

# Reimagining infrastructure in the United States: How to build better



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## Public infrastructure spending has fallen, and there is a \$2.1 trillion backlog

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

## US public spending on water and transportation infrastructure, % of GDP, 1980-2018



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Source: Congressional Budget Office Public Spending on Transportation and Water Infrastructure, 1956-2017; American Society of Civil Engineers 2017 Infrastructure Report Card, Economic Impact

## Estimated 10 year infrastructure funding gap by asset type, \$ billion, 2016-2025



#### AS OF JUNE 30th 2020

Infrastructure investment can support economic recovery but requires reprioritization and new funding models

1.Construction Industry Hit Hard by the Coronavirus Pandemic - US News & World Report, May 27th, 2020

2."Construction Jobs Rise By 464,000 Jobs But Remain 596,000 Below Recent Peak; Association Calls For Infrastructure Funds To Stem Losses, Aid Economy" -Associated General Contractors of America - June 5th, 2020

Source: https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policvinformation/statistics/2018/sf1.cfm : U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Total Vehicle Sales [TOTALSA], retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis; https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/TOTALSA, June 6, 2020, https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/policyinformation/travel\_monitoring/tvt.cfm, https://inrix.com/blog/2020/06/covid19-us-traffic-volume-synopsis-14/; https://policy.transportation.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/59/2020/05/Caltrans-Direction-Omishakin-Letter-to-US-Senator-Harris-re-AASHTO-Request.pdf; https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-sector/our-insights/covid-19-and-jobsmonitoring-the-us-impact-on-people-and-places; saportareport.com;



infrastructure budgets; DOT revenues are down by ~10%, or ~\$5bn in the states with greatest highway budgets; as a result, DOT budgets are being cut

COVID-19 has exacerbated already-constrained DOT and municipal



These budget cuts will cause capital projects to be delayed and capital maintenance work to be cut or delayed

These deferred or cut projects will mean less jobs and a significant **impact on the economy** (the national construction unemployment rate has almost quadrupled from 4.7% in April 2019 to 16.6%<sup>2</sup> in April 2020 with a net loss of ~600K<sup>3</sup> construction jobs nationwide since March) and a degradation of critical infrastructure





To prevent the deferral of critical infrastructure projects and maintenance, states need to find billions in funding; there is the possibility to borrow, but debt is only part of the solution

To do so, new funding models can be developed and leveraged to support infrastructure investment now – there is an opportunity to bring in private funding, filling the budget gap and allowing critical infrastructure projects to continue

# Scenario 1: Portfolio optimization with stimulus funding



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Source: McKinsey Capital Projects and Infrastructure Practice

### **Approved projects** – Previously allocated funding

- Fully funded and authorized
- Underway, with expenditures to date

**Compliance projects** – Required regardless of project benefit

- Regulatory compliance or safety related
- Often has non-financial return

**Funded projects** – Highest benefit projects for capital

- Candidate for full funding allocation
- Delivers maximum public benefit for available funds
- **Unfunded projects** Next projects to receive capital
  - Not funded at this time
  - Top candidate if additional capital becomes available
- Eliminated projects Projects not meeting benefit thresholds
  - Not pursued unless benefit increased
  - Removed from capital plan

# Scenario 2: Portfolio optimization without stimulus funding



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# Three factors that this year has magnified in evaluating investments in transportation



### **Sustainable Business Models**

COVID-19 has put pressure on historical transportation funding resources and usage-based revenues; agencies are reevaluating their business model in line with anticipated user demand and expectations, disruptive technology and organizational capacity and capabilities



### **Climate & Resiliency**

"Once-in-a-lifetime" climate events are becoming increasingly frequent; incorporating climate risk and asset resiliency into riskbased planning and capital portfolio optimization is a growing practice



Many transportation agencies are reaffirming their equity commitments through changes to their operations and capital investment criteria to ensure equity of access and outcomes (e.g., social justice, geographic parity across rural and urban performance) 4 areas underpin a **"reimagining"** of transportation agency business models

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## Enhance the user experience

Modernize service provision and customer experience to reshape user demand and better manage future capacity needs

## Transform operations

Use advanced analytics, digital investments, and flexible labor models to reduce life-cycle costs, increase asset productivity, and improve operational agility



