



City of Visalia Federal Legislative Update

2025 Review

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PRESIDENT TRUMP 2.0 ADMINISTRATION



Executive Orders

- 210 Executive Orders signed (as of early November)
 - 150+ lawsuits filed
 - 31 EO's permanently blocked, 86 temporarily blocked, and 21 blocked pending appeal

Passage of One Big Beautiful Bill Act

- Primarily an extension of 2017 Trump 1.0 era tax cuts + new cuts for businesses and individuals

Federal Government Shutdown

- Lasted 43 days
- House out of session for 53 days



FEDERAL FUNDING



Fiscal Year 2026 Funding Process

- Four of six requests supported by delegation; two projects funded in House bills
 - \$2 million for the Groundwater Recharge Basin
 - \$250,000 for the Rikken Ave. project
- Congress passed 3 of 12 appropriations bills to fund the government for FY 2026
 - Positive sign that they can finish additional bills
 - 2 of the 3 full-year bills include community funded projects (CFP), like those for Visalia
- Will soon work with staff on FY 2027 CFP requests.



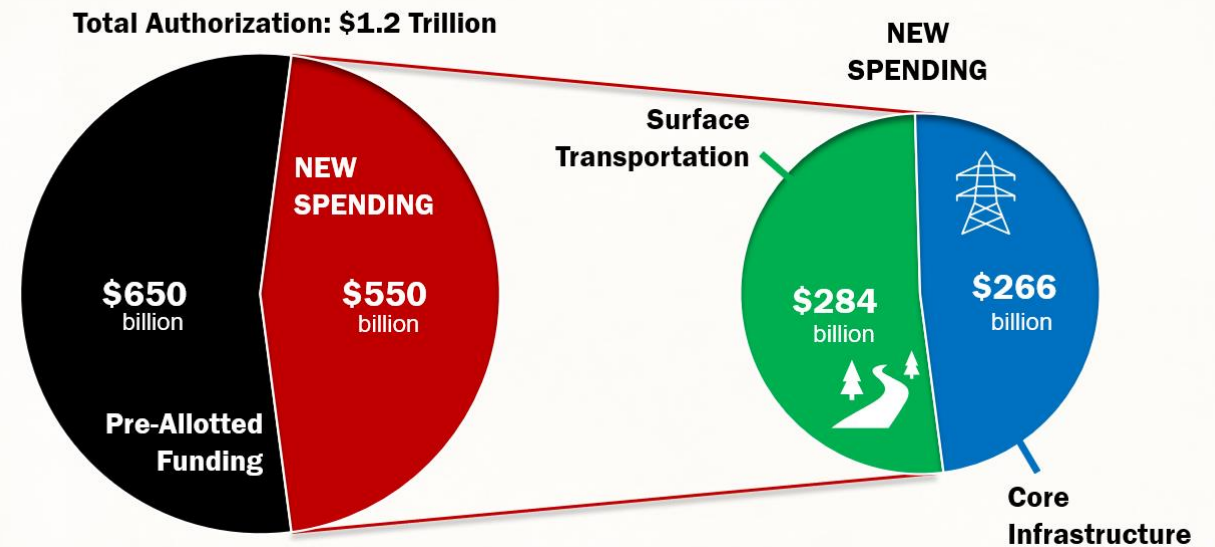
OTHER ADVOCACY EFFORTS: EXPIRATION OF THE BIL



- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, incl. surface transportation programs expire September 30, 2026
- BIL was a roughly \$1.2 trillion, 5- year law passed in November 2021
 - ~\$650 billion was for surface transportation authorization
 - ~\$550 billion was spending for transportation and other programs
- New bill will have far less money
- Fewer competitive programs, more money directly to state DOT's for traditional highway programs
- Concerned about lack of support for transit

