

Montana governor OKs bills investing \$400M in infrastructure

Montana Gov. Steve Bullock signed a series of bills Friday that allow for spending nearly \$400 million on buildings, bridges and water systems across the state — an effort aimed at creating jobs, boosting the state's economy and clearing up a backlog of needed work.

The GOP-led Senate and DFL-controlled House proposals for the state's next two-year transportation budget differ by more than \$800 million.

The bills include money to repair or replace 14 bridges and 51 water, wastewater and sewer projects. Overall, the 2019 Legislature passed \$2.7 billion in infrastructure projects, including highway projects.

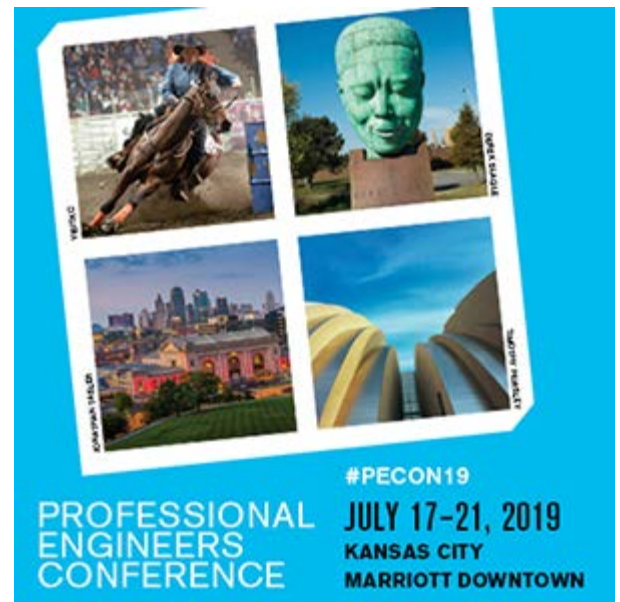
One of the measures was the result of a bipartisan effort to set guidelines to determine how much money the state can afford to borrow and spend on building construction and maintenance, based on state revenues and existing debt.

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