



President Biden pledged to Build Back Better. and he's delivering on his promise. It's now up to us to do our part to make sure Congress acts.

America should have world-class infrastructure built by skilled union workers. Instead, we have a system in a state of failure in deep need of renewed investment. It's not only roads and bridges, our transit, rail, clean air infrastructure and schools need investment.

After years of gridlock, the nation finally has a Infrastructure Framework worked out between the White House and a bipartisan group of lawmakers for \$1.2 trillion in investment. The Senate passed this bipartisan bill in August, but it still needs to pass the House. In addition, Senate Democrats took their first step toward passing a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution to further fund physical and human infrastructure needs. Congress plans to advance these two packages simultaneously.

We need Congress to pass an infrastructure package that creates and protects hundreds of thousands of good, union jobs in the construction and transportation industries as we set down to the task of rebuilding our nation.

Use the link below to guide members to contact their members of Congress.

Action Network Link:

<https://actionnetwork.org/letters/rebuild-americas-infrastructure>

Text:

Text the words **Build Back Better SMART** to 21333 (message and data rates may apply).

Local Text to Members: The infrastructure plan is a huge opportunity to fix our infrastructure and create SMART jobs. Tell Congress to get the job done! Visit:

<http://lil.ms/aigj>

Dropbox Link to Social Media Assets, Posters, Talking Points. Material will be added and updated as events progress.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/48fesfegj3u2oj0/AAA22_avxTRWRwOKCB8yU1Joa?dl=0

KEY MESSAGES:

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework and reconciliation package present a historic opportunity for millions of Americans by making the largest infrastructure investment in almost a century with the potential to create a generation of good-paying union jobs, and boost economic growth. This historic investment could position American workers, small businesses and families to succeed in the 21st century.



But the devil is in the details. We need to make sure Congress gets this package right. That's why we need to make sure that Congress passes the bipartisan infrastructure deal and reconciliation package together and that *both* contain strong labor and worker protections. We need to work together to ensure that any project receiving federal support complies with a base of labor standards underlying the work including prevailing wage, utilizing registered

apprentices, eliminating worker misclassification and wage theft, a neutrality agreement prior to construction so workers have the choice to form or join a union and local hire provisions, so wages stay local. We need to make sure that there is robust funding for school construction so schools can improve and update indoor air quality. President Biden proposed \$100 billion for school construction, and we need to make sure this amount is included in the final package.

Congress has also proposed a Civilian Climate Corps (CCC) to get young people excited about combating climate change. We need to make sure the jobs created through this program are union and that the CCC works within the existing registered apprenticeship model. We also need to ascertain



that the rail and transit safety provisions of the House's infrastructure package (the INVEST in America Act) get included into the Senate's bipartisan effort, as well as equal or greater levels of transportation funding so that availability of public transportation and passenger rail grows while simultaneously protecting and expanding the transportation workforce.

How will these plans be paid for? By rewarding work, not wealth. The Biden-Harris Administration is keeping its promise not to raise taxes on Americans making less than \$400,000 by a single dime, which means 99% of Americans. Instead, the rich and big corporations will finally pay their fair share.

DETAILS OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE DEAL:

President Biden's historic infrastructure proposal invests in America's middle class and rewards work, not wealth.

Makes the largest investment in public transit in American history and the largest investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak, while fighting climate change.

Makes the single largest investment in roads and bridges since the construction of the interstate highway system, which will help us stay safe.

Makes the single largest investment to deliver clean drinking water to our families in American history by eliminating lead pipes.

Makes the largest investment in American history to strengthen our infrastructure so it's resilient to cyber-attacks and extreme weather.

Makes the single largest investment to modernize our power grid in American history and expands renewable energy.

Delivers reliable high-speed internet access to every American home, drives down prices for internet services, and closes the digital divide.

Creates good-paying union jobs and acts on the environment by making the largest-ever investment in addressing pollution.

Expands Medicare to cover vision, dental and hearings costs.

Extends childcare payments and subsidies for health care coverage expanded during the pandemic.

Provides free universal pre-K and free community college.

Makes the largest federal investment in public transit ever.

Makes the largest federal investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak.

Ensures every American has access to reliable high-speed internet.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Suggested Twitter and Facebook Texts:

@POTUS infrastructure deal is a down payment on the #BuildBackBetter agenda by investing in:

Clean energy infrastructure

Indoor air quality in public schools

Public transit and rail capacity

We need an economy that grows from the bottom up and middle out. The infrastructure package is a blue-collar blueprint to invest in the middle class. It must include strong labor standards and rail/transit worker provisions to create good union jobs for everyday Americans and build our local communities.