FIGURE 1: INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT ALLOCATIONS

Allocates an Estimated \$1.2 Trillion in Total Funding Over 10 Years

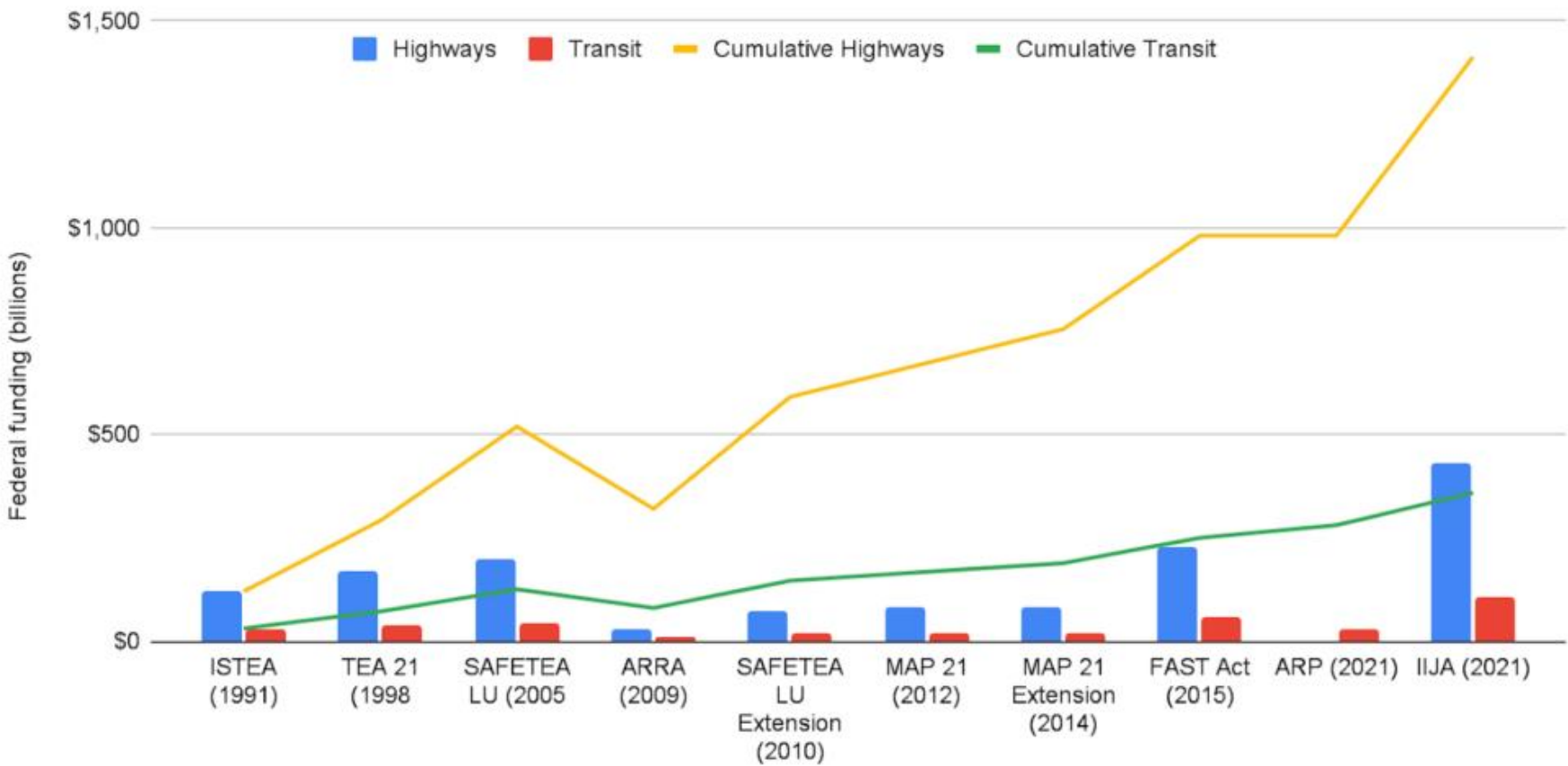


OTHER ADVOCACY EFFORTS: EXPIRATION OF THE BIL



Annual and Cumulative Federal Spending on Highways and Transit Across Major Recent Surface Transportation Bills

Cumulative federal funding (in billions) for highways has vastly exceeded funds for transit.



