



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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May 13, 2021

Interim Update - House T&I Committee Earmarks

This Update is a follow-on to the May 4 WSP Washington Update – see text below. The May 4 Update provided information about earmark requests made by House members for potential inclusion in the annual FY'22 **appropriations** bills across all 12 federal agency funding bills. More recently, the **House Transportation & Infrastructure (T&I) Committee** released information on the project earmarks requested by House members for potential inclusion in the pending, multi-year surface transportation/infrastructure **authorization** bill.

Here is a [link](#) to the Committee website with information on the earmark requests. House members along with their project requests are listed in alphabetical order.

While it is difficult to know which or how many of these requests for funding will be included in the House transportation/infrastructure authorization bill (or the annual appropriations bills), **the list of projects provides a good roadmap of what individual Members' priorities are, which local projects have strong political support, and which projects might apply for a discretionary grant award at some point in the future if they do not receive a congressional earmark.**

House Members requested a total of 2,380 project earmarks totaling \$14.9 billion – 1,775 by 213 Democratic members and 605 by 105 Republican members. The total amount requested is significantly more than is expected to be available. Rumor has it that each Member who requests earmarks is likely to receive approximately \$15M to \$20M in total funding for earmarks.

House T&I Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) hopes to release and mark-up a draft bill shortly after the upcoming Memorial Day recess. Speaker Nancy Pelosi has said she would like to see a bill on the House floor by July 4 – both aggressive and optimistic timelines.

WSP Washington Update - May 4, 2021 - Interim Update - House Appropriations Earmarks

Leaders of the House Appropriations Committee recently announced that the Committee will consider funding individual projects – referred to as “Community Project Funding”, but more commonly known as project earmarks - for the first time in almost ten years. House Members were required to submit project funding requests to the Committee by April 30.



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The 12 House Appropriation subcommittees are in the process of drafting their **annual FY'22** federal agency funding bills.

The Committee has posted a list of links to individual Members of Congress' websites (in alphabetical order) listing the project earmarks they have requested for FY'22. Here is a [link](#) to the Committee website. Each member has listed their earmark requests a little differently, but generally they are listed by which subcommittee would provide the funding i.e. Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD), Homeland Security, Energy & Water, etc.

A few points to note:

Senate Republicans do not support bringing back earmarks so it is unclear how this will all get sorted out when the separate House and Senate versions of the annual appropriations bills get reconciled.

The House Appropriations Committee accepted a maximum of 10 community project requests from each member, though only a handful may actually be funded.

The Committee will limit total Community Project Funding to no more than 1 percent of discretionary spending.

Members must provide evidence of community support that were compelling factors in their decision to select the requested projects.

These earmarks are **separate** from the earmarks submitted by Members of Congress to the **House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee** for potential funding in the next multi-year FAST Act surface transportation **authorization** bill which the Committee is currently drafting.