



How the Bipartisan *Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act* Will Benefit Southwest Ohio

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The bipartisan *Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA)* makes an [historic investment](#) in America's core infrastructure needs – roads, bridges, ports, broadband, water infrastructure, and other important assets. The bill, which has been endorsed by more than [100 industry associations, trade groups, and unions](#), will create jobs, increase productivity, and pave the way for decades of economic growth and prosperity – all without raising taxes or increasing inflation.

Senator Portman played a key role in crafting the legislation, which President Biden signed into law on Monday, that will address specific infrastructure needs across Ohio.

Here is how the bill will benefit Southwest Ohio:

Roads and Bridges

The bipartisan *IIJA* provides \$110 billion in new funding for roads and bridges, including \$9.2 billion that will come directly to Ohio to help with roads and highways and \$483 million to help with Ohio bridges.

In addition, Ohio projects will also be able to apply for tens of billions in additional competitive grant funding opportunities, including \$12.5 billion in the new the *Bridge Investment Act*, \$5 billion in a new National Infrastructure Project Assistance grant program to help with large projects, \$7.5 billion in the RAISE (formerly BUILD) grant program, and \$8 billion in the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program.

In total, the bill will provide \$60 billion – including \$33 billion in competitive grant funding – for state and local governments to fund projects like the [Brent Spence Bridge](#), which is in dire need of reconstruction, and capacity additions of I-75 from the Ohio River through the Western Hills Viaduct interchange.

This funding could also be utilized for the Western Hills Viaduct Replacement, the I-75 and Milliken Road Interchange and North Hamilton Crossing project in Butler County, the Wilmington Pike Interchange Project in Montgomery County, the Grange Hall Road Interchange Project in Beavercreek, and more.

Ohio is also set to receive \$95 million through the Appalachian Development Highway System to help with Southeast Ohio's specific infrastructure needs. The ADHS has 33 corridors, five of which run through southern Ohio and stretch from Clermont to Washington Counties through US 50 and Franklin to Portsmouth through US 23. The IJA provides dedicated funding for this network of transportation corridors across Appalachia for the first time since 2012.

The bipartisan infrastructure legislation also provides a 10 percent set aside within the surface transportation block grant program to states for recreational trails and other transportation alternatives. This provision will provide \$7.2 billion nationally over the next five years. Some of that funding – in addition to competitive grants like the RAISE grant program – could be used to fund projects like the Ohio River Trail, the Great Miami River Trail, the Miami 2 Miami Connection, the CROWN (Cincinnati Riding or Walking Network) Initiative, the Flight Line trail project in Montgomery County, and other trail projects across Southwest Ohio.

Airports, Ports and Waterways

The *IJA* also includes \$25 billion in competitive grant funding to support our nation's airports. Both the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport and Dayton International Airport stand to benefit from this funding for pavement repairs, terminal improvements, and other airport infrastructure projects.

The new law provides \$2.25 billion over five years for the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) through the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration. This competitive grant program is the main source of federal funding for port infrastructure needs and provides funding for planning, operational and capital financing, and project management assistance to improve port capacity and financing for ports across Southwest Ohio.

Broadband

The *IJA* includes \$65 billion for broadband, including more than \$42 billion to states, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia via block grants. This is consistent with Senator Portman's bipartisan *BRIDGE Act* proposal to help close the gap in access to reliable high-speed internet that persists in certain communities. Ohio is set to receive hundreds of millions in broadband deployment dollars that the state could use to help expand access throughout Southwest Ohio, making a difference in the lives of students, workers, and families.

Water Infrastructure

The law also includes the bipartisan Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act and provides \$23.4 billion for the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving funds, which help finance a variety of water infrastructure projects such as stormwater projects and the construction of water treatment facilities. Additionally, the bill provides \$10 billion to address PFAS and a historic \$15 billion for lead service line replacement for which communities like Dayton and Cincinnati will be eligible.