



**Curate**  
PART OF FiscalNote

## Report

# How Local Governments Have Taken Advantage of Major Federal Programs

# Local Spending of State & Federal Funds

President Joe Biden's two major funding bills — the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) and the [Inflation Reduction Act](#) — have allocated almost \$1 trillion of new funds to improve U.S. economic competitiveness and address climate change. As with any major federal spending bill, a significant portion of that money is available for local governments to apply for through grants.

This report looks at where discussions of these funding programs showed up in local government meetings in 2022, providing insight into how local governments across the country are taking advantage of these funds. For each program, we look at how many unique projects with specific funding requests were discussed in local government meetings, the total dollar amount requested by local governments, and the five states or communities with the highest dollar amount requested.

The report data is sourced from the [Curate database](#), which scans weekly meeting minutes and agenda documents from more than 12,000 city, county, and district governing bodies, more than 4,000 school boards, and more than 200 state boards.

Local government monitoring software is crucial to be able to track federal or state spending at the local level and understanding the direct impact of these programs have on their communities. It also allows organizations to consistently monitor how local governments are taking advantage of major federal or state programs.



# Local Spending Related to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

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The \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) signed into law on Nov. 15, 2021, made \$550 billion in new spending available for infrastructure projects such as rebuilding roads and bridges, improving public transit, replacing drinking water infrastructure, and expanding access to high-speed internet. Since the IIJA made no direct allocations to local governments, they've had to apply through existing competitive grant programs in order to access the funds.

Read on for a look at a few categories of infrastructure improvements that have seen significant activity at the local government level:

The seven policy issues covered in this section are:

- Surface transportation
- Public transit
- Rail infrastructure
- Water infrastructure
- Environmental remediation
- Airport improvement
- State & local cybersecurity



# Surface Transportation

The IIJA authorized a total of \$400 billion over five years to repair roads and bridges and support projects that will improve the safety and resilience of America's surface transportation infrastructure. Many of the local government discussions about this funding opportunity have focused on the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program, which aims to help communities remove, retrofit, or mitigate highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity.

- **Number of projects:** 67
- **Amount requested by local governments:** \$1,151,638,417
- Top 5 states by amount requested by local governments:

<b>State</b>	<b>Amount Requested by Local Governments</b>
<b>Ohio</b>	\$225,000,000
<b>California</b>	\$109,465,875
<b>Texas</b>	\$93,048,907
<b>Oregon</b>	\$83,480,000
<b>New Jersey</b>	\$67,500,000



## Example Discussion

"MOTION, submitted by Vice Mayor Kearney, WE MOVE that City administration provide a REPORT on the feasibility of building a pedestrian bridge to provide a safe, non-vehicular route across Elberon Avenue to Mt. Echo Park, and whether there are available funding sources such as the U.S. Department of Transportation's Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program."

Cincinnati, Ohio | [Agenda](#) | Nov. 22, 2022



# Public Transit

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The IIJA authorized a total of \$400 billion over five years to repair roads and bridges and support projects that will improve the safety and resilience of America's surface transportation infrastructure. Many of the local government discussions about this funding opportunity have focused on the Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program, which aims to help communities remove, retrofit, or mitigate highways or other transportation facilities that create barriers to community connectivity.

- **Number of projects:** 16
- **Amount requested by local governments:** \$307,449,847
- Top 5 states by amount requested by local governments:

<b>State</b>	<b>Amount Requested by Local Governments</b>
<b>New Jersey</b>	\$285,233,000
<b>California</b>	\$20,013,036
<b>Texas</b>	\$1,260,000
<b>New Mexico</b>	\$542,354
<b>Florida</b>	\$270,000



## Example Discussion

“Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program will provide rural operating funds in support of increased demands for dialysis transportation and continued service to Rowan Vocational Opportunities and Trinity LivingCenter.”

Rowan County, N.C. | [Agenda](#) | Sept. 6, 2022

# Rail Infrastructure

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The IIJA set aside \$66 billion in advanced appropriations and authorized up to an additional \$36 billion over the next five years for major investments in rail programs, with the goal of laying the foundation for world-class passenger and freight rail systems. Funding requests at the local level focused on the new Railroad Crossing Elimination Grant Program, which provides funds for the mitigation or elimination of hazards at railway-highway crossings.

