



Laborers' International Union of North America Midwest Regional Office

John F. Penn, LIUNA Vice President and Midwest Regional Manager

LIUNA Legislative Update

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With two weeks to the day remaining in the scheduled legislative session, today **Gov. JB Pritzker (D)** released his six-year, \$41.5 billion “Rebuild Illinois” Capital Plan proposal, including funding for roads, bridges, schools and universities, and many other projects. This plan calls for a 19-cent increase of the gas tax that will provide state money for transportation projects, as well as an additional \$4 billion to local governments. The plan also proposes increased vehicle registration fees and new or increased taxes on ride-share services such as Uber and Lyft; cable, satellite and video streaming services such as Netflix; and an undetermined tax on video gaming terminals. The vast majority of the legislature appreciates the need for a capital plan to address our crumbling infrastructure, but these new funding sources will surely be controversial among voters and, therefore, legislators. We can expect negotiations to continue between the Governor and the legislature before a final vote takes place, but the document released today provides a good picture of where the Governor’s priorities are.

Statewide, proposed spending totals include:

- \$22.9 billion for roads and bridges (including \$10.9 billion for projects in the current Multi-Year Plan.)
 - o Averages to \$3.8 billion per year for six years, which more than doubles current annual IDOT spending
- \$4.4 billion for state buildings such as correctional facilities and residential care facilities
- \$3.5 billion for elementary and secondary school construction
- \$2.4 billion for higher education facilities
- \$873 million for conservation and recreation facilities
- \$420 million for broadband expansion
- \$385.2 million for public infrastructure and community development grants
- \$250 million for hospitals and health centers

Specific highlights in the Midwest Region include:

- \$230 million for Quincy Veterans’ Home Reconstruction
- \$225 million for a Chicago-to-Quad Cities railway project, with a new stop in Geneseo
- \$135.4 million for the I-55/I-72 interchange in Sangamon County
- \$96 million to extend MetroLink services from Scott Air Force Base to the Mid America Airport
- \$61.2 million for Effingham’s US 40/Illinois 33/Fayette Ave
- \$24.4 million to build a four-lane connection between segments of US 67 in Jersey County
- Dollar figures are not specified, but the plan identifies the following university projects:
 - o New science buildings at Western Illinois University and Eastern Illinois University
 - o Milner Library rehabilitation at Illinois State University
 - o New Computer Science, Health Informatics and Technology Center at Northern Illinois University



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- Communications Building at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale
- Health Sciences Building at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
- Library Learning Student Success Center at University of Illinois Springfield
- Math, Statistics, and Data Science Collaborative Facility at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- And an additional \$281.9 million for community college projects statewide