



Recommendations for Mayors on Infrastructure Implementation

Excerpt from U.S. Conference of Mayors Factsheet on how local governments can begin to prepare to receive infrastructure funds – access full factsheet [here](#).

Getting Ready to Apply for and Receive Federal Infrastructure Funds

Building a better America is a shared endeavor no one can do alone, and investing federal infrastructure dollars will require significant coordination between cities, states, Tribal governments, community stakeholders, and other key partners.

Earlier this month, the White House Infrastructure Implementation Coordinator [sent a letter to Governors](#) recommending a series of preparatory actions, including appointing infrastructure coordinators to manage the flow of funds to their states. Cities can also begin to coordinate across their departments and with metropolitan planning organizations to:

1. Prioritize your community's capital needs and develop a project pipeline – taking time to think about the projects previously considered impossible due to lack of funding or regional coordination. This is a once-in-a-generation funding opportunity that will require bold, inclusive thinking.
2. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook to identify federal funding streams to target.
3. Ensure all transit, railway, road, highway, and bridge projects are a part of your Metropolitan Planning Organization's Transportation Improvement Plan.
4. Begin mapping sites for electric vehicle and alternative fuel charging stations.
5. Inventory and map the lead pipes in your city. Read through the Biden-Harris Lead Pipe and Paint Action Plan [here](#) for additional federal resources for this effort.
6. Work with your state's broadband agency to ensure your city or region's needs are appropriately mapped and inventoried.
7. Establish relationships with the regional offices for key federal agencies, who can help direct you to resources and provide technical assistance.

The American Rescue Plan also provided over \$350 billion in critical resources to every state, county, city, and unit of local government to support their response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, including in making the investments needed to ensure a durable and equitable economic recovery. Cities should look to leverage those resources to help prepare for the transformative investments included in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law including training the workers needed to build high quality infrastructure; hiring back the public sector workers needed to help manage potential federal investments; and getting a jump start on water, sewer, and broadband projects that could complement investments from the infrastructure law.



We recognize local capacity may be strained due to the pandemic, historic underinvestment, or just the challenges of day-to-day governance. A city's lack of capacity to apply for federal funds can create significant inequities – and for many communities, this will be their first time applying for funds from a suite of federal agencies. While many funding streams in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law specifically set aside funds for disadvantaged communities, the White House Infrastructure Implementation Team will be engaging states, Tribal governments, territories, federal agencies, philanthropies, and others to leverage all available resources to quickly deliver the necessary technical assistance and capacity to underserved communities.