

SCE ISSUE BRIEF

FY 2020 Appropriations Requests

ASCE POSITION

ASCE believes an immediate step Congress can take to improve America's infrastructure is to return to a regular order appropriations cycle and provide adequate funding to existing federal infrastructure and research programs and accounts.

The projects funded by these programs have already proven to be successful; providing more funding to existing programs rather than creating new programs will reduce overhead costs and startup time while still allowing for significant and noticeable improvements across all sectors of U.S. infrastructure.



Commerce, Justice & Science

National Science Foundation (NSF) funds basic research across all disciplines of science and engineering including innovative new materials, technologies, and processes to modernize and extend the life of infrastructure. ASCE request: \$8.5 billion.

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) the premier, and in most cases, the key federal institution conducting resilience research. **ASCE request:** \$985 million.

Hazards Mitigation Funding



National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) provides funding to four federal agencies to understand and mitigate the impact of earthquakes. ASCE request: \$8.76 million for the Federal Emergency Management Agency; \$5.9 million for NIST; \$54 million for NSF; and \$83.4 million for the U.S. Geological Survey.

National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program (NWIRP) seeks major measurable reductions in the losses of life and property from windstorms. ASCE request: \$5.3 million for the Federal Emergency Management Agency; \$4.1 million for NIST; \$9.7 million for NSF; and \$2.3 million for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development

ASCE requests full funding for core Highway and **Transit programs** as authorized in the FAST Act.

Airport Improvement Program (AIP) provides grants for the planning and development of public-use airports that are included in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems. **ASCE request:** \$4.35 billion.

ASCE requests: Provide \$1.5 billion for Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grants

ASCE request: \$2.6 billion for Transit Capital Investment **Grants (CIG)** which funds transit capital investments.

Homeland Security

National Dam Safety and Rehabilitation Program (NDSP) was reauthorized by Congress in the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018. The High Hazard Potential Dam Rehabilitation program (HHPDR) was established in the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016. The HHPDR will provide grants to high hazard non-federal dam projectsl.

ASCE requests: Fully fund NDSP at \$13.9 million and HHPDR program at \$40 million.



Energy & Water Development

National Levee Safety Program was reauthorized in the America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018. It creates levee safety guidelines, a national levee inventory, a levee rehabilitation and repair program; provides assistance to states for establishing participating safety programs; and promotes community education and awareness about levees. ASCE request: Fully fund the National Levee Safety Program at \$79 million in FY20.

Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) collects its revenue through a 0.125% use fee on the value of cargo in imported containers and is designed to pay for dredging in harbors. Full appropriations of these funds has not occurred, leaving a balance in the trust fund. **ASCE request:** Put trust in the HMTF by fully appropriating the Harbor Maintenance Tax collections each year.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works is chronically underfunded with a current projects backlog of over \$75 billion. **ASCE Request:** Provide \$2.18 billion to the USACE Civil Works Construction account to help offset the growing backlog. Additionally, provide no less than \$500,000 to maintain the National Inventory of Dams.

Interior & Environment

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) provides communities a permanent, independent source of low-cost financing for a wide range of water quality infrastructure projects. The CWSRF averages a little more than \$1.5 billion per year in funding. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) is a financial assistance program to help water systems and states to achieve the health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Current annual appropriations for the Drinking Water SRFs is just over \$1 billion per year in funding. ASCE request: Triple appropriations to the \$4.5 billion for the CWSRF and \$3 billion for the DWSRF.

The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) and the Securing Required Funds for Water Infrastructure Now (SRF WIN) Act programs are innovative financing mechanisms that leverage limited federal resources in meeting the nation's clean and drinking water needs. **ASCE request:** \$68 million for WIFIA and fund the SRF WIN Act program at \$5 million.

Drinking Water Needs Survey and **Clean Watersheds Needs Survey** completed by the EPA are essential to Congress having the data it needs to maintain and improve the nation's drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. **ASCE request:** Provide \$1 million to the EPA for both surveys.

National Park Service (NPS) has a deferred maintenance backlog of nearly \$12 billion, which includes \$6 billion for transportation and \$6 billion for non-transportation related projects such as eroding trails, visitor facilities, and water and electrical systems. **ASCE request:** Provide the National Parks Service with \$2 billion.

U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) streamgaging program provides consistent, scientifically reliable data for flood-risk assessments, water supply planning, water quality appraisals, and stream flow forecasting. **ASCE request:** Provide \$100 million for the USGS streamgaging program in FY20.



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