



FEDERAL POLICY UPDATE

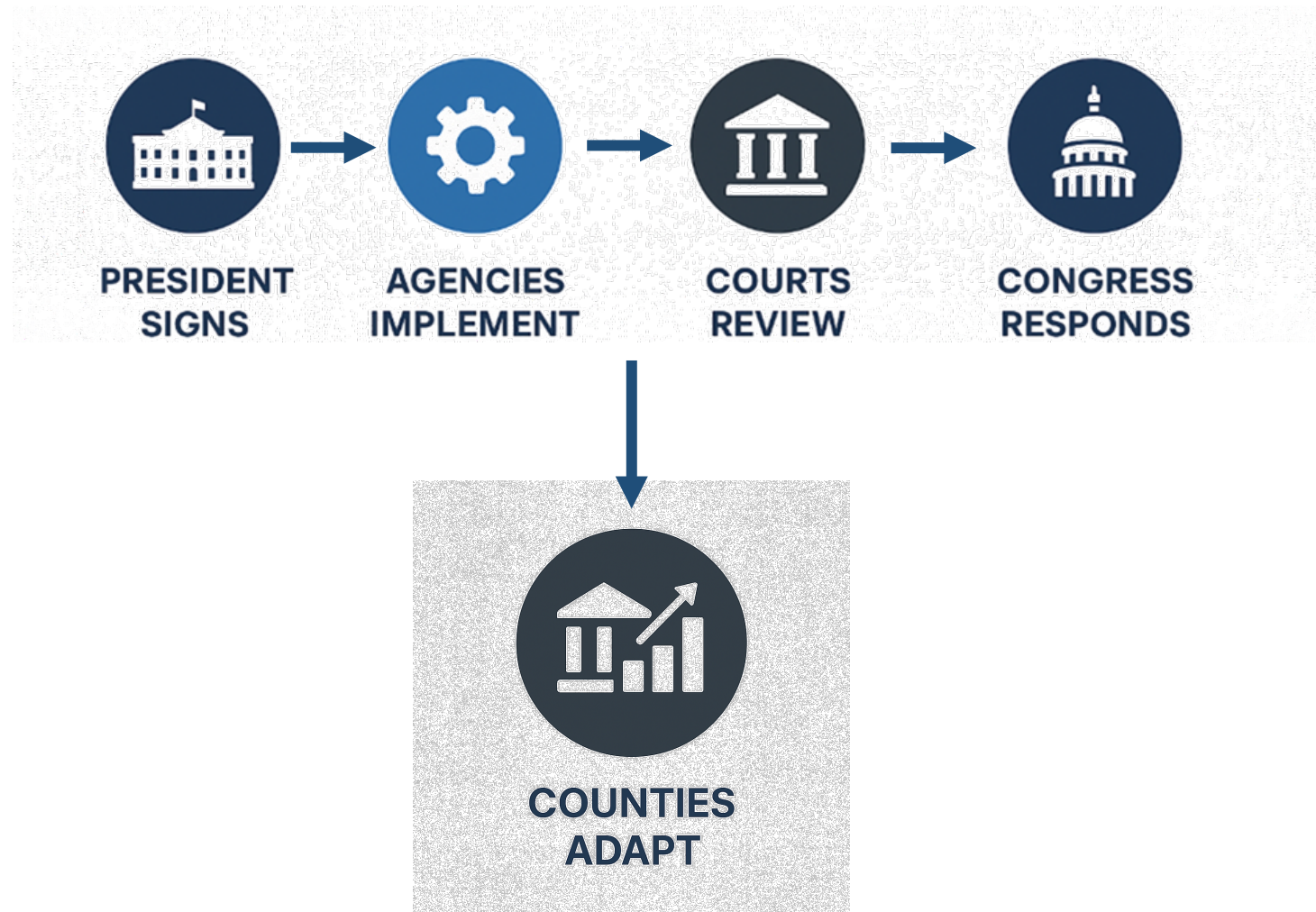
Nevada Association of Counties

Federal government funding status

- Federal government funding expires on Sept. 30, 2025
- House Republicans introduced a 7-week “clean” continuing resolution with no policy riders
- Senate Democrats introduced a 4-week continuing resolution that includes a permanent extension of health care subsidies that are set to expire
- President Trump cancelled a previously scheduled meeting with Democratic leadership scheduled for this week
- *Future of government funding remains unclear*

