



**October 1, 2020**

## **PRESIDENT TRUMP SIGNS CONTINUING RESOLUTION TO KEEP FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RUNNING**

A continuing resolution (CR) to keep the government running through Dec. 11 was passed by the House of Representatives last week and just yesterday in the Senate. The bi-partisan measure was signed by President Trump late yesterday. The CR ensures that most federal program levels hold steady at the FY20 levels, prorated until December when it expires.

The CR maintains Army Corps of Engineer funding, as well as maintaining the FY20 levels of \$1.6 billion for the Clean Water SRF and \$1.3 billion for the Drinking Water SRF.

For transportation, the CR includes a one-year extension of surface transportation funding known as the Fixing America's Transportation (FAST) Act. The extension maintains surface transportation programs at current levels of \$47.1 billion for highway programs and \$12.3 billion for transit programs and, provides a transfer of \$14 billion to the Airport and Airway Trust Fund.

## **UPDATE ON WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING**

The attached report from Key Advocates includes a full run down of the various vehicles for funding increases to support water infrastructure investment.

As Congress agreed to a short term extension of the FAST Act (was set to expire on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>) and the laser-focus that will be on the upcoming Supreme Court nomination hearings, the focus shifts for infrastructure to a possibility of action in a lame duck session. Everything depends on the outcome of the Presidential election and if the Republicans hold the Senate. As previously reported, on July 31<sup>st</sup> the House passed its mega infrastructure bill by a mostly partisan vote of 233-188 which puts markers down for programs and funding levels. The cornerstone of the bill was the reauthorization of the FAST Act – the highway/transit program, which still needs a long term solution. See the following links:

- Text of the Moving Forward Act is: <https://transportation.house.gov/download/bill-text-moving-forward-act>
- A Section by Section is: <https://transportation.house.gov/download/sec-by-sec-moving-forward-act>

“Water items of interest” included:

- Alternative Water Source Program - \$600M - see p. 49 of the Section-by-Section and pp.1122-1124 of the Bill Text;

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Robert Briant, Jr. – Chairman

AGC of America • AGC of Texas • Alabama Utility Contractors Association • Arizona Utility Contractors Association • Associated Pennsylvania Constructors • Associated Utility Contractors Of Maryland\* • Connecticut Construction Industries Association • CIC of Westchester County & Hudson Valley\* • Engineering Contractors Association • General Contractors Association Of New York • Georgia Utility Contractors Association • Indiana Constructors Inc. • Long Island Contractors Association • Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials Association • Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association • Minnesota Utility Contractors Association\* • National Rural Water Association • New Mexico Utility Contractors Association • NYSLECET • Ohio Contractors Association • Public Works Contractors Association of Maryland • Tennessee RoadBuilders Association • Underground Contractors Association of Illinois\* • United Contractors\* • UCA of Anne Arundel County • Utility Contractors Association of New England\* • Utility & Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey\* • Contractors Association of West Virginia • Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association

\* Steering Committee Member



- Clean Water SRF -\$40B (\$8B annually for 5 years) - see p.50 of the Section-by-Section and pp.1132-1133 of the Bill Text;
- Safe Drinking Water SRF - \$4.140B for FY22; \$4.8B for FY23; and \$5.5B for FY 24 and 25 - see p.61 of the Section-by-Section and p.1463 of the Bill Text; and,
- Title 16 WIIN Grants - \$500M - sec p.78 of the Section-by-Section and pp.1781-1783 of the Bill Text; and,
- Rewrite of the Huffman omnibus bill including a process to de-authorize inactive USBR water projects

The three bills of greatest importance are the WRDA reauthorization bills, "America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2020" (AWIA) and the "Drinking Water Infrastructure Act of 2020". These include funding levels that are supported by the CWCC.

Highlights of these bills and others are included in the full report from Key Advocates.

### **PARTICIPATE IN "IMAGINE A DAY WITHOUT WATER" CAMPAIGN**

As you know, the CWCC is a member of the US Water Alliance. They are again hosting a national push to increase / maintain awareness about the unmet water infrastructure needs and the value of water in general to our communities. We encourage you to follow this link and [sign-up online](#) and consider "[Five Ways to Participate](#)." They have offered links to downloadable [social media graphics](#) and accompanying [social media posts](#) to make participating as easy as possible.

### **NEW CWCC WEBSITE TO LAUNCH IN OCTOBER**

A formal notice will be provided but you can expect the re-tooled CWCC website to be launched in October. Stay tuned!

### **REMINDER - BE ON THE LOOK OUT – MOU ON VEHICLE EMISSIONS**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Northeast 15 states and DC aiming to accelerate the transition to zero-emission trucks and buses through a collaborative process facilitated by the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM). It is unclear at this time the impact for heavy construction but at a minimum it appears to target trucking. We sent around this note with the last report. Please advise if you would like to coordinate on this effort with the UTCA of NJ if you are working in one of the jurisdictions impacted by the MOU.

### **KEY ADVOCATES REPORT**

Included with this notice is Key Advocates recent report which is current to the end of September.

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