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Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$64.2 Million in Funding for Six Projects in Virginia 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 \$64.2 million to support six projects in Virginia 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 Virginia, the following projects will benefit from RAISE awards:

- **Arthur Ashe Boulevard Bridge Replacement** – The City of Richmond will receive \$18.4 million to replace an existing multimodal bridge structure over the CSX Railroad at the City's crossroads with the eastern seaboard interstate highway corridor. The project will improve safety by reducing crashes in a high-crash area, and will replace an at-risk, over 100-year-old bridge that has exceeded its useful life. The project will increase transportation options and system connectivity to revitalize underserved communities.
- **Community Connectivity and Mobility: A Multimodal Assessment and Master Plan** – The Town of Tappahannock will receive \$1.5 million to fund planning activities to conduct a multimodal assessment and develop a master plan that will propose projects and cost estimates for future projects. The planning efforts of this project will ensure that the mobility and equity needs of the Town of Tappahannock and Essex County, Virginia, are accurately identified so that future projects may address these needs. The master plan developed under this project will enhance the unique coastal characteristics of this community through increasing access to marine recreational activities, employment centers, and ADA access on new facilities, while prioritizing equity considerations.
- **Complete High Street Innovation Corridor** – The City of Portsmouth will receive \$19.3 million to convert the existing four-lane undivided arterial to a two-lane divided road section with a 16-foot-wide raised median for approximately 1-mile allowing for road integration of vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users. Project Benefits: The project increases affordable and equitable transportation choices and improves access to essential destinations with or without a car. The project incorporates improved stormwater management to reduce water pollutions and improves the resilience of at-risk infrastructure that is vulnerable to tidal flooding. The shared use path and improvements to bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure with calming measures will protect non-motorized users. The project is the result of collaboration with private and public entities at the local level, as well as extensive public engagement to address the needs of the community.
- **I-95 Exit 126/US Route 1 Revitalization Planning Project** – The County of Spotsylvania will receive \$3 million for a planning project that will provide multimodal improvements along the US Route 1 corridor from I-95/Exit 126 to Route 208/Lafayette Boulevard, including traffic operational improvements at three intersections, new bus transit service with connections to the region's Amtrak station and the county's main bus transfer station, and sidewalk and streetscape improvements. The project will reduce crashes and protect motorized and non-motorized travelers through pedestrian and transit improvements. The project will increase affordable and accessible transportation choices and will include a racial equity analysis and outreach to underserved communities. Once completed, the project will provide new bus stops along a corridor where none currently exist and address transportation barriers in the community. The project plans to ensure robust outreach efforts and will include involvement of disadvantaged business enterprise.
- **Long Bridge Bicycle and Pedestrian Crossing Project** – The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority receive \$20 million to create a new approximate 2,300-foot-long bicycle-pedestrian bridge that crosses the Potomac River between Long Bridge Park in Arlington, VA and East and West Potomac Parks in Washington, DC. The project will reduce crashes by adding protected and separated facilities for bicycles and pedestrians. The project will create an accessible and more affordable way for the community to connect

to the surrounding Virginia and District of Columbia areas through a network of bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

- **Three Notched Trail Shared Use Path Master Plan** – The County of Albemarle will receive \$2 million for a planning project that will provide a guiding document that Albemarle County can use to develop a shared use path between the City of Charlottesville, the community of Crozet, and Western Albemarle and Nelson County. The project will reduce crash threats and improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians within the corridor by developing a shared use path. The project will create a new sustainable commute options for residents.

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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