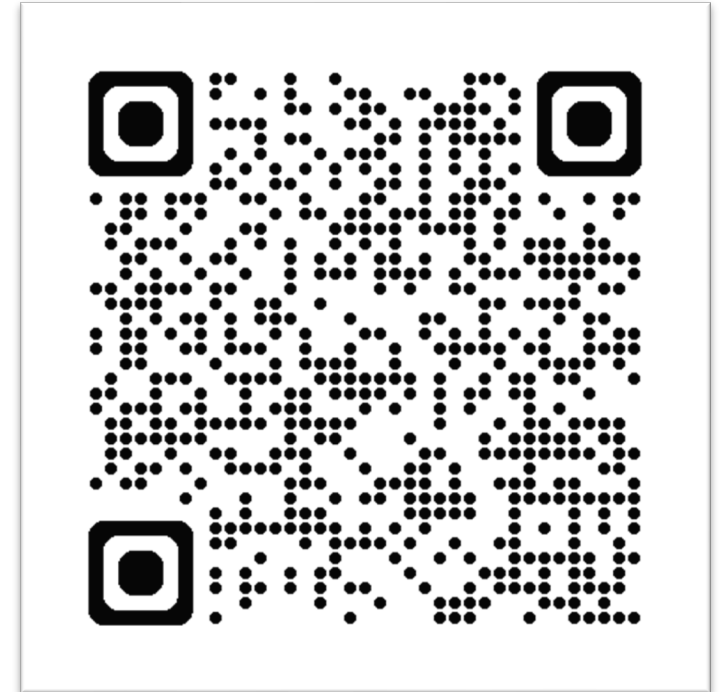
AS
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
PARTNERS, ANY BUDGET
UNCERTAINTY AT THE
FEDERAL LEVEL CREATES
UNCERTAINTY AT THE
LOCAL LEVEL AS
COUNTIES ADMINISTER
FEDERAL PROGRAMS ON
THE GROUND.

Executive orders: From signature to implementation



Status of Federal Funding

- **Shelter and Services Program (SSP)**
- **HUD Technical Assistance Contracts**
 - Section 4 Capacity Building Grants
 - DEI contracts
- **DOJ Grants**
 - 365 grants identified valuing up to \$811 million
- **NTIA Digital Equity Act Grants**
 - State Digital Equity Capacity Grants
 - Planning Grants
 - Competitive Grants
- **FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities**
- **HHS Pandemic-Related Grants**
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Supplement,
 - Substance Use Prevention/Treatment/Recovery Supplemental Grants



*Scan to view NACo's federal
funding tracker*

Executive order: *Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking*

- **Grant Review Processes:** Designate senior appointees to review both NOFOs and discretionary grant awards to ensure alignment with agency priorities and national interest
- **Accountability Measures:** Agencies will conduct annual reviews of discretionary awards to assess progress and ensure consistency with the administration's priorities
- **Streamlining and Simplification:** Review the type of information requested when an applicant is applying to a discretionary grant program
- **Selection Criteria:** Prioritize applications that support the administration's policy priorities
- **Financial Controls:** Amend current grant policies, resulting in the potential termination of grant programs
 - Requires grant recipients (i.e. counties) to obtain authorization from the awarding federal agency to draw down funds

Executive order: *Unleashing America's Energy*

- Council on Environmental Quality released new guidance repealing the rule that established National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations
 - **U.S. Department of Transportation** – Local consultation framed as “cooperation”; Public comment not required
 - **U.S. Department of Interior** – Cooperating agency is not only in handbook, not regulation
 - **Army Corps of Engineers** – Local consultation required for EISs, but local cooperating agency role not guaranteed
 - **U.S. Department of Agriculture** – Eliminates agency specific NEPA guidance

