

HIGHLIGHTS | INFRASTRUCTURE

“BUILDING A STRONGER AMERICA”

Why focus on Infrastructure now?

- Infrastructure is obviously a critical component to the functioning of our economy.
- A lot of America's success is a result of the quality of the infrastructure we've had historically. But the current system is fundamentally broken, and it's broken in two different ways:
 1. We are under-investing in our infrastructure
 2. we have a permitting process that takes so long that even when funds are adequate, it can take a decade to build critical infrastructure.

Putting the Federal Government's Role in Infrastructure in Perspective:

- The federal government plays a **huge role in permitting infrastructure**. Virtually 100 percent of major infrastructure in the U.S. requires some form of federal permitting,
- However, the federal government plays a much **smaller role when it comes to funding**
 - The federal government funds about 14 percent of infrastructure costs, and owns even less.
- The President's plan will ensure infrastructure is done in a way that accountable, local, and where people can see tangible benefits for the investments that they're applying.

President's Four Overarching Objectives:

- To stimulate \$1.5 trillion in new investment and infrastructure from \$200 billion direct federal spending derived (paid for) from savings from other areas of the federal budget.
- To shorten the permitting process into two years.
- To invest in rural infrastructure.
- To make improvements in training our workforce so Americans are prepared to take advantage of the jobs that will be created as we build out and improve our infrastructure.

Process:

- The President's whole team has spent the last year meeting with members and staff from both parties, both sides of the Hill, keeping them apprised of the plan, and incorporating their feedback to ensure that the principles we're presenting on Monday have the best chance for success.
- Since March of 2017, when we started formally tracking this, they've had over 40 meetings with members or their staff on infrastructure, many of which were with caucuses or other larger groups.

Polling/Popularity:

- According to a poll from Harvard-Harris:
 - **84 percent** of Americans believe that the U.S. needs an investment in infrastructure
 - **76 percent** believe that funding should come from a combination of public funds, bonds, and public-private partnerships, all of which would be available under the President's plan.
- That same poll thinks that **passing an infrastructure bill should be the second-highest priority for Congress, only behind stimulating American jobs, which, the President's plan also does.**
- It's not surprising that members of both parties are aligned with us in a lot of places. On Wednesday, the President will be hosting a group of bipartisan members of Congress to discuss