- **Number of projects:** 28
- **Amount requested by local governments:** \$9,871,406,811
- Top 5 states by amount requested by local governments:

<b>State</b>	<b>Amount Requested by Local Governments</b>
<b>California</b>	\$5,514,500,000
<b>West Virginia</b>	\$3,500,096,000
<b>Virginia</b>	\$595,900,000
<b>Arizona</b>	\$88,690,000
<b>Oregon</b>	\$73,798,922



## Example Discussion

“The Railroad Crossing Elimination Program provides the opportunity to seek federal assistance in the planning and analysis of quiet zones in Horicon, in addition to construction dollars for implementation of the required infrastructure. The idea would be to apply for the planning grant this year and, with that analysis, apply for the construction grant in proceeding grant cycles.”

Horicon, Wis. | [Agenda](#) | Sept. 13, 2022



# Water Infrastructure

With \$55 billion set aside for water infrastructure projects, the IIJA represents the largest investment in drinking water, wastewater, water reuse, conveyance, and water storage infrastructure in American history. Local governments are taking action to apply for funds to replace lead service lines, improve water efficiency, and expand or upgrade water treatment facilities.

- **Number of projects:** 89
- **Amount requested by local governments:** \$3,325,673,844
- Top 5 states by amount requested by local governments:

<b>State</b>	<b>Amount Requested by Local Governments</b>
<b>California</b>	\$1,227,540,267
<b>Florida</b>	\$875,634,105
<b>Oklahoma</b>	\$737,206,431
<b>Arizona</b>	\$84,117,090
<b>Texas</b>	\$62,821,513



## Example Discussion

“City Council approved a Resolution at the April 13, 2020 City Council Meeting, to pursue funding from the North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure (DWI) and the State Water Infrastructure Authority and Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act of 2019 (ASADRA) to purchase a new generator for the City’s Water Treatment Plant. A Letter of Intent dated August 3, 2020 notified the City of Washington of the approval for the proposed project with a \$409,160 loan, 25% of which will be principle forgiven. This Action Item will grant execution of the loan.”

Washington, N.C. | [Meeting Minutes](#) | March 14, 2022

# Environmental Remediation

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The ILJA made \$21 billion available for the assessment, remediation, and redevelopment of contaminated sites known as brownfields. Local governments are requesting funds to address public health concerns from contaminated sites and to facilitate the redevelopment of unused or abandoned properties.

- **Number of projects:** 62
- **Amount requested by local governments:** \$44,787,378
- Top 5 states by amount requested by local governments:

<b>State</b>	<b>Amount Requested by Local Governments</b>
<b>Maine</b>	\$7,500,000
<b>Illinois</b>	\$6,000,000
<b>North Carolina</b>	\$4,600,000
<b>Colorado</b>	\$2,500,000
<b>Oklahoma</b>	\$2,000,000



## Example Discussion

“Consultant Tracey Costa, LSP for ES&M (Environmental Strategies & Management) stated ES&M has been awarded the contract to perform the cleanup of two of the 3 lagoons at the former Attleboro Dye Works site (Lagoons #1 and #2). Lagoon #3 was remediated last year under a MassDevelopment Brownfields Cleanup Grant. The Town was recently awarded an EPA Brownfield Cleanup Grant in the amount of \$500,000; this cleanup will address the remaining Lagoons #1 and #2.”

