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## **BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW**

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### **Infrastructure Guide: Competitive Grant Funding for Local Governments**

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will deliver billions to Louisiana and support our efforts rebuild and modernize our infrastructure. Senator Cassidy was one of a small group of 10 bipartisan senators who wrote the bill. **Without a voice from Louisiana at the table, countless projects, programs, and funding opportunities that particularly benefit Louisiana would not have been included in the bill.** These provisions included funding for weather resiliency, coastal protection and restoration, rural broadband, an additional \$150 million for the Delta Regional Authority grants, and many other priorities that will benefit Louisiana.

Louisiana is expected to receive \$6 billion for roads and bridges over the next five years, **which is 60% more than we received over the last five years and represents the third largest increase of any state.**

Every provision Cassidy worked to include in the package came from conversations with local leaders and experts about the needs of the communities in our state. There are funding and additional grant opportunities available from this legislation that stand to benefit every town, city, and parish.

Listed below is the latest available information from the administration on the 19 already available or soon-to-be-available sources of funding for local governments. This information includes descriptions, application timing and links to agency websites for more information. Each includes a short overview of how local communities can begin to prepare, as well as contact information for relevant federal agencies. For an online version with clickable links, go to [cassidy.senate.com/roads-and-bridges](https://cassidy.senate.com/roads-and-bridges).

A timeline of Senator Cassidy's work on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law highlights his months-long commitment to delivering real solutions for the people of Louisiana.

If you plan to apply for one of the competitive IJA grants, and would like a letter of support from Senator Cassidy, please contact [Michael\\_Eby@cassidy.senate.gov](mailto:Michael_Eby@cassidy.senate.gov).

## Infrastructure Funding Opportunities

*Below is the latest available information from the administration on funding opportunities. For an online version with clickable links, go to [cassidy.senate.com/roads-and-bridges](https://cassidy.senate.com/roads-and-bridges).*

### Transportation

1. [Infrastructure for Rebuilding America \(INFRA\) Grants](#) – This Department of Transportation program supports highway and rail projects of regional and economic significance. **Applications will open in the first quarter of 2022. Learn more about how to apply [here](#).**
2. **Rural Surface Transportation Grant** – This new \$2 billion competitive grant program at the Department of Transportation will improve and expand surface transportation infrastructure in rural areas, increasing connectivity, improving safety and reliability of the movement of people and freight, and generate regional economic growth. This amount includes specific set asides for small projects (\$200 million), rural roadway lane departure improvements (\$300 million), and the Appalachian Development Highway System (\$500 million). **Applications will open in the first quarter of 2022.**
3. [Rebuilding American Infrastructure Sustainably and Equitably \(RAISE\) Grants](#) – This existing competitive grant program at the Department of Transportation provides \$7.5 billion with an additional \$7.5 billion subject to Congressional approval in funding for road, rail, transit, and other surface transportation of local and/or regional significance. Selection criteria safety, sustainability, equity, economic competitiveness, mobility, and community connectivity. **Applications will open in the first quarter of 2022.**
4. [Port Infrastructure Development Program Grants](#) – This existing \$2 billion Department of Transportation program funds investment in the modernization and expansion of U.S. ports to remove supply chain bottlenecks, ensure long-term competitiveness, resilience, and sustainability while reducing impacts to the environment and neighboring communities. The infrastructure law expanded the program’s eligibilities to include projects that improve goods movement, as well as port electrification projects, idling reduction solutions, equipment charging infrastructure and related worker training initiatives. **The Department of Transportation expects to open applications in February 2022.**
5. [Bus & Bus Facilities Competitive Grants](#) – This existing \$2 billion program at the Department of Transportation provides capital funding to replace, rehabilitate, purchase, or lease buses and bus related equipment and to rehabilitate, purchase, construct, or lease bus-related facilities – as well as capital funding for low or no emissions bus projects. Fiscal Year 2021 grant selections will be announced soon. **Applications are expected to open for the Fiscal Year 2022 grant program in the first quarter of 2022.**

6. **National Infrastructure Project Assistance (also known as “Megaprojects” or MEGA)** – This \$5 billion competitive grant program supports multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional projects of regional or national significance. Communities are eligible to apply for funding to complete critical large projects that would otherwise be unachievable without assistance. **Selection criteria for the program will be posted on the [Department of Transportation](#) website in February 2022.**
7. **Safe Streets and Roads for All** – This new \$5 billion competitive grant program at the Department of Transportation will provide funding directly to and exclusively for local governments to support their efforts to advance “vision zero” plans and other complete street improvements to reduce crashes and fatalities, especially for cyclists and pedestrians. **Applications are expected to open in May 2022.**

