

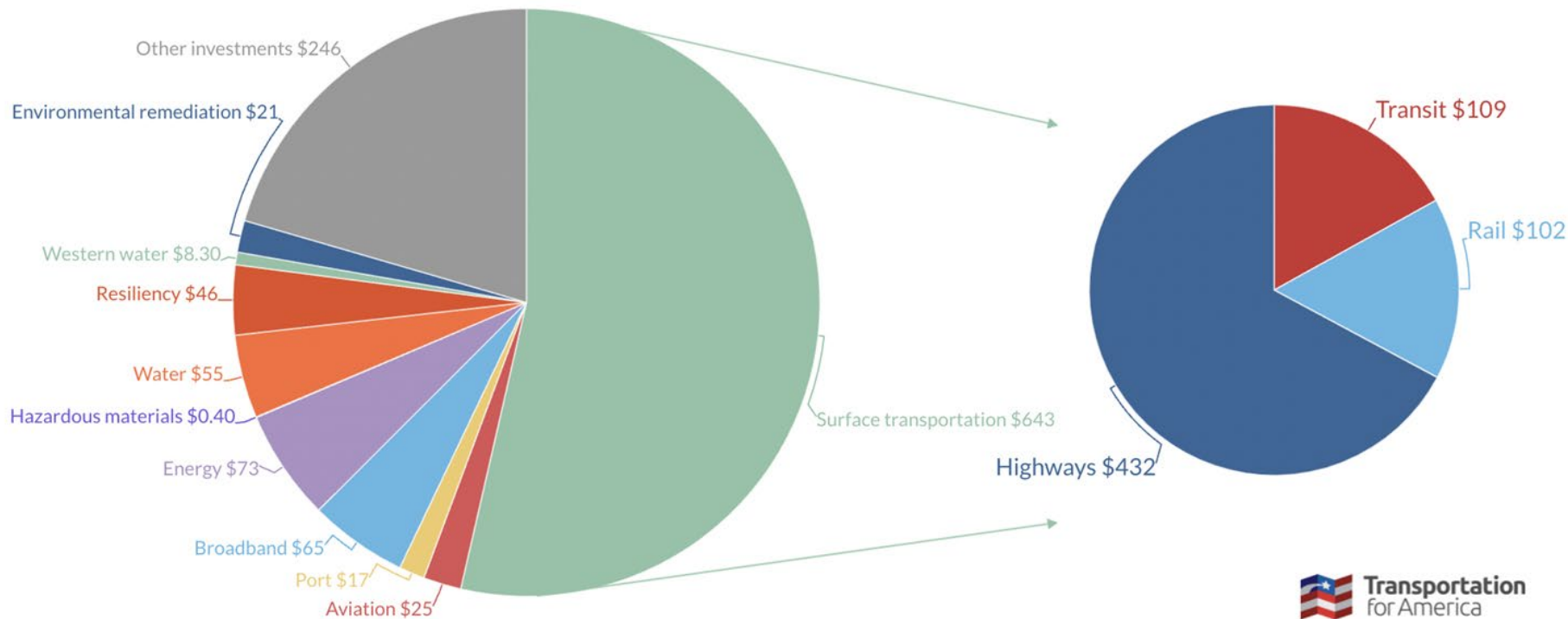
Transportation for America



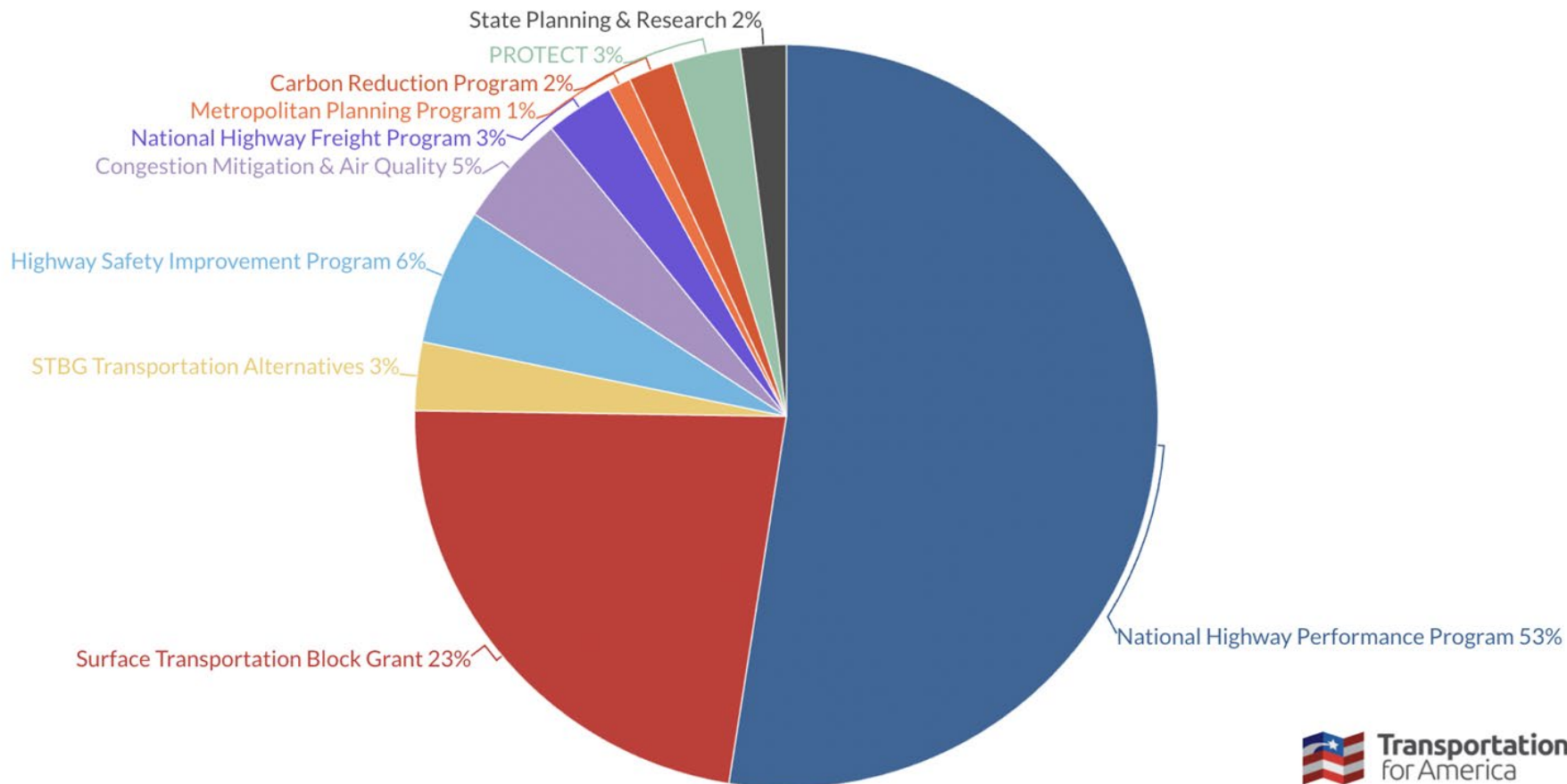
Des Moines Area MPO

Beth Osborne, Director
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Where is the infrastructure bill money going? (in billions)



Highway trust fund formula programs (by percentage)



USDOT controls \$200+ billion in competitive grants for states and metros

18 Jan 2022 | Posted by [Benito Pérez](#) | [1 Comment](#) | [competitive grants](#), [IIJA](#), [infrastructure bill](#), [usdot](#)

While the bulk of the \$643 billion for surface transportation in the infrastructure bill goes out to state DOTs, more than \$200 billion stays with USDOT to be awarded via competitive grants to states, metro areas, and tribal governments—through dozens of newly created, updated, and existing competitive grant programs.