Seekonk, Mass. | [Meeting Minutes](#) | May 16, 2022

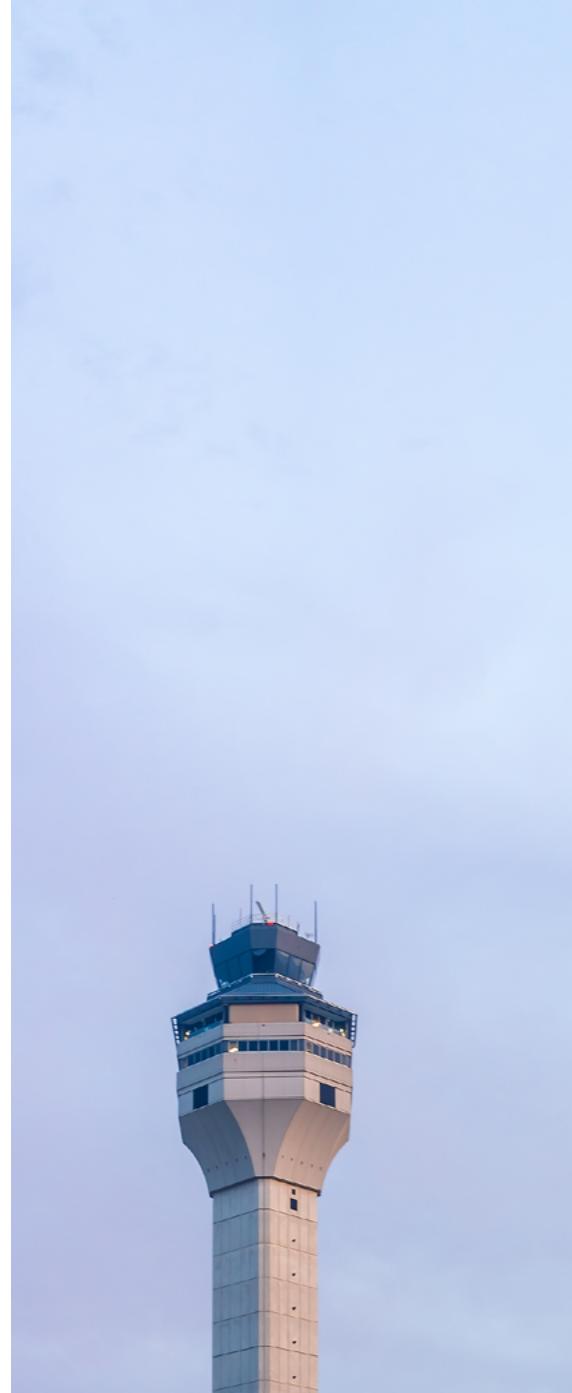
# Airport Improvement

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The IIJA made \$20 billion available for critical construction projects at commercial airports. Communities large and small took action to secure funds to rehabilitate runways, improve stormwater management systems, and purchase airfield equipment.

- **Number of projects:** 94
- **Amount requested by local governments:**  
\$481,601,157
- Top 5 states by amount requested by local governments:

State	Amount Requested by Local Governments
<b>Washington</b>	\$135,900,000
<b>Texas</b>	\$90,862,977
<b>North Carolina</b>	\$43,463,400
<b>Florida</b>	\$42,386,986
<b>Idaho</b>	\$32,350,000



## Example Discussion

“A motion was made by Ms. Leeuwrik, seconded by Mr. Mansfield, to adopt a resolution (2022-09) and authorize the Mayor to sign a Grant Agreement and any other pertinent documents, to accept a grant offer from the Idaho Transportation Department Division of Aeronautics and the grant is for \$200,000.00, which will be used over the next 3 to 4 years to provide required match funds for FAA Airport Improvement Program grant funds.”

