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House Appropriations Chairman David Obey (D-WI) has released a executive summary of the spending portion of the House Democrats' stimulus legislation, which his panel hopes to mark up next week.

The infrastructure portion of the executive summary follows, verbatim. However, it should be noted that the fine print is pivotal, and the fine print will not be available until the text of the bill is released (which hopefully will be later today).

Highway Infrastructure: \$30 billion for highway and bridge construction projects. It is estimated that states have over 5,100 projects totaling over \$64 billion that could be awarded within 180 days. These projects create jobs in the short term while saving commuters time and money in the long term. In 2006, the Department of Transportation estimated \$8.5 billion was needed to maintain current systems and \$61.4 billion was needed to improve highways and bridges.

Transit: Public transportation saves Americans time and money, saving as much as 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline and reducing carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons each year.

- **New Construction:** \$1 billion for Capital Investment Grants for new commuter rail or other light rail systems to increase public use of mass transit and to speed projects already in construction. The Federal Transit Administration has \$2.4 billion in pre-approved projects.
- **Upgrades and Repair:** \$2 billion to modernize existing transit systems, including renovations to stations, security systems, computers, equipment, structures, signals, and communications. Funds will be distributed through the existing formula. The repair backlog is nearly \$50 billion.
- **Transit Capital Assistance:** \$6 billion to purchase buses and equipment needed to increase public transportation and improve intermodal and transit facilities. The Department of Transportation estimates a \$3.2 billion maintenance backlog and \$9.2 billion in needed improvements. The American Public Transportation Association identified 787 ready-to-go transit projects totaling \$15.5 billion. Funds will be distributed through the existing formulas.

Amtrak and Intercity Passenger Rail Construction Grants: \$1.1 billion to improve the speed and capacity of intercity passenger rail service. The Department of Transportation's Inspector General estimates the North East Corridor alone has a backlog of over \$10 billion.

Airport Improvement Grants: \$3 billion for airport improvement projects that will improve safety and reduce congestion. An estimated \$41 billion in eligible airport infrastructure projects are needed between 2007-2011.

Transportation Security Administration Explosive Detection Systems: \$500 million to install Aviation Explosive Detection Systems in the nation's airports, improving security, and making life easier on travelers by speeding security lines. Funds are competitively awarded based on security risk.

Coast Guard Bridges: \$150 million for ready-to-go investments to repair or remove bridges deemed hazardous to marine navigation, thereby removing obstructions and improving the safety of marine navigation.

Clean Water

- **Clean Water State Revolving Fund:** \$6 billion for loans to help communities upgrade wastewater treatment systems. EPA estimates a \$388 billion funding gap. The Association of State and Interstate Water Pollution Control Administrators found that 26 states have \$10 billion in approved water projects.
- **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund:** \$2 billion for loans for drinking water infrastructure. EPA estimates there is a \$274 billion funding gap. The National Governors Association reported that there are \$6 billion in ready-to-go projects, which could quickly be obligated.
- **Rural Water and Waste Disposal:** \$1.5 billion to support \$3.8 billion in grants and loans to help communities fund drinking water and wastewater treatment systems. In 2008, there were \$2.4 billion in requests for water and waste loans and \$990 million for water and waste grants went unfunded.

Water Resources

- **Corps of Engineers:** \$4.5 billion for environmental restoration, flood protection, hydropower, and navigation infrastructure critical to the economy. The Corps has a construction backlog of \$61 billion.
- **Bureau of Reclamation:** \$500 million to provide clean, reliable drinking water to rural areas and to ensure adequate water supply to western localities impacted by drought. The Bureau has backlogs of more than \$1 billion in rural water projects and water reuse and recycling projects.
- **Watershed Infrastructure:** \$400 million for the Natural Resources Conservation Service watershed improvement programs to design and build flood protection and water quality projects, repair aging dams, and purchase and restore conservation easements in river flood zones.
- **International Boundary and Water Commission:** \$224 million to repair flood control systems along the international segment of the Rio Grande damaged by hurricane Katrina and other serious storms.

Environmental Cleanup

- **Superfund Hazardous Waste Cleanup:** \$800 million to clean up hazardous and toxic waste sites that threaten health and the environment. EPA has 1,255 sites on its National Priority List, selected based on a hazard ranking system. There are many Superfund sites ready for construction, but not funded due to budget shortfalls and over 600 sites with ongoing construction that could be accelerated.
- **Leaking Underground Storage Tanks:** \$200 million for enforcement and cleanup of petroleum leaks from underground storage tanks at approximately 1,600 additional sites. There are an estimated 116,000 sites with the potential to contaminate important water supplies.
- **Nuclear Waste Cleanup:** \$500 million for nuclear waste cleanup at sites contaminated as a result of the nation's past nuclear activities. Accelerating the completion of projects will reduce long-term costs.
- **Closed Military Bases:** \$300 million for cleanup activities at closed military installations allowing local communities to redevelop these properties for productive use. The Department estimates that there is a \$3.5 billion environmental cleanup backlog at bases closed during previous BRAC rounds.
- **NOAA Habitat Restoration:** \$400 million for ready-to-go habitat restoration projects.
- **Brownfields:** \$100 million for competitive grants for evaluation and cleanup of former industrial and commercial sites - turning them from problem properties to productive community use. Last year EPA was only able to fund 37% of Brownfields applications.