

# Biden-Harris Administration's Transportation Infrastructure Investments in Washington's Second District

## **Summary**

The Investing in America agenda is making historic investments in transportation infrastructure. As of October 2024, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) have provided more than \$386 million directly to transportation projects that benefit the residents of Washington's Second District. As a result of this funding, communities have been able to invest in repairing and improving roads and bridges, enhancing public transportation, improving safety, and much more.

This report describes some of the positive impacts the BIL and IRA are having on transportation infrastructure in **Washington's Second District**.

# **Background**



The BIL was enacted in 2021. The law invests over \$1.2 trillion in improving the reliability, resilience, and efficiency of America's infrastructure. It is delivering historic federal investments in United States' clean transportation, passenger rail, and electrical transmission infrastructure, as well as expanding public transit and access to affordable, high-speed internet, and more.

The BIL provides \$365 billion in funding to improve the safety and efficiency of roads and fix crumbling bridges.<sup>2</sup> The law is also the largest investment in public transit in U.S. history, allowing transit systems to repair or upgrade their

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Treasury Department, *Infrastructure Investment in the United States* (November 15, 2023). https://home.treasury.gov/news/featured-stories/infrastructure-investment-in-the-united-states

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Department of Transportation, *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law FAQs: Q1. What is the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law?* (https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law/faq); https://www.transportation.gov/mission/budget/bipartisan-infrastructure-law-dashboard

services.<sup>3</sup> By modernizing roads, bridges, transit systems, airports, ports and waterways, and environmental infrastructure across the country, BIL is improving the health and safety of millions of Americans.

The IRA was enacted in 2022 and is providing unprecedented federal resources to create new incentives for clean transportation investment. These programs are helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve the climate resiliency of the nation's infrastructure and ecosystems, and address environmental and economic inequities in historically disadvantaged communities.

As of October 2024, more than 63,000 projects have been announced or awarded funding.<sup>4</sup> Since the BIL was enacted, **Washington state** has received **\$3.7 billion** in federal highway formula funds and **\$523 million** in new bridge repair funding.<sup>5</sup>

## **Local Projects**

Since the BIL became law, more than \$386 million has been invested in transportation projects in the district or in counties near the district.

Projects benefiting district residents include:



#### **Building Safer and Stronger Communities**

- \$8.5 million in Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program funding to the Stillaguamish Tribe for the Red Cabin Creek Wildlife Overpass project on State Route 20.
- \$1.01 million in Safe Streets and Roads for All funding to Lummi Nation for its Traffic Safety Treatment Plan.
- \$2 million in Railroad Crossing Elimination planning grant funding to the City of Burlington.
- \$300,000 in Safe Streets and Roads for All funding to the Skagit Council of Governments to develop a comprehensive safety action plan.
- \$100,000 in Safe Streets and Roads for All funding to the City of Sedro Woolley to develop a comprehensive safety action plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Transportation, *Biden-Harris Administration Sends Another \$20.5 Billion From Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to Transit Agencies Across the Country* (April 4, 2024).

 $<sup>\</sup>underline{https://www.transit.dot.gov/about/news/biden-harris-administration-sends-another-205-billion-bipartisan-infrastructure-law.}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> White House, BUILD.GOV (September 2024). https://www.whitehouse.gov/build/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Federal Highway Administration, *Notice* 4510.858 - FY2022 Federal-Aid Highway Program Apportionments Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (December 14, 2021)

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/notices/n4510858/n4510858\_t1.cfm; Federal Highway Administration, Notice 4510.870 - FY 2023 Federal-Aid Highway Program Apportionments Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (October 3, 2022);

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/notices/n4510870\_t1.cfm; Federal Highway Administration, Notice 4510.880 - FY2024 Federal-Aid Highway Program Apportionments Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. (October 2, 2023) <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/notices/n4510880.cfm">https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/notices/n4510880.cfm</a>; Federal Highway Administration, Notice 4510.892 - FY2025 Federal-Aid Highway Program Apportionments Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (October 1, 2024) <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/notices/n4510892.cfm">https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/legsregs/directives/notices/n4510892.cfm</a>. (These totals do not include post-apportionment set-asides, penalties, or federal sequestration); Federal Highway Administration, Bridge Formula Program Apportionment Notices (October 4, 2024). <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/bfp/index.cfm">https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/bridge/bfp/index.cfm</a>.

#### **Fixing Major Bridges and Roads**

- \$25 million in RAISE funding to the City of Lynnwood for Poplar Way Bridge.
- \$25 million in RAISE funding to Whatcom County for Lummi Island ferry replacement.
- \$1.24 million in National Culvert Removal, Replacement & Restoration funding to the Nooksack Indian Tribe for Jones Creek Fish Passage BNSF Railway Culvert Replacement project.
- \$880,031 in National Culvert Replacement, Removal and Restoration funding to Whatcom County for fish passage restoration portfolio development.
- \$9.5 million in RAISE funding for Blaine Bell Road-BNSF Railway Grade Separation.
- \$4.98 million in RAISE funding for Tulalip Tribes Interstate 5, 4th Street, & 88th ST NE Corridor Improvements.

## **Improving Public Transportation**

- \$5 million in Bus and Bus Facilities funding to Skagit
  Transit for rehabilitating its maintenance operations and
  administrative facility.
- \$341.4 million in Capital Investment Grant funding to Sound Transit for Lynnwood Link Extension.
- \$14.96 million in Low or No Emissions Bus funding to Island Transit, through Washington Department of Transportation, to buy hydrogen fuel cell buses.



• \$18.5 million in Bus and Bus Facilities funding to Whatcom Transportation Authority to buy diesel-electric hybrid buses.

# **Lowering Pollution**

- \$12.5 million in Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grants (Community Charging) funding to Mount Vernon Library Commons Project, which incorporates a regional EV Charging Hub and multiple civic spaces.
- \$4.9 million in Electric or Low-Emitting Ferry Pilot Program funding to Washington State Department of Transportation to build an electric charging facility at the Clinton Ferry Terminal.
- \$4.8 million in Urbanized Area Passenger Ferry funding to Washington State Department of Transportation to refurbish aging passenger spaces on six Issaquah-class ferries.
- \$395,000 in Clean School Bus Rebate funding to South Whidbey School District.
- \$100,000 in Clean School Bus Rebate funding to Sedro-Woolley School District.
- \$4.23 million for ZeroAvia in Everett to support the design, build, and testing of hydrogen fuel cell powered propulsion system technologies.
- \$26.76 million for the BP Cherry Point Refinery in Whatcom County to increase sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production.

# **Additional Funding**

The projects described in this report are illustrative of the BIL's impact on residents in **Washington's Second District**, but they are not comprehensive. The BIL provides five years of funding, and allocations for future years are still to come. District residents can expect to see additional benefits from the BIL and IRA as more funding is announced and distributed.

## **Conclusion**

The Biden-Harris Administration and Congressional Democrats led the effort to repair the nation's infrastructure. The BIL is repairing our roads, bridges, tracks, and so much more, and every corner of this country will benefit from these significant investments.