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Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$23.2 Million in Funding for Three Projects in North Dakota to Modernize Transportation and Make it More Affordable, Increase Safety and Strengthen Supply Chains

President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law more than doubles the funding for popular RAISE Program this year

Today, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg announced that the Biden-Harris Administration has awarded \$23.3 million to support three projects in North Dakota from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program to help move forward on projects that modernize roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports, and intermodal transportation and make our transportation systems safer, more accessible, more affordable, and more sustainable. This year's total allocations nationwide include more than \$2.2 billion thanks to the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which provides an additional \$7.5 billion over five years for the program to help meet the strong demand to help projects get moving across the country.

"We are proud to support so many outstanding infrastructure projects in communities large and small, modernizing America's transportation systems to make them safer, more affordable, more accessible, and more sustainable," **said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg.** "Using funds from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, this year we are supporting more projects than ever before."

Projects were evaluated on several criteria, including safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness and opportunity, partnership and collaboration, innovation, state of good repair, and mobility and community connectivity. Within these areas, the Department considered how projects will improve accessibility for all travelers, bolster supply chain efficiency, and support racial equity and economic growth – especially in historically disadvantaged communities and areas of persistent poverty.

In North Dakota, the following projects will benefit from RAISE awards:

- **Tribal Safety Project** – The North Dakota Department of Transportation will receive \$19.5 million to construct several highway safety projects on two Native American Reservations in the state of North Dakota, the Standing Rock Indian Reservation and the Mandan-Hidatsa-Arikara (MHA) Nation. Improvements in this project include the installation of roundabouts, turn lanes, lighting, and rumble strips to improve safety on these two Reservations. The project will provide safer roads on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation and MHA Nation and will reduce delays to improve mobility and community connectivity for underserved and disadvantaged tribal communities.
- **BIA Route 3 Resurfacing Project** – The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe will receive \$2.2 million to resurface approximately 4.5 miles of BIA Route 3 between the cities of Fort Yates, North Dakota and Kenel, South Dakota. This includes the installation of edge-line rumble strips, shoulder slopes, and signing improvements. The project demonstrates economic competitiveness and state of good repair benefits the underserved communities in the area by modernizing and restoring the roadway to improve the overall condition of this important corridor. The project will also increase transportation options and system connectivity to revitalize underserved communities. This will increase access to jobs and help facilitate tourism opportunities as well.
- **North Dakota / Minnesota Community Bridge Connectivity Project** – The City of Fargo will receive \$1.5 million for the planning project to plan a two-state river crossing to raise the crossing out of the 100-year floodplain and connect it to the regional trail systems in Fargo, ND and Moorhead, MN. The project will improve travel time reliability and facilitate the movement of goods across the state line to support the local economy. The project will increase the resiliency of this critical community connection, improve safety, and reduce the impacts of flooding by raising the structure. It will also encourage non-motorized transportation, which will reduce emissions and improve air quality in the project area.

Today, Secretary Buttigieg is in Tucson and Phoenix where he is visiting two of the projects receiving RAISE awards. Later this month the Secretary and other senior USDOT officials will fan out across the country to visit additional sites that are receiving RAISE awards to highlight the ways that the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is helping invest in communities and get important infrastructure projects moving in communities large and small.

The full list of awards can be found [here](#).

Additional background:

- 2022 RAISE grants are for planning and capital investments that support roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports, or intermodal transportation.
- 50% of funding is designated for projects in rural areas, and 50% of the funding is designated for projects in urban areas.
- Nearly two-thirds of projects are located in areas of persistent poverty or historically disadvantaged communities.
- The largest grant award is \$25 million. Per statute, no more than \$341.25 million could be awarded to a single state in this round of funding.
- Among this year's selected projects, 11 included a local hire provision.

- Several projects include workforce development aspects including four projects that have project labor agreements, eight projects that have registered apprenticeship programs and an additional eight projects with other workforce development provisions.

The RAISE program is one of several ways communities can secure funding for projects under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's competitive grant programs. Later this year, the Biden-Harris Administration will announce recipients of the first-ever National Infrastructure Project Assistance (MEGA) program, as well as the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program and the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program (RURAL).

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