### **Energy, Flooding, & Coastal Resiliency**

1. **[Flood Mitigation Assistance](#)** – \$3.5 billion from this existing FEMA program can be used for projects that reduce or eliminate the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings insured by the [National Flood Insurance Program](#). FY21 applications are open until January 28th, 2022. Communities will apply as sub- applicants under their states. **Applications for FY22 are expected to open no later than September 30th, 2022.**
2. **[Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program](#)** – This existing Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) program will distribute \$1 billion to support communities undertaking hazard mitigation projects to reduce the risks they face from disasters and other natural hazards. FY21 applications are open until January 28th, 2022 and hundreds of millions of dollars in funding remains available. Communities will apply as sub-applicants under their states. **Applications for FY22 are expected to open no later than September 30th, 2022.**
3. **[Brownfields Remediation Program](#)** – This existing EPA program will provide \$1.2 billion in grants and technical assistants to communities to assess and safely clean-up contaminated properties and offer job training programs. Communities are currently able to request funding for Targeted Brownfields Assessments through their regional EPA office. **Additional competitive funding opportunities will be announced this spring.**
4. **[Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants](#)** – This Department of Energy block grant program will provide \$550 million to states, local governments, and tribes for projects that reduce energy use, increase energy efficiency, and cut pollution. **The first funding opportunity is expected for release in the Fall of 2022.**
5. **Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas** – This new Department of Energy program will provide \$1 billion to entities in rural or remote areas (defined as cities, towns, or unincorporated areas with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants) to increase environmental protection from the impacts of energy use and improve resilience,

reliability, safety, and availability of energy. **Applications for funding are expected to be open in the Fall of 2022.**

6. **Grants for Energy Efficiency and Resilience Code Adoption** – This Department of Energy program will provide \$225 million to state energy agencies, in partnership with local building code agencies, codes and standards developers, utilities, and other entities, to enable sustained, cost-effective implementation of updated building energy codes to save customers money on their energy bills. **Applications for funding are expected to be open by the end of 2022.**
7. **Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs** – This new Department of Energy program will provide \$8 billion to support the development of at least four regional clean hydrogen hubs to improve clean hydrogen production, processing, delivery, storage, and end use. **Applications for funding will open in the Summer of 2022.**

### **Broadband, Cyber, and Other Programs**

1. **ReConnect Program** – This existing Department of Agriculture program will provide almost \$2 billion in loans and grants for projects that provide broadband in rural areas. **Applications will likely open in the 3rd quarter of 2022 (and towns in rural areas can apply to the current \$1.15B in loans and grant funding, application deadline: February 22, 2022).**
2. **Middle Mile Grants Program** – This new \$1 billion program at the Department of Commerce provides grants for the construction, improvement or acquisition of middle mile broadband infrastructure. **Applications will likely open during the second quarter of 2022.**
3. **State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program** – This new \$1 billion program at the Department of Homeland Security makes available federal funds to state, local, and tribal governments to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats to information systems that they own or operate. **Applications will likely open during the third quarter of 2022.**
4. **Smart Grid Investment Grant Program and Energy Sector Operational Support For Cyber Resilience Program** – These two Department of Energy programs will provide \$3 billion and \$50 million, respectively, for electric utilities, including municipal and co-operative utilities, to modernize the electricity grid and increase resilience to cybersecurity threats. **Applications for the Smart Grid program are expected to be open by the end of 2022, and applications for the Cyber Resilience program are expected to be open in the Summer of 2022.**
5. **Water & Groundwater Storage and Conveyance** – This existing \$1 billion program at the Department of Interior provides funding for water storage projects with capacity between 2,000 and 30,000 acre-feet – as well as projects convey water to or from

surface water or groundwater storage. **The Department will hold its final stakeholder sessions this month and open applications later this spring.**

- 6. [Emergency Watershed Protection Program](#)** – This existing Department of Agriculture program will provide \$300 million in technical and financial assistance to project sponsors for the design and construction of measures to help repair damages from a recent disaster. **Applications open in February.**

## **Other Opportunities**

The law further significantly increased the amount of non-competitive formula funding that will flow first to states and then on to cities and local governments. Examples include funding available through Surface Transportation Block Grant sub-allocations for local governments, which now include significantly expanded the flexibilities for cities to determine how these funds can be used, as well as increases for states' [Clean Water](#) and [Drinking Water](#) State Revolving Funds. We encourage local communities to reach out to the state or regional offices for various federal agencies, as well as state governments' infrastructure coordinators, to better understand forthcoming increases in formula funding.

In January, the White House recommended governors appoint state infrastructure coordinators to manage the flow of funds to their states. The federal government also recommended local communities:

- 1.** Prioritize your community's capital needs, reconsidering projects previously considered unlikely due to lack of funding or regional coordination. This is a once-in-a-generation funding opportunity.
- 2.** Ensure all transit, railway, road, highway, and bridge projects are a part of your Transportation Improvement Plan.
- 3.** Inventory and map the lead pipes in your city.
- 4.** Work with your state's broadband agency to ensure your city or region's needs are appropriately mapped and inventoried.
- 5.** Establish relationships with the regional offices for key federal agencies, who can help direct you to resources and provide technical assistance.