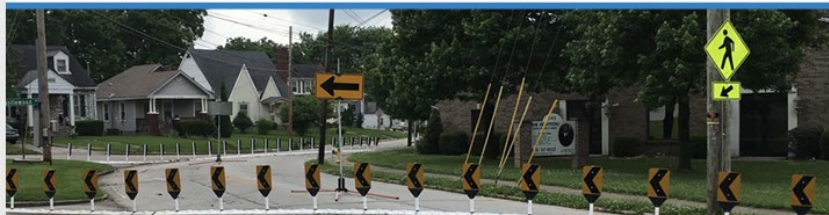


Competitive Grant Programs—streets and roads

- RAISE grants (\$30 billion)
- National Significant Freight and Highway Projects (\$4.8 billion)
- Bridge Investment Program (\$3.265 billion)
- Charging and Refueling Grants (\$2.5 billion)
- PROTECT Grants (\$1.4 billion)
- Reconnecting Communities (\$1 billion)/Neighborhood Equity and Access (\$4 billion)
- Safe Streets and Roads for all (\$5 billion)—**OPPORTUNITY**

Safety Demonstration Projects

Case studies from Orlando, FL, Lexington, KY, and South Bend, IN



Safety Demonstration Projects

Washington State Complete Streets Leadership Academy
Airway Heights, Arlington, and Wenatchee



Competitive Grant Programs—transit and rail

- Transit
 - Capital Investment Grants (\$23 billion)
 - Bus and bus facilities grants (\$2 billion)
 - Ferry grants
- Rail
 - Consolidated Railroad Infrastructure Safety Improvement (\$10 billion)
 - Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail (\$43.5 billion)
 - Restoration and Enhancement grants (\$250 million)

Positioning Application for Success—project centered

- Start from project and building funding
 - Use federal competitive, formula, financing and state funds.
 - Denver Union Station (\$487.7 million):
 - Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act - \$145.6 million;
 - Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing - \$155.0 million;
 - FHWA formula funds - \$45.3 million;
 - FTA CIG funding - \$9.5 million;
 - ARRA Stimulus Grant - \$28.4 million;
 - Homeland Security - \$353 thousand;
 - Transit agency contribution - \$65.1 million;
 - Other state and local funds - \$19.9 million; and
 - Land sales - \$18.4 million.

Positioning Application for Success—competing well

1. Prioritize applications from region
2. Match project objectives to the program criteria
 - a. Don't have to hit all criteria but should fit 2-3 really well
 - b. Eligibility criteria in terms of project and applicant, time limitations, etc.
 - c. Remove uncertainty on cost, timing, etc.
3. Tell story clearly enough that someone not from your community and not familiar with your project can understand.
 - a. Clear description of projects, current conditions and expected outcomes.
 - b. Use lots of maps and pictures.
4. Build a strong, broad coalition of support
 - a. Partners on project
 - b. Supporters in delegation

Non-political staff review

- 3 career staffers from different agencies
- Review criteria and rank as highly recommended, recommended, accepted, not recommended
- Send highly recommended to next review
- Pull recommended applications for states or types of projects with no highly recommended options to forward

Political review

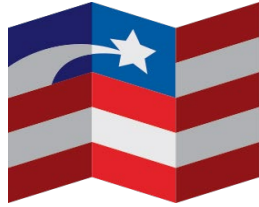
- Reviewed by head of operating administrations (FHWA, FTA, MARAD, FRA), assistant secretaries, under secretary and deputy secretary
- Considers BCA and risk in terms of regulatory review, timeline, grantee.
- Review for best projects and urban/rural, modal, and geographic balance.

Secretary review

- Reviews slate of 1.5 times as much funding as have to distribute.
- Considers number of applications from any state or jurisdiction.
- Tie breakers: support/partnership, innovation, risk/experience with applicant.

Things that set you apart

1. Strategic approach to how you use your funding.
2. Have limited, clear regional goals that you measure and can explain. Connect them to local trends.
3. Submit regional priorities, not the thing you couldn't get to. Have federal funding be the final funding, not first in.
4. Good track record of delivering projects and achieving outcomes.



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