



AMPO Applauds President Biden's Historic Proposal for Investing in Transportation and Infrastructure

Washington, DC – Today the Association of Metropolitan Organizations (AMPO) applauded President Biden's American Jobs Plan proposal.

Ron Chicka, President of AMPO, said: "As a Director of an MPO, I am encouraged to see this significant investment in metropolitan regions around the country and I commend the President for his leadership. Metropolitan Planning Organizations serve as the stewards of federal transportation investments and are responsible for planning, programming, and coordination of federal highway and transit projects across the country. MPOs are on the ground and they know what our communities need to thrive and stay competitive. We look forward to seeing Congress move forward with its legislative process to ensure a robust federal infrastructure package."

Bill Keyrouze, Executive Director of AMPO, said: "We are pleased to see President Biden's proposal to invest a historic amount in the nation's roads, bridges, transit systems and more. For too long our nation's infrastructure has been neglected and under-invested in, and we are paying the price every day. We look forward to working with the Administration and Congress on behalf of our members to deliver a high-quality transportation network that is safe, reliable, equitable, and accessible for all."

Key parts of the President's plan include:

- **Invest \$115 billion to modernize 20,000 miles of bridges, highways, roads, and main streets.** The funding will seek to repair the most economically significant large bridges in the country in need of reconstruction and the worst 10,000 smaller bridges, including bridges that provide critical connections to rural and tribal communities. These funds will also be used to improve air quality, limit greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce congestion with a focus on safety, resilience, and access for all users.
- **\$20 billion to improve road safety for all users.** This investment will provide increases to existing safety programs and a new Safe Streets for All program to fund state and local "vision zero" plans and other improvements to reduce crashes and fatalities, especially for cyclists and pedestrians.
- **\$85 billion to modernize public transit.** This doubles federal funding for public transit, will focus on spending down the repair backlog, and will bring bus, bus rapid transit, and rail service to new communities and neighborhoods across the country.

- **Invest \$80 billion in reliable passenger and freight rail service.** This funding will address Amtrak's repair backlog; modernize the high traffic Northeast Corridor; improve existing corridors and connect new city pairs; and enhance grant and loan programs that support passenger and freight rail safety, efficiency, and electrification.
- **Invest \$174 billion in electric vehicles.** The funds will be used to establish new grant and incentive programs for state and local governments and the private sector to build a national network of 500,000 EV chargers by 2030 and replace 50,000 diesel transit vehicles and electrify at least 20 percent of the yellow school bus fleet through a new Clean Buses for Kids Program at the Environmental Protection Agency, with support from the Department of Energy.
- **Redress historic inequities and build the future of transportation infrastructure.** \$20 billion will be dedicated to a new program that will reconnect neighborhoods cut off by historic investments and ensure new projects increase opportunity, advance racial equity and environmental justice, and promote affordable access.
- **Make our infrastructure more resilient.** \$50 billion will be dedicated to investments that improve infrastructure resilience by safeguarding critical infrastructure and services and defending vulnerable communities and by maximizing the resilience of land and water resources to protect communities and the environment.

AMPO looks forward to continuing to work with the Administration and Congress as the President's plan and the surface transportation reauthorization move through the legislative process.

staff@ampo.org

www.ampo.org

444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 532
Washington, DC 20001