OTHER ADVOCACY EFFORTS: HOUSING ISSUES



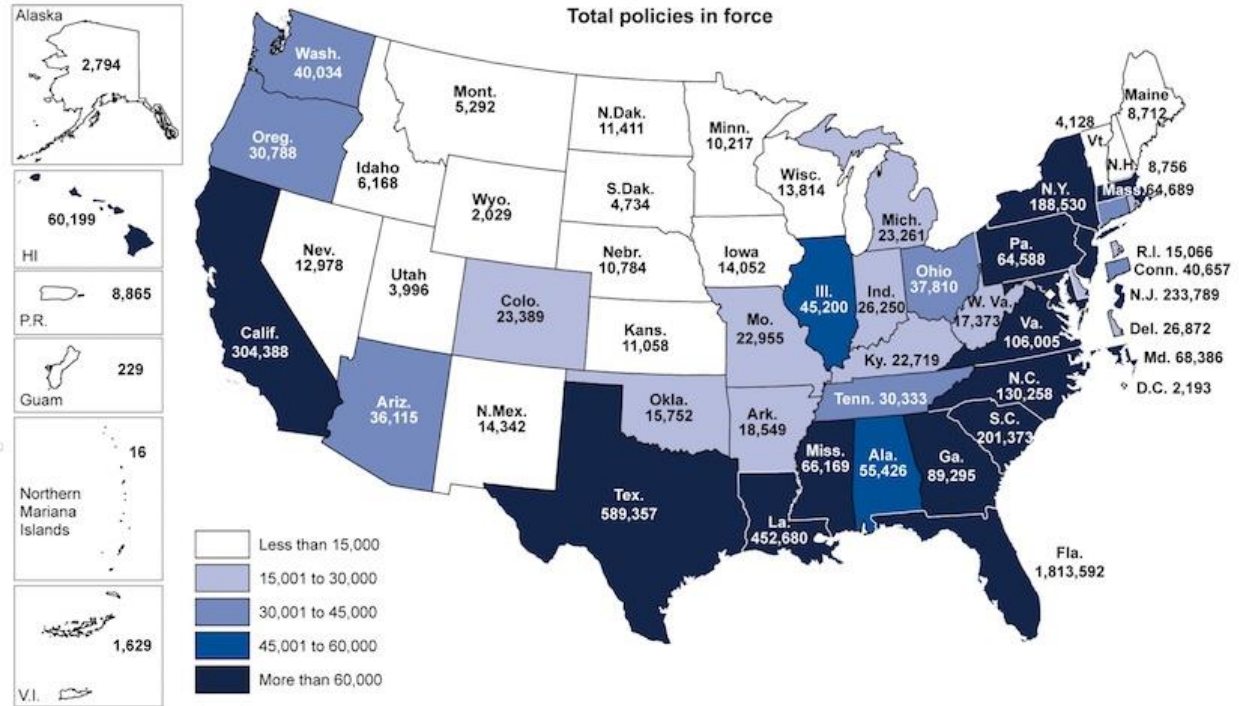
- ROAD to Housing Act
 - Reduce regulatory barriers
 - Incentivize housing development near transit
 - Streamline permitting
 - Expand financing for affordable and workforce housing
 - New grant and incentive programs tied to housing outcomes
 - House also looking to HOME Program changes
- Homelessness Funding
 - Major changes to the Continuum of Care program
 - Less emphasis on permanent supportive housing
- Permanent Expansion of Low-Income Housing Tax Credit via OBBBA



OTHER ADVOCACY EFFORTS



- National Flood Insurance Program, thousands of policies in Visalia
 - Program lapsed during shutdown
 - No policy renewals or new policies written
 - Program on 34th short term extension since 2017
 - Policy affordability remains key goal
- Tax Exempt Bond authority maintained



