



**2023-24**  
**Fresno COG One Voice Advocacy Trip**  
**To Washington, D.C.**

**Regional Priorities Submittal Form**

**Priority title:**

**House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development  
(THUD) Bill**

**Sponsoring agency/business:**

**Fresno Council of Governments**

**Contact name and information:**

**Robert Phipps, interim executive director**

**Fresno Council of Governments**

**559-233-4148, ext. 210**

**[rhipps@fresnocog.org](mailto:rhipps@fresnocog.org)**

**Keep your regional priority content to less than 2 pages long. Do not change the font (*Arial*).**

**Priority examples, for your reference, are available on Fresno COG's website here.**

**Priority title: House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Bill**

**Provide a short introduction of the regional priority:**

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 House Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations bill includes proposed transportation funding cuts, which, if initiated, would undermine the commitments made under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and damage the continued development of our nation's transportation infrastructure. As a Metropolitan Planning Organization committed to enhancing transportation, we believe that these steep funding reductions will undermine the progress made through the IIJA and hinder our nation's transportation infrastructure. The IIJA presented a transformative opportunity to modernize our country's transportation systems. However, the current House THUD appropriations bill poses a serious threat to the funding provided under the IIJA. The proposed bill slashes funding for critical transportation and housing programs by a staggering 38 percent, compromising the effectiveness and potential of these vital initiatives. One of the most concerning aspects of this bill is that several critical grant programs, including the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grants, National Infrastructure Project Assistance (Mega) grants, and Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) grants, would not receive any appropriations in FY 2024 if this bill is approved. These programs have consistently demonstrated their impact and importance in promoting sustainable infrastructure, fostering equity, and supporting economic growth in communities across the country.

**Request summary – provide specific priority “ask”:**

1. Oppose cuts to transportation infrastructure spending delivered as part of IIJA and the Inflation Reduction Act.
2. Support current spending levels as prescribed in existing federal legislation.

**Request background – Include explanation of the regional significance:**

Funding from IIJA resulted in no less than 17 new transportation-related programs, including new formula programs such as the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient and Cost Saving Transportation (PROTECT), which have the potential to bring more than \$6 million per cycle to the Fresno region. Other enhanced, discretionary programs offer potential grant opportunities of \$10 million or more.

**If your priority is not transportation related, are there any transportation policy connections:**

**Are there any economic development benefits?**

Yes. Transportation infrastructure projects are generally considered to produce a multiplier effect of 3.4 in combined direct, indirect and induced output on a national basis.

**Are there any high-resolution photos or other explanatory attachments?** If yes, please describe the attachments and include them with your submittal.

**Contact** - Include your contact information **and** the contact information of the person that will be attending the One Voice trip to speak on behalf of your priority:

Project Submitter:

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One Voice Participant:

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