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Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$31.3 Million in Funding for Four Projects in Wisconsin 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 \$31.3 million to support four projects in Wisconsin 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 Wisconsin, the following projects will benefit from RAISE awards:

- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Swing Bridge** – The City of Sheboygan will receive \$5.3 million to construct a bicycle and pedestrian bridge across the Sheboygan River. The project will build a shared-use swing bridge for pedestrian, bike and other non-motorized travel, which will provide a safe pathway across the river. The project will increase safe pedestrian and bike options, thereby reducing emissions, and will improve at-risk infrastructure by considering improvements to the flood plain in the project area. The bridge will connect two waterfront districts located on either side of the Sheboygan River and provide access to work centers, recreational activities, health care and other services to the community including those who are underserved, overburdened, and disadvantaged.
- **FCPC Pathway to Wellness: Multimodal Safety & Connectivity Project** – The Forest County Potawatomi Community will receive \$9.5 million to construct an approximately 4.8-mile walking and biking path along US Highway 8 to link the City of Crandon, Wisconsin, the Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC) Stone Lake reservation lands, and the Otter Springs Recreation Area. The project will also construct an approximate 0.56-mile pathway within the FCPC Government complex, as well as an approximate 1.64-mile formal ATV-only trail. The project will provide the community with affordable travel options by creating a safe, accessible alternative to vehicle travel which will also help reduce emissions. The multiuse trail will increase accessibility and connections to amenities, including a new FCPC community center, as well as the Otter Springs Recreation Area. The project will also encourage the unique recreational activities of the area by constructing an ATV-only path.
- **Gateways to Opportunity Project** – The City of Beloit will receive nearly \$13.5 million to replace an existing two-lane structure over Springbrook Creek with a new four-lane structure with bicycle and pedestrian accommodations on both sides of the structure. The project will reconstruct and upgrade parts of Willowbrook Road, and reconstruct parts of Colley Road from Willowbrook Road to Gateway Boulevard by creating multilane roundabouts at three intersections and making railroad crossing improvements. The project will improve the long-term efficiency and reliability of movement in the project area, and create greater accessibility to essential, recreational, and tourist destinations. The reconstruction of the transportation assets will improve the condition of the roadways and bring them into a state of good repair. The project is the result of years of collaboration between the City of Beloit and the Ho-Chunk Nation, demonstrating significant partnership.
- **Oneida Transit Bus Garage** – The Oneida Nation will receive nearly \$3 million to complete the engineering, design, and construction of the Oneida Transit bus garage. The construction of this garage will enable Oneida Transit to replace their current fleet with electric buses in the future. By improving the condition of the bus fleet, the transit services will be more reliable, and it will help reduce emissions through fleet conversion – improving air quality. The project will improve transportation options and connectivity to employment and other essential destinations, such as medical services. The project will address current transit vulnerabilities which include exposure to bad weather, potential vandalism and theft, and maintenance and emergency repairs.

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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