

The President released his long-awaited infrastructure plan today with his FY 19 Budget proposal. Most of the core structure of the plan have been revealed over the last year, but to hit the highlights, here's the breakdown of the proposal in terms of funding, key policy proposals and workforce development provisions. Below is a summary of key provisions.

FUNDING PROVISIONS

\$200 billion in funding over 10 years, proposed to leverage a total of \$1.5 trillion:

Incentive Program

Funding: \$100 billion

Eligibility: surface transportation (roads, bridges, transit) airports, passenger rail,

ports, waterways, flood control, water supply, hydropower, water resources, drinking water facilities, wastewater facilities; stormwater

facilities, Brownfield and Superfund sites;

Lead Agencies: DOT, Army Corps and EPA; \$100 billion would be divided amongst these

three agencies but does not specify amounts; other agencies can petition

these three to transfer funds

Details: competitive discretionary grant program; requires applicants to come to

the feds with @80% of project funded with State, local or private sector

funds; Federal government is a "completer" not a primary investor.

Rural Infrastructure Program

Funding: \$50 billion

Eligibility: surface transportation (roads, bridges, transit), airports, rail, maritime and

inland waterway ports, broadband and other high speed data and communication conduits, drinking water facilities, wastewater facilities, stormwater facilities, land revitalization and brownfields, power and electric governmental generation, transmission and distribution facilities,

water resources, flood risk management, water supply, waterways

Lead Agency: Commerce

Details: Block grants 80% to Governors and Territories by formula for projects in

areas with population less than 50,000; 20% for rural performance grants, a discretionary grant program open to States; set-aside for tribes for tribal

transportation program at DOT and DOI; .



Transformative Projects

\$20 billion **Funding:**

Eligibility: transportation, clean water, drinking water, energy, commercial space and

> broadband but not limited to these categories. For bold, exploratory and groundbreaking projects that significantly improve performance, safety, reliability, frequency and service speed; substantially reduce user costs for services; introduce new types of services and improve services based on other related metrics. Three tracks of investment: demonstration (up to 30% of eligible costs); project planning (up to 50% of eligible costs) and

capital construction (up to 80% of eligible costs).

Commerce with interagency selection committee of other agencies Lead Agency:

Details: competitive grants

Infrastructure Finance Programs:

\$20 billion (\$14 billion for expansion of existing credit programs; \$6 billion **Funding:**

for expansion of PABs)

Eligibility: Expansion of existing federal credit programs:

TIFIA - Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act -

expanded to include waterways, ports and airports

RRIF – Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing – expanded to

include short line freight and passenger rail

WIFIA - Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act - expanded to include non-federal flood mitigation, navigation and water supply; remediation of water quality contamination at brownfield and superfund

sites, and federal de-authorized water resources projects

RUS – Rural Utilities Service Program – USDA lending program

PABs – Private Activity Bonds – expands and modifies eligibility; expanded: docks, wharves, maritime and inland waterway ports, waterway infrastructure including dredging and navigation improvements, hydroelectric power generating facilities and three new categories; flood control and stormwater facilities, rural broadband service facilities and environmental remediation costs on brownfield and superfund sites. Require a public attribute test to get tax exemption; eliminate AMT preference on PABs, remove state volume caps on PABs

Lead Agencies: DOT, Army Corps, EPA, Agriculture



Federal Capital Financing Fund

Funding: \$10 billion to capitalize a revolving fund

Eligibility: Federal agencies use funding to finance large dollar real property

purchases; agencies repay the fund using discretionary appropriations;

operates like capital budget but within traditional budget rules.

Public Lands Infrastructure

Funding: From half of additional revenues from energy development on public lands

to pay for capital and maintenance needs of public lands infrastructure up

to \$18 billion to create an Interior Maintenance Fund.

Lead Agency: Interior

Details: Discretion of Interior to use funds to address deferred maintenance and

capital needs for infrastructure for national parks and wildlife refuges.

HIGHWAY TRUST FUND STABILIZATION

Proposal does not address the impending bankruptcy of the Highway Trust Fund in FY 2020. Accompanying FY 19 budget documents envision devolution of the Highway Trust Fund.

PAY-FORS

The proposal does not propose any revenue raisers for the \$200 billion of Federal investment. The accompanying FY 19 budget document proposes cuts to domestic spending programs, including existing infrastructure programs such as Transit Capital Investment Grants and TIGER programs, to offset the proposed expenditure.

POLICY PROVISIONS

The proposal contains many provisions proposing policy changes to federal infrastructure development in surface transportation and aviation modes, water infrastructure programs, Superfund/brownfield reforms and flexibility to the Department of Veterans Affairs on use of real property and leases.

Highlights:

Tolling Flexibility: allow States flexibility to toll existing Interstates and reinvest toll revenues in infrastructure

Flexibility for States to Commercialize Interstate Rest Areas – currently prohibited; requires revenues to be reinvested in corridor in which they are generated

Reducing Federal Requirements for Projects with Low Federal Share

Provisions to expand utilization of State Infrastructure Banks



Allow accelerated construction with Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds Authorize clean water revolving fund for privately owned treatment facilities Authorize user fee collection for no more than 10 Army Corps public facilities to incentivize infrastructure partnerships

Create a Superfund Revolving Loan and Grant Program

FEDERAL PERMITTING REFORM PROVISIONS

One Agency, One Decision Environmental Review structure Reducing inefficiencies in environmental reviews
Streamline and Expand Delegation of NEPA to States
Performance Based Pilot – up to 10 projects
Reforms judicial review standards for environmental reviews

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROVISIONS

Expand Pell Grant Eligibility to short term programs leading to certification or credential Reform Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs
Reform Federal Work Study program for college students
Reform licensing requirement for infrastructure project jobs