

## The BUILD GREEN Infrastructure and Jobs Act

In 2021 and 2022, President Biden and Democrats in Congress passed two historic investments in infrastructure and transportation electrification: the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* and the *Inflation Reduction Act*. The bold, innovative programs created by these two laws have already begun creating good-paying, union jobs, transforming communities across the countries, and jumpstarting the fight against climate change.

The ***Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development and Generating Renewable Energy to Electrify the Nation's (BUILD GREEN) Infrastructure and Jobs Act*** is a critical next step in galvanizing transportation electrification. Greater investment in public transportation will help get Americans to work and school while lowering traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions. Investing in public transportation will help every American achieve the future we want to see.

Modeled after the Department of Transportation's (DOT) successful BUILD grant program, the *BUILD GREEN Act* provides \$500 billion in grant funding over 10 years for electrifying and modernizing transit systems, freight and passenger rail, port infrastructure, and more.

- \$150 billion at minimum is allocated for fixed route public transportation projects, such as metros, light rail, and bus rapid transit systems. This is enough to fund the current full cost of every single project currently on the Federal Transit Administration's Capital Investment Program Dashboard and still have \$70 billion leftover.
- In selecting projects to receive *BUILD GREEN Act* grants, DOT must consider several key criteria, including:
  - Criteria that prioritize collective over individual transportation;
  - The extent to which a proposed project contributes to climate resilience and mitigation, and reduces air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; and
  - The extent to which an applicant meets the bill's robust labor standards.
- No less than 30% of total grant funds will go to rural areas, and no less than 40% will go to frontline, vulnerable, or disadvantaged communities, including areas that experience high adverse health and environmental impacts from pollution.
- All projects must meet the IJA's Buy America provisions.
- Each state is guaranteed to receive at least \$4 billion for eligible programs and no state can receive more than \$40 billion. Grants will be distributed on an equitable geographical basis and prioritize low per capita income areas.
- DOT will fund up to 90% of project costs to incentivize green building over traditional projects, and can fully fund certain projects at the discretion of the Secretary.
- All *BUILD GREEN Act* projects must include strong labor provisions for all workers, including requirements related to prevailing and minimum wage, paid leave and fair scheduling, local hire, anti-misclassification, and more.