The time is now to #BuildBackBetterSMART. That means taking action to rebuild America's transportation infrastructure & protect the air our school kids breathe.

Paychecks are growing at strongest rate in 15 yrs, poverty is set to be cut in half & the economy is growing at fastest pace in 40 yrs. Now, we will build on the momentum by investing in more jobs. #BuildBackBetter

Dropbox Link to Social Media Assets:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/48fesfeg13u2oj0/AAA22_avxTRWRwOKCB8yU1Joa?dl=0

VIDEO

Record a short 30 second video with your message about good jobs and infrastructure and share it on social media. State your name, Local Union, what you do, and why any infrastructure project receiving federal support must include strong labor standards (prevailing wage, using registered apprentices, eliminating worker misclassification and wage theft, a neutrality agreement and local hire provisions) underlying the work and have transportation safety and funding in mind.

Here is a sample message:

I am John Smith. I am a (Union Sheet Metal Worker/Railroader/Bus Operator etc.) with Local X and I want Congress to pass an infrastructure package with strong labor standards and rail/transit safety provisions because it will create good jobs for my local community and #BuildBackBetterSMART.

Send your video to ppimentel@smart-union.org and share on social media with #BuildBackBetterSMART

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Sheet Metal

As a Union sheet metal worker, I take pride in what I build, but without more investment from the federal government with strong labor standards, many like me won't have a job and our transportation systems will continue to get worse.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework that is being worked out between a group of Republicans, Democrats, and the President and the reconciliation package, could be a game changer for our infrastructure if they require strong labor standards be applied to the work. We also need to make sure there is robust funding for school construction, at least \$100 billion, so schools can make sure they have safe indoor air quality for students and staff. But the full Congress needs to act on the deal and pass these two measures.

I for one hope that Congress rises to the challenge and gets the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework and reconciliation package done—as long as they include strong labor standards!

The time is now to put America first and Build Back Better.

Transportation

I spend my days traveling as a SMART Union member and (railroader/bus operator). I take pride in what America has accomplished and built, but without more investment and attention to safety from the federal government, our transportation systems will continue to worsen as we fall behind the rest of the world.

There is a Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework that is being worked out between a group of Republicans, Democrats, and the President and a reconciliation package, that could be a game changer for our infrastructure, but only if the rail and transit safety provisions of the House's INVEST Act are negotiated into the bill.

The full Congress needs to act on the deal to protect essential workers like myself, who kept America's freight and passengers moving when the nation was shut down because of COVID.

The time is now to put America first and Build Back Better the SMART way.

Transit and Passenger Rail

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework is the largest Federal investment in public transit in history, and devotes a larger share of funds from surface transportation reauthorization to transit in our country's history.

It will repair and upgrade aging infrastructure, modernize bus and rail fleets, make stations accessible to all users, and bring transit service to new communities.

This bill is also the largest investment in passenger rail since the creation of Amtrak 50 years ago. The deal invests \$66 billion in rail to eliminate the Amtrak maintenance backlog, modernize the Northeast Corridor, and bring world-class rail service to areas outside the northeast and mid-Atlantic.

As someone who works in the transportation industry, it is important we invest now to ensure the safety of our roads, rails and communities in the future and end gridlock on our highways. Now is the time to support this bill and #BuildBackBetter.

GENERIC

Now, more than ever, we need a comprehensive plan of action to rebuild America. President Biden's infrastructure package, an essential piece of the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan, is a bold step in the right direction. It will upgrade critical equipment we depend on every day; water systems, the broadband network, mass transportation, indoor air systems and invests in working families by investing in child care, paid family and medical leave and Medicare.

This moment provides us an opportunity to rebuild not only our rundown infrastructure but the middle class, with the creation of hundreds of thousands of jobs this mandate demands. For this to become a reality, my Union, SMART, is working to ensure that any infrastructure bill enshrines the robust labor standards that President Biden has prescribed in his Build Back Better vision.

This includes safeguarding workers' rights to organize, bargain collectively and join a union. As well as making sure there are prevailing wages to foster good wages and benefits, local hire provisions so wages stay local, eliminating worker misclassification and wage theft and increasing career opportunities through registered apprenticeships.

The time to act is now, these improvements have waited too long. Inaction threatens current and future generations of Americans. It's time to move past "infrastructure week" and build a new world class American infrastructure that we can leave for future generations.

SMART Infrastructure Toolkit