OTHER ADVOCACY EFFORTS: FEMA REFORM



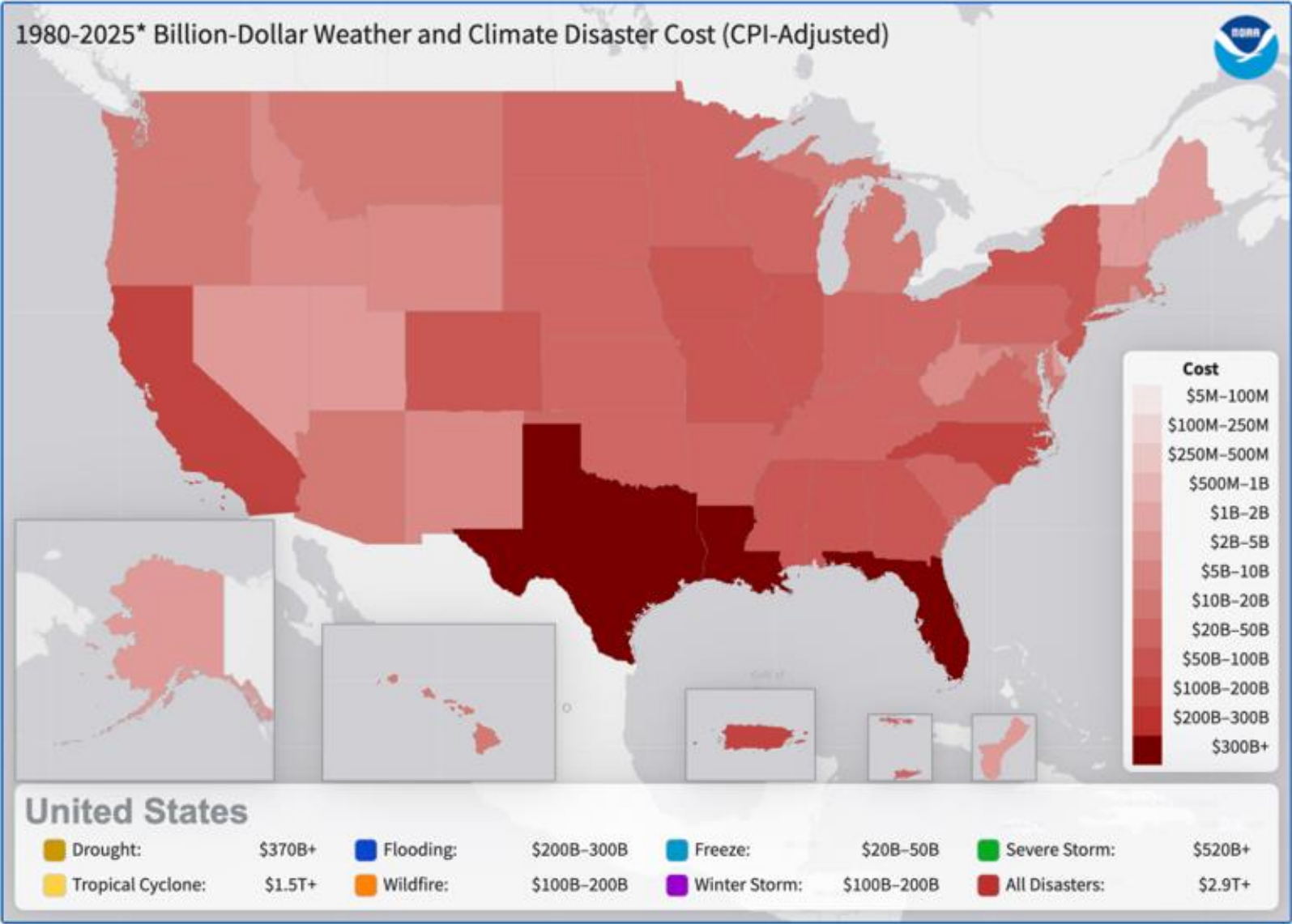
FEMA

- FEMA traditionally approves federal support after disasters based on amount of damage compared to population
- Proposed increase to disaster declaration per capita threshold for entire state, from \$1.89 to \$7.56 per person
 - Minimum damage threshold for CA would now be more than \$298M
 - Smaller disasters will be left to states and local governments
 - 71% of disasters nationwide from 2008 - 2024 would not have qualified
 - \$41B in disaster assistance would have been shifted to state and local governments
- Federal cost shares should not exceed 75%
- Deny Category G – recreational facilities PA funding for “non-critical facilities”
 - Admin says this would have saved \$3.2 billion over the past decade
- No new Hazard Mitigation Grant Program money
 - HMGP \$\$\$ traditionally = 15% of the amount FEMA will spend on a disaster
- FEMA Review Council report released Dec. 11

OTHER ADVOCACY EFFORTS: FEMA REFORM



FEMA



OTHER ADVOCACY EFFORTS



- Re-exploration of Essential Air Service
- Cancellation of federal funding for hydrogen projects initiated during prior Administration, like ARCHES
- Transportation grant support
- Working with Congress on the FAA's approval of the City's Airport Layout Plan



CITY OF VISALIA FEDERAL ADVOCACY SUCCESSES



- Retain the Cigna call center
- Helping deliver millions of dollars in federal grants and earmarks
- Working to reduce flood insurance rates and increase private insurance options
- Helping the City transition from partnering with the Essential Air Service program to securing a beneficial federal airport development grant
- Ensuring continuation of the alternative fuel tax rebate
- Fighting against significant fee increases by the National Park Service
- Securing the renewal of a five-year cooperative agreement with the National Park Service to continue the Sequoia Shuttle