Pocatello, Idaho | [Meeting Minutes](#) | July 21, 2022

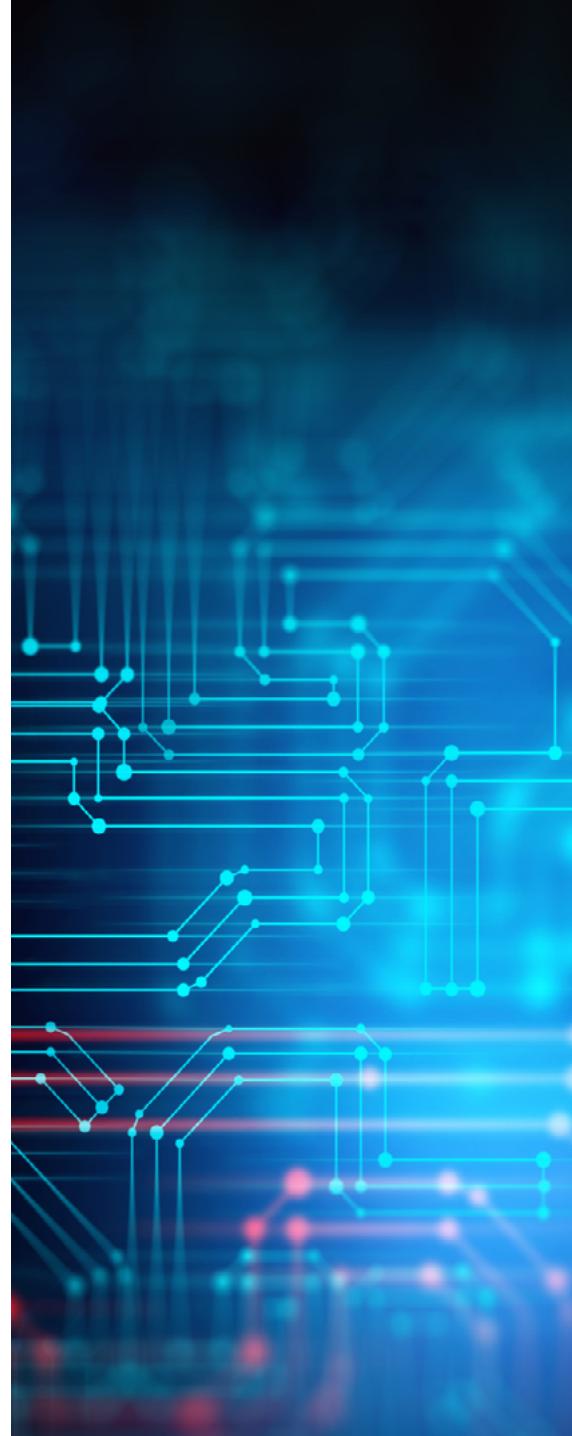
# Cybersecurity

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Established by the IIJA and administered by FEMA, the State & Local Cybersecurity Grant Program provides grants to help communities strengthen their cybersecurity practices and resilience. For fiscal year 2022, \$185 million was available.

- **Number of projects:** 6
- **Amount requested by local governments:**  
\$924,143
- Top 5 locations by amount requested:

Location	Amount Requested by Local Governments
<b>Leon County, Florida</b>	\$455,000
<b>Merced, California</b>	\$150,000
<b>Clayton County, Georgia</b>	\$120,900
<b>Fort Myers, Florida</b>	\$91,043
<b>Miami Lakes, Florida</b>	\$57,700



## Example Discussion

“Approval to apply for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) FY22 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program in the amount of \$49,500 with a \$5,500 MATCH required for the purchase of FortiGuard Incident Readiness Subscription Service, with NO RECURRING FEES.”

Weslaco, Texas | [Agenda](#) | Nov. 1, 2022

# Local Spending Related to the Inflation Reduction Act

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The Inflation Reduction Act, signed on August 16, 2022, included a \$369 billion investment in energy security and climate change projects. Local governments can use the funds for a wide variety of projects, such as planting trees, purchasing zero-emission vehicles, developing climate action plans, adopting updated building codes, siting electricity transmission lines, protecting coastal habitats, and paying farmers to conserve water. Many of the local government discussions focused on new funding available for fallowing, a program that pays farmers up to \$400 per acre-foot of water that they conserve by temporarily leaving croplands unsown.

- **Number of projects:** 23
- **Amount requested by local governments:** \$868,628,760
- Top 5 states by amount requested by local governments:

<b>State</b>	<b>Amount Requested by Local Governments</b>
<b>California</b>	\$845,615,000
<b>Colorado</b>	\$8,523,740
<b>Montana</b>	\$8,000,000
<b>Massachusetts</b>	\$3,600,000
<b>New Hampshire</b>	\$2,047,198

## Example Discussion

“On November 21, Metropolitan, Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID), and Bard Water District submitted joint proposals for funding under the Inflation Reduction Act. Under the proposals, the additional capacity available under the Metropolitan-PVID fallowing program and the capacity in the Bard seasonal fallowing program would be available for conserving additional water for Lake Mead. That additional fallowing would be funded by Reclamation under the Inflation Reduction Act.”

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California | [Agenda](#) | Dec. 12, 2022

# Track Local Government Spending And Identify Opportunities With Curate

Public sector officials, government affairs leaders, policy researchers, and business development teams rely on local monitoring software to keep track of how major funding programs like the IIJA, IRA and many others are used locally. Curate, part of FiscalNote, offers the most comprehensive database of local government documents in the country and our AI-powered technology makes it simple and efficient to track policy issues and government spending at the local level. Learn how Curate can help you manage your organization's most critical issues.

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