

TRANSPORTATION

WATER RESILIENCY

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The American Public Works Association (APWA)

represents over 30,000 public works professionals across North America, dedicated to providing essential, high-quality services to millions of people in rural and urban communities, both small and large.

APWA members serve in both the public and private sectors providing expertise to the local, state, and federal government levels. Working in the public interest, our members plan, design, build, operate and maintain, and oversee America's vast infrastructure networks essential to our nation's economy, environment, safety, and way of life.

PRIORITY: TRANSPORTATION

- **Support more fiscally viable methods** of paying for transportation systems such as increasing and indexing the federal motor fuel tax, and collecting revenue based on road usage such as vehicle miles traveled, or similar fee, to ensure all road system users pay their fair share.
- **Set time limits for federal agency review** of transportation projects under the National Environmental Policy Act and support the "One Federal Decision" process laid out under Executive Order 13807, providing a more predictable, transparent, and timely federal review and authorization process for delivering major infrastructure projects. APWA strongly supports the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) "Every Day Counts" initiative and its work towards advancing successful streamlining initiatives.
- **Work towards improving safety for the traveling public.** APWA is committed to continue working towards improving safety for the traveling public through key initiatives such as the Road to Zero coalition and the FHWA's Traffic Incident Management initiative. APWA calls for continued investment and support of programs like High Risk Rural Roads, Safe Routes to Schools, Highway Safety Improvement Plan funds, and local bridges, as well as strong support for utilizing technology to improve safety while protecting users' privacy.



PRIORITY: WATER RESILIENCY

- **Provide robust funding for existing federal programs** that support water and wastewater infrastructure, such as the State Revolving Funds, Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, Rural Utilities Service, Public Water System Supervision grants, and the Public Works and Economic Development program.
- **Support a "One Water" stance** by applying a comprehensive, integrated planning approach to all Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act permitting (drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, combined sewer overflow) so that maximum flexibility and cost effectiveness is implemented into the decision-making process.
- **Support federal programs** like the Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Act language from the Water Resources Development Act of 2018 that provide assistance to water systems to increase resilience to natural hazards.
- **Adhere to the "One Federal Decision"** process laid out under Executive Order 13807, providing a more predictable, transparent, and timely federal review and authorization process for delivering major infrastructure projects.

PRIORITY: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- **Continue and fully fund** the State Homeland Security Grant Program and the Urban Area Security Initiative.
- **Promote and enhance interoperable emergency communications systems** to connect public works agencies to other responders, including law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical professionals during response and recovery operations.
- **Develop National Cybersecurity Guidelines/Best Practices** to significantly and constructively impact public works whose services require a 24-hour a day, 365-day a year operation.
- **Continue and fully fund mitigation grant programs** to enable public works agencies to respond to changing dynamics in natural and man-made hazards. Since 2014, there have been over 500 Presidential Disaster Declarations and APWA values and supports the evolving federal emphasis on mitigation efforts through federal grant programs and training opportunities. According to a 2017 National Institute of Building Sciences report, the nation saves six dollars in future disaster costs for every one dollar invested in mitigation activities.