THE SHIFT IN NEPA
GUIDANCE
DEMONSTRATES
REDUCED
COORDINATION
WITH COUNTIES
AND DIFFERING
REQUIREMENTS
ACROSS AGENCIES

Proposed rule: *Roadless Rule recission*

- USDA's proposal would rescind 2001 Roadless Rule – opens 45 million acres of U.S. Forest Service land
- Roadless Rule prohibits construction, reconstruction and timber harvesting on USFS land
- Directive under the Executive Order 14192, *Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation*
- Promotes local decision making for forest management decisions – Ability to respond to wildfires
- NACo submitted comments and is encouraging close collaboration between counties and forest managements

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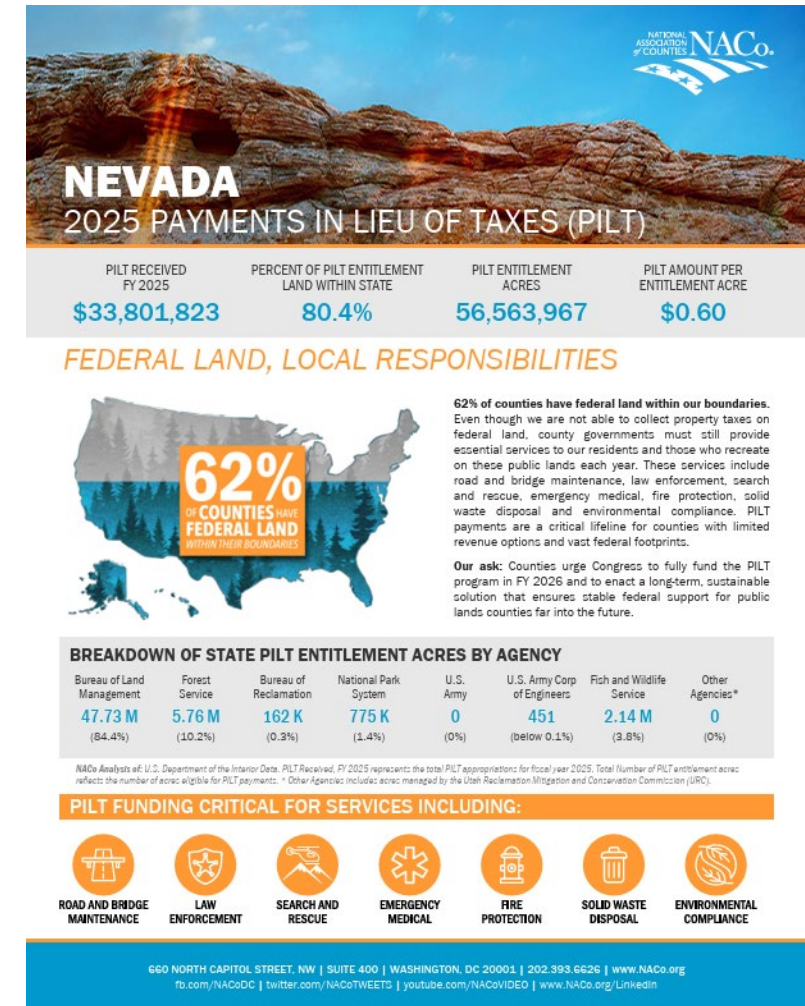
USDA & DOI restructuring for wildfire

- Creates a new U.S. Wildland Fire Service department – merges responsibilities from USFS, BLM and NPS
- Major reforms include:
 - All wildland firefighters, suppression resources and budgets are consolidated
 - Standardizing hiring and pay across agencies
 - Strengthening collaboration between DOI and USDA, while also establishing a new national Fire Intelligence Center
- Impacts:
 - Zeros out funding for USFS
 - Reduction in support for state and local governments
- Implementation set for January 2026

COUNTIES REMAIN
ESSENTIAL
PARTNERS IN
WILDFIRE
MITIGATION AND
RESPONSE, AND
BOTH DEPARTMENTS
HAVE COMMITTED
TO SEEKING COUNTY
INPUT AS THESE
CHANGES ARE
IMPLEMENTED.

