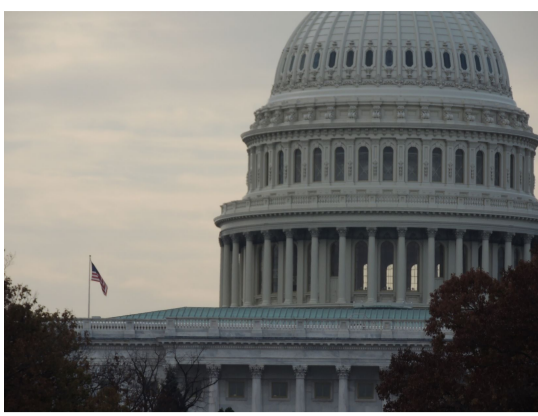




a collaborative environment to drive policy, innovate and advance emergency management

August 6, 2021



THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

Working on the Weekend

With dreams of summer vacation lingering in their heads, senators will spend this weekend wrapping up the infrastructure bill and potentially working through the exhausting vote-a-rama process to set up the budget reconciliation needed to move along the \$3.5 trillion package that will focus on social programs including universal pre-kindergarten and Medicaid expansion. It's likely that this process will be much more contentious than the infrastructure bill, which isn't far from the 60 senators needed for its passage.

Meanwhile, President Biden announced that \$3.46 billion has been authorized for mitigation funding related to strengthening climate resiliency after the 59 major disaster declarations in 2020 for COVID-19 across the states and territories. The funding will be available through the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is expected to be released on Monday. View HMGP [allocations by state and territory here](#) and see [the announcement here](#).

Recent drafts of the infrastructure bill appear to contain several provisions of interest to emergency management including upwards of another \$1 billion for BRIC. During these contentious negotiations, nothing is final until it's final, but NEMA staff remains in close contact with negotiators and will highlight all the emergency management wins once the dust settles.

More News from the Nation's Capital...

NIBS Survey on the Development of a National Mitigation Resource Portal

The National Institute on Building Sciences Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council (NIBS MMC) initiated an effort to develop a centralized inventory of hazard mitigation resources, called the National Mitigation Resource Portal (NMRP), to convene and streamline mitigation efforts across government and private sector entities. The portal framework is categorized into federal funding opportunities, leveraging private sector investment and potential cost-share offsets, and education and engagement.

The MMC then conducted a national survey to solicit feedback from potential users, focusing primarily on the federal section. Respondents answered questions related to barriers to applying for federal programs and how they traditionally approach searching for mitigation project funding. NEMA helped distribute the survey - if you completed it, the responses are here. [See the survey report here](#).

ISAC Webinar on the Challenge Posed by Insider Threat

The Multi-State and Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Centers (MS-ISAC and EI-ISAC) are hosting a webinar on **Tuesday, August 10, 2:00pm EDT**, to discuss the risks posed by insider threats. It will include IT risks posed by insider threats, identifying the common technologies and motivations for successful insider threats, and offer guidance on mitigation and response options. Seats are limited. [Register here](#).

Senate HSGAC Releases Updated Report on Federal Cybersecurity

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs (HSGAC) Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations issued a report in 2019, *Federal Cybersecurity: America's Data at Risk*. The report documented that none of the eight key federal agencies assessed met basic cybersecurity standards and protocols, including protecting PII. In the updated report, only DHS improved to an effective cybersecurity regime. The other seven made only minimal improvements. The information was gathered via inspectors general reports over the past 13 years. The report did find that all eight agencies (DHS included) utilized legacy systems or applications that are no longer supported by the vendor with security updates. [Read the report here](#).

FEMA Releases EOC Toolkit Documents

FEMA released two Emergency Operations Center (EOC) toolkit documents. The documents released are the [EOC How-to Quick Reference Guide](#) and the [EOC References and Resources Tool](#). The goal of the documents is to assist jurisdictions with developing EOCs that meet their needs. The documents are aligned with the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Other News from DC and Around the Country:

[FEMA Extends Emergency Non-Congregate Sheltering Assistance for Displaced Disaster Survivors](#)
E&E News: ['Socially Vulnerable' Communities Targeted for Flood Aid](#)
The Pew Charitable Trusts: [To Boost Flood Resilience, States and Localities Should Partner with Each Other - and Outside Experts](#)

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