

# The New Age of American Infrastructure

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# Infrastructure Package: Builds on President Biden's Build Back Better Agenda – Y. Pollas

## Major Goals of the Infrastructure Package

- Address aging infrastructure; (C- overall grade from the American Society of Civil Engineers)
- Stimulate and revive the economy harmed by Covid-19
- Decarbonize the economy away from fossil fuels and toward clean energy
- Promote equity, justice and inclusion

# Scope of the Infrastructure Package (big, bold and transformational) – Y. Pollas

- Infrastructure package is ambitious in scope. Package will be divided into two parts which include physical capital infrastructure and human capital infrastructure.
- Physical Capital infrastructure systems and facilities provisions
  - Surface transportation roads, bridges, railways
  - Wastewater, Drinking and wastewater systems & Water system security and resilience,
  - Broadband Infrastructure, Municipal Broadband, Public Safety Next Gen 9-1-1
  - Grid modernization and resiliency,
  - Electric vehicle charging station
  - Transportation Electrification (port electrification and decarbonization)
  - Clean energy
  - Health Care modernization (Public Health, Hospital & Community Health Care Center infrastructure funding)
  - School modernization (average public school is 44 years old)
  - Equity and justice

# Scope of the Infrastructure Package (big, bold and transformational) – Y. Pollas

## Human capital Infrastructure provisions

- Workforce and Apprentice training
- Free community college
- Universal pre-kindergarten
- Paid family leave
- ACA subsidies

# What is the Process for Producing Infrastructure Legislation? – J. Reilly

**Congressional Committees + Congressional Leadership + White House**

## **House of Representatives**

- Transportation and Infrastructure: *Surface transportation infrastructure, public transit*
  - Chair: Peter DeFazio (Oregon) RM: Sam Graves (Missouri)
- Energy and Commerce: *Transportation and energy policy*
  - Chair: Frank Pallone (New Jersey) RM: Cathy McMorris Rodgers (Washington)
- Ways and Means: *Revenues. Highway Trust Fund*
  - Chair: Richard Neal (Massachusetts) RM: Kevin Brady (Texas)

# What is the Process for Producing Infrastructure Legislation? (cont'd) – J. Reilly

## Senate

- Environment and Public Works: *Surface transportation infrastructure*
  - Tom Carper (Delaware) RM: Shelley Moore Capito (West Virginia)
- Commerce, Science and Transportation: *Transportation policy and regulation*
  - Maria Cantwell (Washington) RM: Roger Wicker (Mississippi)
- Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs: *Public transit*
  - Sherrod Brown (Ohio) RM: Pat Toomey (Pennsylvania)
- Finance: *Revenues/Highway Trust Fund*
  - Ron Wyden (Oregon) RM: Mike Crapo (Idaho)
- Other committees possible depending on scope

# What is the Timing for Producing Infrastructure Legislation? – J. Reilly

## Timing (Current law expires Sept 30, 2021)

- White House issuing proposals now
- Congressional committee hearings underway
  - House T&I spring hearings, Senate EPW targeting Memorial Day
  - Other committees TBA
- Floor debates Summer/Fall
- Budget Reconciliation(s)
- Conference and pre-conference
- Final passage and bill signing TBD

# Biden Administration Policy Priorities for Infrastructure Plan – F. Wagner

- Climate and GHG Emissions
- Equity and Civil Rights
- COVID-19 Recovery
- Economic Recovery/ Labor



# 10 Options to Secure the Highway Trust Fund: Revenue Options – J. Burnley

| Policy   | 10- Year Savings | Percentage of 10-Year Shortfall |
|--|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Increase gas and diesel taxes by 10 cents                                    | \$140 billion    | 75%                             |
| Impose 1 cent per mile Vehicle Miles Traveled Tax on all Vehicles            | \$150 billion    | 80%                             |
| Impose 5 cent per mile Vehicle Miles Traveled Tax on commercial trucks, only | \$160 billion    | 80%                             |
| Impose \$5 per barrel tax on oil   | \$160 billion    | 80%                             |
| Impose \$25 per ton carbon tax in place of the gas tax                       | \$700 billion    | 360%                            |

Attribution: Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget and Congressional Budget Office

# 10 Options to Secure the Highway Trust Fund: Spending Options – J. Burnley

| <b>Policy</b>   | <b>10- Year Savings</b> | <b>Percentage of 10-Year Shortfall</b> |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| Freeze Highway Spending for Five Years                              | \$60 billion            | 30%                                    |
| Replace Surface Transportation Block Grants with Matching Grants'   | \$70 billion            | 35%                                    |
| Cut Federal Transit Spending in Half                                | \$60 billion            | 30%                                    |
| Reduce Federal Share of National Highway Performance Program by 15% | \$50 billion            | 25%                                    |
| Repeal Davis-Bacon Act  | \$20 billion            | 10%                                    |

Attribution: Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget and Congressional Budget Office

# Questions?

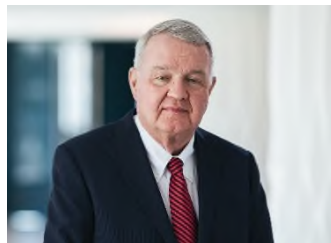


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