PILT funding

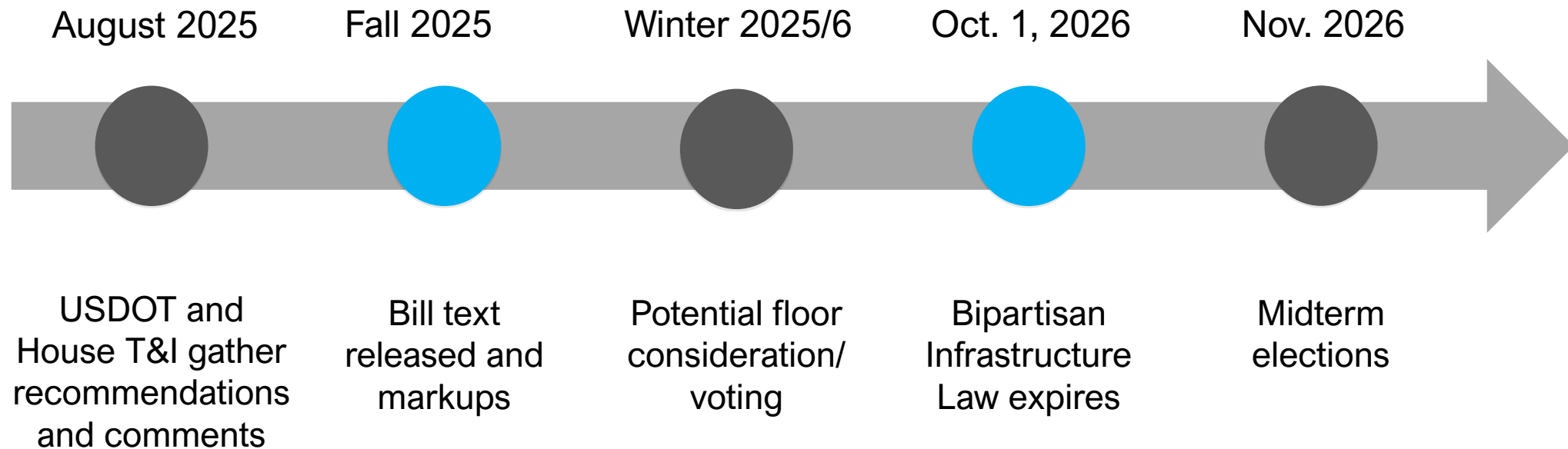
- U.S. House Interior Appropriations bill “fully funds” PILT, but is almost \$100 million decrease from FY 2025
- FY 2025 - \$644.8 million
- FY 2026 proposal - \$550 million
- Nevada and PILT:
 - PILT amount: \$33.8 million
 - Total PILT entitlement land: 56.6 million acres
 - Percent of PILT entitlement land: 80.4%



SRS reauthorization

- SRS reauthorization bill (S.356) passed the Senate by unanimous consent
- Companion legislation in the House (H.R. 1383)
- Nevada House members have NOT cosponsored the bill – **Reach out to your House members NOW!**
- In years without SRS authorization, counties lose both direct SRS support and face higher PILT deductions, compounding funding deficits
- Nevada and SRS:
 - PILT amount: \$5 million
 - Percent of counties with USFS land: 82%

Surface transportation reauthorization



Surface transportation reauthorization

1. Streamline delivery of key formula funds directly to regional organizations and local governments
2. Maintain competitive federal funding access for local governments and regional organizations
3. Strengthen transportation planning, performance and project delivery
4. Dedicate formula funding for rural transportation planning
5. Streamline environmental processes and permitting for smaller projects



*Scan the QR code for
NACo's transportation
resource hub*

FEMA reform efforts

- House T&I Committee passed 57-3 – **Now heads to the full House**
 - Establishes FEMA as an independent agency
 - Public assistance reform – Transition from reimbursement to grant model
 - Individual assistance reform – Universal disaster application
 - Mitigation reforms – Pre-approved mitigation projects for counties
 - Creates a public PA dashboard

This bill responds directly to NACo feedback, including major reforms that would speed up recovery timelines, ease administrative burdens and improve support for survivors.



*Scan the QR code for NACo's analysis on the FEMA Act and **send a letter of support to your members of Congress!***



CONTACT

Eryn Hurley, Managing Director, Governments Affairs

ehurley@naco.org | 571.262.9015