### **Agency Contact Information**

Environmental Protection Agency: [State&Local@epa.gov](mailto:State&Local@epa.gov)

Department of Transportation: [intergov@dot.gov](mailto:intergov@dot.gov)

Department of Interior: [OIEA@ios.doi.gov](mailto:OIEA@ios.doi.gov)

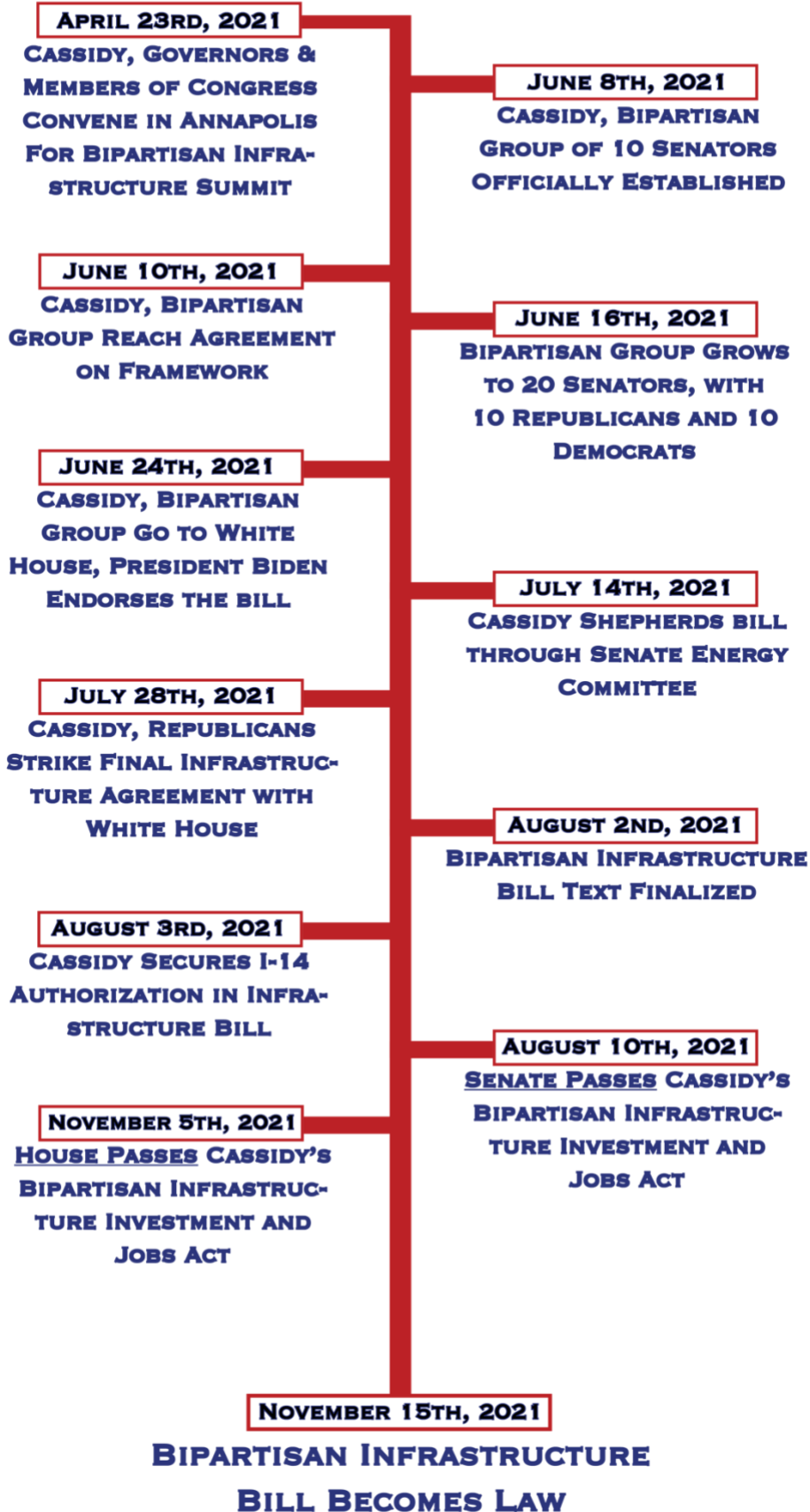
Department of Commerce: [CommercelGA@doc.gov](mailto:CommercelGA@doc.gov)

Department of Energy: [DL-RegionalSpecialists@hq.doe.gov](mailto:DL-RegionalSpecialists@hq.doe.gov)

Department of Agriculture: [EIA@usda.gov](mailto:EIA@usda.gov)

Department of Homeland Security: [dhs.iga@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:dhs.iga@hq.dhs.gov)

# BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL HISTORY



# BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW FUNDING

