

Strategic Infrastructure Updates and Insights





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Blueprint 2025 Regulatory & Policy Updates

Ensuring Transparency and Fairness in Federal Regulation

- A major White House initiative in the latter part of 2019 was the issuance of executive orders 13891 and 13892 which prohibited the long-time practice in a number of agencies of circumventing required administrative due process by publishing "guidance" without public input and giving that "guidance" the force of law. in addition to prohibiting that practice, the orders make clear that policies in "guidance" may not be the basis for agency enforcement actions unless advance notice and an opportunity for comment has been provided.
- As of July 30, EPA, like most other agencies, is in substantial compliance with the E.o.S. it has published its list of significant guidance currently in effect and invited petitions for review of the <u>listed guidance</u>, which will be published in the Federal Register in the near future.

BP2025 is reviewing listed guidance, with a view to contesting that which might inappropriately impedes infrastructure development. We are also reviewing guidance not yet published with a view towards confirming that it is no longer in effect and that it will not be a basis for any enforcement action. Candidates include the EPA guidance asserting clean air act jurisdiction on facilities beyond territorial limits and the Treasury Department guidance limiting the purposes for which they may use cares act relief funds. We need your input on particular guidance that may be problematic for infrastructure projects. Contact us at norman@cg-la.com

CARES Act Funds to Assist Recovery Through Infrastructure Projects

- Although Treasury and Federal Reserves' implementation of the cares act financing programs appear to have been effective in restoring liquidity in the broad financial markets, there seems to be a developing consensus that the programs are not reaching developers and main street companies that do not regularly access the national financial markets projects [see e.g. senate banking committee testimony].
- Unnecessary restrictions and financial review policies imposed in treasury guidance and fed policy inappropriately limit availability of loan funds for midsized companies that critically need access to them. something over 500 billion in potential loan funding remains available to meet those needs.
- Similarly, something over 100 billion of the 150 billion in cares act relief funds allocated to the <u>states remains</u> <u>unspent</u> because treasury guidance raises concerns on the part of governors regarding permissible uses [See West Virginia Governor <u>discuss this Here</u> at our most recent Blueprint Virtual Leadership Forum].

BP2025 is considering a petition for reconsideration of inappropriately limiting use of cares act monies to fund projects. Please send us information on any relevant experience you may be having at norman@cg-la.com - We need your support.

Expediting the Infrastructure Permitting Process

- September 14th was the final day for issuance of a resolution of disapproval pursuant to the congressional review act and CEQ's NEPA modernization regulations will become effective on this date. Although litigation is likely, it is unlikely that these regulations will be enjoined. They will remain in effect as drafted for the time litigation is pending. During these early stages of the new regs' implementation, it is important to develop procedures and protocols that will take maximum advantage of the opportunities provided by the new regs.
- As we noted during the comment period on these regulations, enhanced use of electronic communications and digital technologies are the keys to making NEPA reviews more complete and effective and, at the same time, much more expeditious. Input from private sector experts is clearly needed to design this input.

BP2025 is available to facilitate this effort, please contact us at the address below to indicate your interest. norman@cg-la.com

Opening Doors for Everyone

• The first priority in opening the doors has to be assuring that everyone has access to high speed internet as well as the capability to use that access. In upcoming reports, we will suggest approaches to project development, training and private sector collaboration to assure not only internet access but also opportunities in related service operations. An interesting precedent in this regard might be the President's August 24th order directing federal agencies to consider locating new facilities in opportunity zones designated pursuant to the 2017 tax cuts and jobs act.

BP2025 is soliciting thoughts on whether targeting infrastructure development towards opportunity zones might me an effective way of opening doors for persons needing access and training. **We welcome suggestions at:** norman@cg-la.com



Our Strategic 100 U.S. Infrastructure Project List will be launched at the **12th North American Strategic Infrastructure Leadership Forum**. These projects will be drawn from three sources:

- 1. The 500 Stimulus Projects in GViP
- 2. Suggestions from Blueprint 2025 Members, and
- 3. Nominations from public and private executives from around the country

Final selection is based on algorithms which assess and quantify the benefits of each project. **Those projects that are selected for the final Strategic 100 List are those projects that provide the greatest net benefits to the nation**.

Learn more about the Methodology and Ranking Process.

