Written by WisDems Press, Hannah Menchhoff Tuesday, 15 November 2022 15:39 -

http://newiprogressive.com/images/stories/S5/internet-in-rural-areas-s450.jpg



One year ago today, President Biden and Congressional Democrats delivered a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation's roads, bridges, railroads, water systems, and broadband infrastructure.

MADISON, Wis. — On the first anniversary of President Biden signing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill into law, delivering on his promise to invest in our nation's infrastructure, we're highlighting the progress Wisconsin has made delivering safer roads and bridges, expanding rural broadband, and improving resilience to climate change since this critical legislation was passed.

While Donald Trump and Republicans in Congress talked a big game, turning infrastructure week into a running joke that they ultimately failed to deliver, President Biden and Democrats delivered an infrastructure decade — no thanks to Wisconsin Republicans Reps. Steil, Gallagher, Grothman, Tiffany, and Fitzgerald and Senator Johnson who voted against this game-changing legislation.

"President Biden vowed to invest in our infrastructure, and one year ago today, he delivered on that promise," said **Democratic Party of Wisconsin spokesperson Haley McCoy**. "Over the last twelve months, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has delivered real results, building on progress made by Governor Evers and investing in the future of Wisconsin."

For a full breakdown of what the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is already doing for Wisconsin, and the investments that will come to the Badger state in the future, see this <u>fact sheet</u>.

See how the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has already benefited Wisconsin:

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is Rebuilding Wisconsin

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- The Biden-Harris Administration's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is already delivering results for the people of Wisconsin.
- To date, over \$2.7 billion in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law f is headed to Wisconsin with 1 60 specific projects identified for funding.
- By reaching communities all across Wisconsin including rural communities and historically underserved populations the law makes critical investments that will improve lives for Wisconsinites and position the state for success.

Road and Bridges: To date, \$2.2 billion has been announced in Wisconsin for roads, bridges, roadway safety, and major projects.

- **Project Spotlight**: Columbia County, Wisconsin will receive \$80 million from the Department of Transportation to replace the existing I-39/90/94 Wisconsin River Bridge with two new bridge spans dedicated to serve traffic in opposite directions. Two overcrossing bridges for county roads will also be replaced. If repair needs are not addressed now, there will likely be frequent and lengthy closures for future repairs and negative impacts on supply chains. The route links economic hubs in Madison, Milwaukee, and Chicago, and also connects major tourism destinations in the state.

Rural Broadband: Wisconsin will receive a minimum allocation of at least \$100 million to help ensure high-speed internet coverage across the state.

- Additionally, experts estimate that as many as <u>849,000 households</u> in Wisconsin are eligible for the Affordable Connectivity Program.
- **Progress to date**: About <u>279,000 households</u> in Wisconsin are enrolled in the Affordable Connectivity Program, with more signing up every day. Households can check their eligibility, sign up, and find fully covered internet plans at GetInternet.gov.

Airports: According to some rankings, no U.S. airports rank in the top 25 of airports worldwide. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law invests \$25 billion in airports

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- **Announced funding to date**: To date, Wisconsin has received more than \$42 million in 2022 to replace and modernize airport infrastructure, which helps the US become more economically competitive globally, creates good jobs, and revitalizes and supports more efficient and enhances traveler experience.
- **Project Spotlight**: The Dane County Regional airport received a \$2.6 million grant from DOT's Federal Aviation Administration to resurface pavement, enhance public transit access and safety, and improve traffic efficiency.

Resilience: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a historic investment to bolster our resilience against pressing challenges like impacts of climate change, extreme weather events, and other hazards like cyberattacks.

Announced funding to date: To date, approximately \$70.9 million has been allocated to Wisconsin for infrastructure resilience in 2022 including
\$9.2 million

through the Army Corps of Engineers for flood mitigation.

- **Project Spotlight:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers allocated \$3.4 million for Menasha Dam Abutment repairs to improve inland flood risk management and resilience.

For more information, click <u>here</u> to see a map of funding and announced projects in Wisconsin through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.