BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW RAIL

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), signed on November 15, 2021, is a reauthorization of the federal surface transportation act.



The rail provisions of the BIL emphasize safety, modernization, and resiliency.

- The new <u>Railroad Crossing Elimination Program</u> is a significant investment to improving the safety of highway-rail grade crossings.
- The new <u>Corridor Identification and Development Program</u> seeks to establish a project pipeline to create and sustain passenger rail corridors throughout the country. It is an example of how the BIL partners with states to modernize and expand passenger rail service.
- The existing <u>Consolidated Rail Infrastructure Safety Improvement (CRISI)</u> <u>Program</u> grants have been expanded to improve the safety and resiliency of the rail system with new eligible measures to prevent trespassing, develop hazardous materials emergency plans, and reduce emissions of locomotives.
- The revamped <u>Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail</u> <u>Program</u> is poised to significantly improve and expand passenger rail service. The funds can be awarded to privately operated intercity passenger rail service providers, if an eligible applicant (a state, Interstate Compact, public agency, and others) is involved.



What does the BIL mean for Florida's rail system?

The BIL sets a foundation for an integrated national freight and passenger rail network. It accomplishes its goals primarily through competitive grants and grants to Amtrak, and the funds can be used by public and private entities to improve all elements of rail infrastructure. These programs are a significant expansion of funding compared to prior legislation.

BIL FUNDING FOR NEW OR ENHANCED FEDERAL PROGRAMS POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE FOR RAIL PROJECTS



BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW RAIL

June 2022

What other programs could potentially be used for funding rail projects?

- The existing <u>Railroad Rehabilitation & Improvement Financing</u> has been enhanced with additional loan component refunds to make it easier for railroads to rehabilitate, improve, or acquire new rail equipment or facilities.
- The Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-saving Transportation (PROTECT) program is a new program providing apportioned (formula) funding as well as competitive grant funding to support planning, resilience improvements, community resilience, evacuation routes, and at-risk coastal infrastructure. These funds potentially could be used for resilience enhancements on rail corridors.
- The National Infrastructure Project Assistance (NIPA) program, also known as MEGA, is a new competitive grant that supports megaprojects: multimodal, multi-jurisdictional projects of national or regional significance. Eligibility includes intermodal freight, rail, and port projects.
- The Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) program increases the maximum share of funds that may go to multimodal projects from 10 percent to 30 percent, which can make the freight rail system more connected to the rest of the network and increase the resiliency of supply chains.



INCREASE IN COMPETITIVE RAIL GRANTS FOR WHICH FLORIDA IS ELIGIBLE.

Where Can I Learn More?

THE BIL PROVIDES A

TENFOL

- » **FDOT BIL Information** (see the Spreadsheet under the Formula and Competitive Programs link).
- » Federal Railroad Administration BIL Information
- » FDOT Freight and Rail Office

Office of Policy Planning ■ planning@dot.state.fl.us € 850.414.4800

