

Infrastructure Needs Assessment: 2024-2030

2024 New Jersey State Development
and Redevelopment Plan

Presented by Rutgers University to the
New Jersey State Planning Commission

Team Introductions

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Background

- INA mandated by NJ State Planning Act
- Work began in 2023 under former Executive Director Donna Rendeiro
- Project temporarily halted—work resumed in late 2024
- Leadership transition of both OPA and Rutgers in early 2025
 - Leigh Ann Von Hagen
 - Walter Lane

The Preliminary Draft of the New Jersey State Development and Redevelopment Plan

New Jersey State Planning Commission
Approved December 4, 2024



Methodology

- Draws on:
 - Capital plans
 - Regulatory frameworks
 - Agency reports
- Future needs rooted in:
 - Demand forecasts
 - Demographic changes
 - Trends in asset depreciation
- Report adopts three-scenario approach:
 - Steady State
 - Moderate Progress
 - Aspirational



Overview of Topics

- Transportation
- Energy
- Telecommunications
- Farmland Retention
- Shore Protection
- Water Supply
- Wastewater Disposal
- Stormwater Management
- Public Recreation & Open Space
- Public Health Care
- Solid Waste Management
- Public Education
- Higher Education
- Public Libraries
- Arts & Historic Resources
- Public Safety, Justice, & Corrections
- Public Administration
- Public Housing

Transportation

- Network in need of significant maintenance
- **Major projects underway**
 - Portal North Bridge Replacement
 - Route 17 Improvements
 - Rail Infrastructure Modernization
- State agencies adopt **performance-based planning and programming (PBPP)** standards
- **Differing timelines** in planning timeframes
- **Funding gaps** among several agencies
- Estimated present needs of **\$66 billion**

Estimates as of 9/18/25, subject to change





Energy

- **Resource adequacy perspective** analyzes which generation methods are feasible given current conditions.
 - NJBPU committed to Grid Modernization & Energy Assurance
- **Performance measures and targets:**
 - Clean energy
 - Energy storage
 - Energy efficiency
 - Equity
- Present need estimates range from **\$91 billion to \$194 billion**

Telecommunications

- **Main goal:** enhance access to high-speed and affordable internet service in overburdened communities
- Percentage of state population covered by:
 - Cable modems - 98%
 - Fiber optic cables - 68%
 - Traditional telephone lines – 5%
- Present needs stand at **\$263.7 million**





Farmland Retention

- Funded through:
 - NJ Corporate Business Tax
 - Garden State Trust Fund
 - County Open Space Trust Funds
- New Jersey Farmland Preservation Program (FPP)
 - Goal of 500,000 acres of preserved farmland over the next decade
 - More than 250,000 acres preserved through FY2024
 - Additional **\$1 billion** over the next decade to reach the goal

Shore Protection

- New Jersey's Shore Protection Program
 - Preserves coastal resources
 - Maintains safe and navigable waterways
- 76% of New Jersey's coastline is developed
- Coastal communities account for over half of NJ's tourism dollars
- Funding needs total **\$1 billion** for shore protection projects between FY2025 and FY2031

Estimates as of 9/18/25, subject to change





Water Supply

- Key funding mechanism: New Jersey Water Bank
- EPA estimates **\$12 billion** needed in investments
- Area of greatest need is refurbishing deteriorating pipelines
 - Estimated to cost **\$8 billion** over next 20 years

Wastewater Disposal

- NJ has 191 wastewater treatment facilities
 - Six operating at or above capacity
 - Over 40 at risk of damage from potential sea-level rise
- NJ requires **\$11.75 billion** in investment over next 20 years





Stormwater Management & Flood Protection

- Stormwater Management Upgrades
 - Municipal Separate Storm Sewers System (MS4) program
 - Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual
- Estimated stormwater needs over next 20 years total **\$2.9 billion**

Public Recreation & Open Space

- **1.6 million acres** of preserved open space and public recreation
- Funding:
 - State Appropriations
 - Federal Grants and Loan Programs
 - NJDEP Grants and Loans
 - Revenue from fees and fines
 - Public-Private Partnerships
- Future infrastructure needs:
 - 30x30 Initiative
 - Smart Park Infrastructure
 - Interactive maps
 - AR & Virtual Tours
 - Automated conservation/monitoring tools
 - Eco-Friendly Energy Solutions

Estimates as of 9/18/25, subject to change



Public Health Care

- **NJ Health Care Facilities Financing Authority** funds capital/infrastructure costs
- **New goals:** improving building security and increasing the number of childcare facilities in underserved areas.
- Estimated present need costs are almost **\$10 million**



Solid Waste Management

- Present needs through 2030 total **\$262 million**
- **2030 Waste-Reduction Goals:**
 - 60% of total solid waste recycled
 - 50% of municipal solid waste recycled
 - 50% less food waste
- **429 recycling and disposal facilities statewide**



Public Education

- Funding:
 - 45% from state
 - 48% from local governments
 - 7% from federal government
- The state's School Development Authority plays an important role
- 21 out of 31 School Development Authority districts currently face overcrowding
- NJ's School Development Authority estimates **\$1.9 billion** in infrastructure needs over next 5 years

Higher Education

- Higher education enrollment has been trending upward
- Recommended FY2025-FY2031 Funding
 - 234 infrastructure projects have been proposed
 - Estimated infrastructure needs over the next 7 years total **\$13 billion**



Image source: Jersey City,
West Bergen Library

WEST BERGEN LIBRARY

Public Libraries

- **New Jersey State Library** largely manages three programs
 - **JerseyClicks:** Provides access to various research databases
 - **Talking Book and Braille Center (TBBC):** Assists NJ's residents with disabilities
 - **JerseyConnect:** Enables low-cost internet access to member libraries
- Estimated present needs through FY2031 are about **\$15 million**

Arts & Historic Resources

Primary funding sources:

- NJ State Council on the Arts
- NJ Cultural Trust
- NJ Historic Trust

Recommended FY 2026 funding:

- **\$35.2 million** for arts
- **\$5.9 million** for historic resources

Estimates as of 9/18/25, subject to change



Public Safety

- All public safety agencies rely on a mix of state and USDOJ grant funding
- The state tracks juvenile and inmate data, while local governments manage police and fire.
- Present needs total almost **\$335 million** through 2031

Public Housing

- Affordable Units Needed:
 - Refurbish 65,000 currently deficient units
 - Construct 85,000 new units
- NJ's Affordable Housing Trust Fund has a balance of \$200 million
- **\$12.9 million** in funding needed to cover section 8 vouchers

Estimates as of 9/18/25, subject to change

NO
PASSING
Vehicles
Are
Permitted

Conclusion

- Total Needs Estimates all sectors (present — approx. 2031):

Steady-State
Scenario
\$102 billion

Moderate
Progress Scenario
\$214 billion

Aspirational
Scenario
\$317 billion

- Present needs are well documented but future needs (10+ years out) require more clarity
- The INA serves as a roadmap for capital planning and works in tandem with the 2025 State Development and Redevelopment Plan