Improve delivery

Take advantage of

lower interest rates

projects to benefit

from reduced asset

and accelerate

utilization



## Consider new revenue models

Look into alternative delivery mechanisms to unlock new revenue streams and consider the use of public–private partnerships to stretch funding

Refocusing on evolving priorities & improving operational resiliency

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### Climate risk can take three forms



## MS Acute

Acute physical climate change risks materialize through **higher frequency and severity of extreme weather events**. There are 6 acute risks:

Physical risk drivers

- Floods
- Droughts
- Heatwaves
- Coldwaves
- Wildfires
- Hurricanes

#### Chronic Chronic physical climate change effects materialize through the sustained shift of ecosystems over time. There are 3 chronic risks:

- Temperature
- Precipitation
- Sea-level rise

### **Transition risk drivers**

Climate change will **push regulators**, **legislators**, **and consumers** to make decisions as economies evolve, supply and demand shifts, and governments and private companies adapt. There are 4 categories of these human-induced transitional risks:

- **Policy/regulatory** change in regulatory regime
- Legal claims arising from third parties based on climate-related events
- Technological change of technological standard e.g., development of new transport technology
- **Societal** change in customer behavior and options e.g., dramatic reduction in meat consumption

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### Example heatmap for infrastructure assets - Transportation

Little to no risk Low risk Moderate risk High risk

Risk is defined as potential future losses<sup>9</sup> as a result of typical exposure to climate hazards by 2030



 1. Including both rain and wind impacts;
 2. Xi H. (2016);
 3. Pyatkova (2019); Prelenato (2019); Pablo 2005;

 GSM Association (2018);
 6 Federal Communications Commission (2016);
 7 Dawson et al (2016);

 driven by drought;
 9. Losses are considered any form of operating interruption, damage or destruction

4. New York Times (2006); 5.8. Wildfire is a derivative risk primarily

Airports are frequently located close to the sea, increasing their risk to precipitation flooding and storm surge from hurricanes. 25% of the world's 100 busiest airports are less than 10m above sea level, and 12 — including hubs in Shanghai, Rome, San Francisco and New York — are less than  $5m^2$ . Only a few millimeters of flooding is necessary to cause disruption

**Rail** is at risk of service interruption from flooding; signal assets in particular have powerful knock-on effects. Inundation of 7% of the UK's signalling assets would disrupt 46% of passenger journeys. Damage can occur by erosion, shifting sensitive track alignments<sup>7</sup>

**Roads** require significant flood depths/flows to suffer major damage, but incur ~30% speed limitations from 0.05m inundation and become impassable at 0.3m. Compounding effects of road closures can increase average travel time in flooded cities 10-55%<sup>3</sup>

**Seaports,** by definition, are exposed to the risk of all types of costal flooding. Typically, seaports are resistant and can more easily adjust to small sea level rise. However, powerful hurricanes are still a substantial risk. Katrina destroyed around 30% of the Port of New Orleans<sup>4</sup>

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# Example: Climate risk taxonomy for roads identifies flooding as the most critical risk to take into account