The Strategic 100 U.S. Report will be released in mid-November.

Nominate projects for consideration by emailing brent@cg-la.com

Blueprint 2025 Insights

Private Investment Opportunities: <u>Los Angeles</u> <u>Projects Advancing</u>

Five noteworthy capital projects are advancing by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, including

- The Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project which has been identified as a candidate for possible Public-Private Partnership (P3) delivery and has received strong private industry interest.
- **High Desert Intercity Rail Corridor,** a proposed privately built rail line which will follow the path of the High Desert Corridor and would connect to a private high-speed rail line.

Technology Innovation: <u>FTA Transit Innovation</u> <u>Grants</u>

- 25 projects in 24 states will receive a share of nearly \$14 million in funding through the Federal Transit Administration's Accelerating Innovative Mobility (AIM) initiative to support mobility and innovation in the industry.
- AIM grant recipients will deploy new transportation technologies and services, including microtransit, vehicle automation, integrating ride-hailing services with transit and contactless fare payments.
- With the ongoing public health emergency, investments in innovation are critical for transit agencies to better meet rider expectations and adapt to changes in our transportation system.
- This is important momentum for the public sector in enabling and utilizing technology innovations in infrastructure.

Strategic Financing in the Public Sector

Miami-Dade's South Corridor Rapid Transit Project Funding

Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) received \$99.9-million through the
Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Capital Investment Grant (CIG) Program. The \$99.9-million grant represents
33% of the total project cost of \$299.9 million. DTPW will construct the 20-mile BRT line along the existing South
Dade busway. The project will feature upgrades including signal preemption for buses and crossing gate arms at
street crossings to enable buses to travel more rapidly and efficiently

NavFac IDIQ \$5 Billion

The Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) issued a Request for Proposal for an 8-year, Indefinite
Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) Global Contingency Construction (GCC) Multiple Award Contract (MAC) of up
to \$5 billion in foreign and domestic construction projects. Proposals are due 10/5/2020.

Upcoming Activities

- In coordination with National Infrastructure Performance Council, (Hank Greenberg, General David Petraeus, etc.) we are finalizing and sending a CEO letter to Congress urging them to increase infrastructure investment now. Contact us at norman@cg-la.com to provide a signature.
- The <u>12th Annual North American Infrastructure Leadership Forum</u>: October 28, 2020
- We are sourcing and organizing a list of the **Strategic 100 U.S. Infrastructure Projects**. That list will be published October 15, 2020.
 - S100 Methodology and Ranking Process
 - o Nominate Projects!

Appendix

GVIP TV

NioCorp's Elk Creek Project - "Bringing Neobium to America" with Mark Smith, CEO, NioCorp

<u>Looking to Asia: Recovery, Growth, and What Lies Ahead</u> with Parag Khanna, Managing Partner, FutureMaps

<u>Using the Data Marketplace to Fund the Future of Infrastructure</u> with Jennifer Schmitz, CEO & Founder, Lattice Industries

<u>Big Sun Holdings: Printing Buildings and Securing Your IoT Future</u> with Michael Woods, CEO, Black Buffalo & Flash Labs

<u>The U.S. Development Corporation (DFC): Funding for Reshoring Critical Capabilities</u> with David Penna, Senior Vice President, Office of Strategic Initiatives, DFC

CG/LA Infrastructure In the News

"<u>Playing With Fire - Does The World Need A \$3 Trillion Infrastructure Shock?</u>" Norman Anderson Forbes.com Article (September 16, 2020)

"One step closer for Sydney to Melbourne high speed rail" Ausbiz TV Interview with Norman Anderson (September 15, 2020)

"Four Top Global Strategic Infrastructure Projects - Leaders Changing The World, Now" Norman Anderson Forbes.com Article (September 9, 2020)

"The Invisible Data War" Norman Anderson American Thinker Article (September 16, 2020)

Top/Bottom 5 State Fiscal Year Revenue Declines (By %)

| | Washington | Michigan | Nevada | Kansas | Alaska |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2021 Revenue Decline (%) | -15% | -13% | -12% | -11% | -11% |

| | Utah | Maryland | Maine | Montana | Iowa |
|-----------------------------|------|----------|-------|---------|------|
| 2021 Revenue Decline (%) | -1% | -1% | -1% | -2% | -2% |

