



August 11, 2022

Contact: pressoffice@dot.gov

Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$20.2 Million in Funding for Three Projects in Oregon 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 \$20.2 million to support three projects in Oregon 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 Oregon, the following projects will benefit from RAISE awards:

- **Beaverton Downtown Loop Complete Street Project** – The City of Beaverton received \$2 million for a planning project for design of wider sidewalks, protected bike lanes, new bus stops, and signal and intersection improvements along SW Hall Boulevard and SW Watson Street between SW Crescent Street and SW 5th Street. The project will create a corridor master plan, prepare preliminary construction plans for a future first phase project, and refine the project's implementation strategy. The project will reduce crashes by separating vehicle lanes from non-motorized traffic and improving access to existing transit. The project plans to address current vulnerabilities that threaten movement throughout the project corridor and includes future maintenance plans to keep the assets in a state of good repair. The project will collaborate with public and private entities, including substantial community outreach and equity considerations, and commits to creating opportunities for DBEs.
- **Earthquake Ready Burnside Bridge** – The County of Multnomah will receive \$5 million for a planning project to replace the existing 96-year-old Burnside Bridge with a new seismically resilient bridge, including wider, safer bike and pedestrian facilities separated from vehicular traffic, and upgraded ADA compliant sidewalk routes to light rail transit. The project will provide a lifeline route in the event of an earthquake, as well as improve safety by implementing safer bike and pedestrian facilities. The project will improve the condition of at-risk infrastructure, while providing affordable and accessible transportation choices for an underserved community.
- **McGilchrist Complete Streets Project** – The City of Salem will receive \$13.2 million to fund construction for the McGilchrist Complete Street Project, which will make improvements on approximately 8,500 feet of roadway. The project will add cycle tracks, sidewalks, and turn lanes. It will also reconstruct existing travel lanes, build Green Stormwater Infrastructure, add two creek crossings, an improved railroad crossing, a new traffic signal and traffic signal reconstruction, and street lighting. The project will make it safer for cyclists, pedestrians, and drivers. The project will support transportation options such as walking, biking, and transit, and make it easier for residents to access jobs and other essential destinations.

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).

###