NON-EXHAUSTIVE Most critical Not applicable													
	Hazard type	Acute					Chronic			Transition			
		Heat/ Cold- waves	Floods	Droughts	Wildfires	Hurricanes, storms and typhoons	Temperature	Precipitation	Sea-level rise	Policy & Legal	Regulatory	Technology	Societal
Impact type													
Comp- any oper- ations	Asset condition	<ul> <li>Sudden cold- or hot temp- eratures cause stress in in exten- sion joints, heat makes asphalt deteriorate quicker</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Flooding can increase soil erosion of the roadbase and washout of road, tunnel and bridge support</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Drought combined with hot temperatures can cause roads to warp, buckle, crack and shift</li> </ul>	Heat from fire     can damage     road     infrastructure	<ul> <li>Storm surge / floods can increase coastal erosion of the roadbase and washout of road, tunnel- and bridge support</li> <li>Extreme winds can damage bridge infra- structure</li> </ul>	Thawing permafrost in northern latitudes cause road collapse or subside	<ul> <li>Increased precipitation requires investment in new, permeable asphalt to avoid slipping</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>SLR can increase coastal erosion of the roadbase and washout of road, tunnel- and bridge support</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mandatory strengthening / protection of high-priority road infrastructure at- risk, may raise costs</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Next generation of technology (e.g. self-driving / electric cars) may request additional investments</li> </ul>	
	Continuity of activities	Interruption of use due to damage											
		<ul> <li>Interruption due to unsafe driving conditions on long, desolate roads</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Floods can temporarily inundate the road and diminish access</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Interruption due to blocked accessibility of infra- structure or poor air quality and presence of smoke</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Storm surges can temporarily or permanently inundate the road and diminish access</li> <li>Extreme winds can diminish access (e.g., on bridges)</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Interruption due to unsafe driving conditions</li> </ul>	SLR can permanently inundate the road and stop use				
Input / Output		Interruption of accessibility to infrastructure connected with considered toll road											
Economic eco- system		<ul> <li>Interruption of road accessibility or increased travel duration could impact         <ul> <li>Present tourism, discouraging future tourism and therefore use of toll roads</li> <li>Present employment and businesses, causing the absence of new or relocation of current businesses and decreasing future use d toll roads</li> <li>Present population, causing the absence of new or relocation of current population and decreasing future use of toll roads</li> </ul> </li> </ul>							<ul> <li>Increased taxes on road transport discourages car transport and toll road usage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Regulations to increase toll road prices to discourage car transport could impact toll road usage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Improved or newly emerging non-road transportation (e.g., rail, underground) reduce need for road transport</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduced car usage and need for road transport opportunities</li> </ul>	

Addressing racial inequities in customer experience can increase the effectiveness of public services where they are needed most



## Public sector journey design impacts outcomes

Every day Americans access thousands of government services – from local public transportation, to state professional licensing, to filing federal taxes

Each of these experiences may be comprised of numerous steps, forms, applications, touchpoints with government employees, even visits to government offices

How these processes play out impacts not just trust in government, but also the greater outcomes these services are meant to achieve



#### Combat bias in journey design

Minorities disproportionately leverage public services, yet we see the experience of Black people with government services dramatically lags behind that of white people due to processes and systems designed with implicit and sometimes explicit bias (survey exhibit on following page)

Black outcomes across economic, criminal justice, and education systems lag outcomes for white people

Government services are a critical component of the experience and outcome in each of these areas



## Data-driven transformation approach

- 1 Use journey experience data to uncover gaps in experiences of people of color versus the broader population, as well as differences in the importance of the drivers of those experiences
- 2 Apply inclusive design thinking and draw on a diverse toolkit of interventions during re-design of journeys prioritized as having the largest equity gaps and the largest potential to drive impact for communities of color
- 3 Leverage large-scale transformation frameworks and tools to manage and monitor interventions on hundreds of customer journeys cutting across numerous agencies and organizations

# Survey data for one State reveals differences in experience by race



Survey data from a sample state illustrates how different groups experience and value State services

Analyses like these illustrate critical experience gaps between groups, and highlight the services that are most important to groups that may be historically underserved by government Capital planning best practices and innovative operating models / public private partnerships can be used to address the challenge ahead

	Operating budgets	Debt management	New capital outlays	Funds for new economic initiatives		
Situation	Unable to fund full range of annual maintenance and	Unable to fund annual interest and debt payments	Insufficient revenue to fund capital or debt needed for new projects	Fund new economic growth and recovery priorities		
	Long-term shortfall, even as costs likely to continue to rise			Bolster revenues/funds with new sources		
Levers to	Cut spending for 2020/2021 or	Restructure debt under lower	Cancel or delay projects	Apply for federal stimulus		
pull	postpone maintenance Restructure services contracts	interest rate regime	Revisit construction concessions for more efficient/cheaper options	New user fees or once-off special taxes		
	Revisit private investment structures: management contracts, operating concessions, and		Revisit suitability of projects for PPP to supplement with private funds/capabilities	Raise existing taxes or fees Monetize "hidden" public real estate value/wealth Sell concessions to monetize future cash flows on existing tolled assets		
	privatizations/asset recycling to raise capital or postpone spending		Bundle projects into larger scale program for cost synergies			
	Convert maintenance/capex to opex		Raise new debt e.g., green muni bonds	Leverage stimulus funding to catalyze private capital and optimize limited budget		

Involves private investment

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