Infrastructure Holdings YTD +/-

| TREX | WMS | ROCK | BCC | ASTE | PWR | TRMB | SSD | KSU | AWK | NEE | MYRG | HWKN | вмсн | ROAD |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 68.5 | 48.0 | 33.00 | 30.50 | 27.60 | 24.6 | 24.3 | 24.2 | 19.1 | 16.3 | 16.1 | 15.90 | 15.60 | 14.70 | 12.30 |
| BLDR | XEL | NSC | TTEK | AGX | UNP | AMT | ос | AEE | NVEE | CSX | XYL | HASI | WOR | MSEX |
| 11.20 | 9.7 | 8.8 | 7.8 | 6.80 | 6.1 | 6.0 | 5.9 | 5.0 | 5.00 | 3.4 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 1.80 | 1.30 |
| ES | J | WEC | YORW | LNT | АМ | TPC | AGR | NFG | CMS | MLI | D | СМС | СМР | TRN |
| 0.2 | -0.3 | -0.5 | -0.50 | -0.9 | -2.50 | -2.60 | -2.7 | -3.6 | -4.0 | -4.30 | -5.1 | -5.20 | -6.80 | -6.90 |
| CDZI | WTRG | EMN | EXP | NPO | WMB | CWT | PEG | SJW | DTE | ACM | ATO | AWR | DUK | STLD |
| -7.10 | -7.6 | -8.4 | -8.50 | -9.10 | -9.2 | -9.20 | -9.3 | -9.60 | -10.0 | -10.0 | -10.3 | -11.10 | -11.2 | -11.5 |
| IIIN | RS | PNM | VMC | NRG | СРК | EME | swx | GLDD | GBX | VMI | AEP | SRE | WLK | osk |
| -11.80 | -12.0 | -12.10 | -12.8 | -13.3 | -13.30 | -13.5 | -14.1 | -14.70 | -14.90 | -15.00 | -16.0 | -16.2 | -16.2 | -16.4 |
| MGEE | VST | so | PCG | PNW | IDA | PRIM | ETR | EXC | NI | TG | NUE | ED | OGS | ETRN |
| -17.00 | -17.1 | -17.4 | -17.5 | -17.5 | -17.5 | -18.10 | -18.2 | -18.3 | -18.6 | -18.60 | -18.7 | -19.4 | -19.9 | -20.0 |
| AWI | CSL | PPL | MDU | OTTR | EVRG | MLM | NWE | CLF | AVA | POR | HE | CNP | AEGN | AVNT |
| -20.00 | -21.1 | -21.6 | -22.4 | -22.60 | -22.8 | -23.8 | -24.90 | -24.90 | -25.40 | -25.60 | -25.9 | -26.4 | -26.60 | -27.10 |
| LYB | OGE | ВКН | MTZ | NWN | ILS | PQG | NJR | SR | HWM | X | EIX | NGVT | ASIX | TEX |
| -27.3 | -27.5 | -27.80 | -28.60 | -28.70 | -28.80 | -28.90 | -29.20 | -29.40 | -30.5 | -31.40 | -31.5 | -31.60 | -32.20 | -32.40 |
| KMI | APOG | GVA | SUM | UTL | HEES | OLN | KALU | FE | HAYN | FLR | ENLC | CRS | ATI | OKE |
| -32.6 | -32.60 | -33.10 | -34.30 | -36.10 | -38.90 | -39.30 | -41.50 | -42.0 | -43.30 | -47.00 | -52.00 | -57.60 | -58.90 | -64.1 |

YTD Infrastructure Holdings Change: **Top 10**

| Ticker | Name | Change (%) YTD |
|--------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| TREX | TREX INC | 68.5 |
| WMS | ADVANCED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS INC | 48.0 |
| ROCK | GIBRALTAR INDUSTRIES INC | 33.00 |
| BCC | BOISE CASCADE | 30.50 |
| ASTE | ASTEC INDUSTRIES INC | 27.60 |
| PWR | QUANTA SERVICES INC | 24.6 |
| TRMB | TRIMBLE INC | 24.3 |
| SSD | SIMPSON MANUFACTURING INC | 24.2 |
| KSU | KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN | 19.1 |
| AWK | AMERICAN WATER WORKS INC | 16.3 |
| | | |

Source: Barrons. See full list here