

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT

The U.S. Congress recently passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and it was signed into law by President Biden on November 15, 2021. What does the IIJA mean for Maine? We can expect to see over the five-year plan a total of \$2.4 billion dollars. The 2.4 billion is earmarked for highway, bridges, broadband, drinking water, and wastewater related infrastructure projects. What is the breakdown of the \$2.4 billion within these categories? It is estimated that \$1.3 billion be for Federal Highway, \$74 million for airports, \$100 million for broadband, \$225 million for bridges, \$234 million for transportation and \$390 million for drinking water and wastewater.

The IIJA reauthorized both the CWSRF & DWSRF from 2022-2026. The Maine DWSRF total allotment for the period is estimated to be \$143 Million. The IIJA includes a Supplemental DWSRF Fund of **\$114 Million** for Maine drinking water projects and will be disseminated through the Maine Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. The five-year plan covers fiscal years 2022-2026. Fiscal years 2022 and 2023 requires a 10% state match. Fiscal years 2024-2026 require a 20% state match. 49% of the total of the \$114 million shall be used to provide additional subsidy to eligible recipients in the form of assistance agreements with 100% principal forgiveness or grants or a combination of the two.

Within our five-year allocation of monies, the bill established three new dedicated funding mechanisms.

- An additional dedicated lead service line replacement fund estimated at **\$146 Million** will be used for eligible activities including identification, planning, design, and replacement of lead service lines with 49% of the funds dedicated entirely for principal forgives or grants. There is no State matching or cost sharing requirements for the program.
- An additional new dedicated fund estimated at **\$39 Million** for fiscal years 2022-2026 is dedicated through the DWSRF for emerging contaminants focusing on PFAS. Like the lead service fund there is no matching requirement for Maine. 100% of these dedicated program funds will be provided through principal forgiveness or grants or a combination of the two.
- Lastly there is a dedicated fund for grants to small and disadvantaged communities to target emerging contaminants. Estimates for this dedicated fund are unknown presently. Like the above mentioned “new” programs there is no state match requirement.