has done to encourage our members. This is simply an option to consider for your members to contact their representatives in addition to the traditional lobbying measures. There are other services available like Voter Voice but we find this particular tool intuitive and reasonably priced.

## KEY ADVOCATES REPORT

Included with this notice is Key Advocates recent report which is current to October 29, 2021.

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