

TO: Alina Gonzalez, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs
Jessica Hart, Director of Federal Affairs
Manny Orozco, Federal Affairs Advisor

FROM: Jim Davenport, Partner
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RECENT TRP ACTIVITIES

- Reviewed, edited and provided advice on FY2026 community project funding (CPF) proposals prepared by County staff, including with regard to proposals relating to information technology and Head Start programs
- Discussed strategy for obtaining FY26 funding for Back Bay Nature Based Solutions with County's Resiliency Team
- At request of the Federal affairs team, made recommendations to the Board on Federal advocacy issues
- Shared information relating to the proposed elimination of the Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Engaged with Congress on the proposed lease termination of the Army Corps' Jacksonville office space, the plan for which was subsequently abandoned
- Shared other items of importance, including updates on:
 - The FY25 and FY26 Appropriations process, including FY 2026 Member Guidance for the Annual Appropriations Process, which can be viewed [here](#).
 - Trump Administration Appointments and Executive Orders
 - Provided daily *Tip Sheet* and periodic *TRP Grants Newsletter*

CAPITOL HILL UPDATE

Senate Republicans Set to Release Updated Budget Resolution; House Scraps Votes

Senate Budget Committee Chair Lindsey Graham (R-SC) is set to unveil an updated budget resolution for a vote on the Senate floor during the first week of April as Republicans in both chambers look to coalesce behind one uniform resolution to unlock the reconciliation process. According to the latest intel from Capitol Hill, it is expected that the Budget Committee will post text for the budget resolution this afternoon, with the marathon "vote-a-rama" amendment debate to follow tomorrow. Much like the first go-around, the budget resolution is expected to pass the Senate with relative ease once consideration of amendments wraps up. However, there are still key disagreements among House and Senate Republicans over the tax portion of reconciliation — particularly the use of the "current policy baseline" to extend the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) without demonstrating a significant budgetary impact — as well as the overall size and scope of spending cuts.

Meanwhile, House Republican leadership has canned votes for the week after a group of GOP lawmakers voted against a rule that would have, among other things, "turned off" the discharge petition process in order to block one from Rep. Anna Paulina Luna (R-FL) to allow proxy voting in the House for newborn parents. Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) intends to try again on the same rule next week, but with much higher stakes. Assuming the Senate clears an updated budget resolution by tomorrow, House leadership plans to add it to the underlying rule that failed yesterday, essentially daring the same nine members to

vote against President Donald Trump's legislative agenda. However, the compromise budget resolution is already stirring up concerns among lawmakers in the House Freedom Caucus, who have expressed concerns about a lower-than-expected target for spending cuts. To that end, further changes or delays to the House schedule are possible as Republicans look to get on the same page and move forward.

OTHER RELEVANT NEWS

Bloomberg: Trump Adviser Calls to End Muni Tax Break in Threat to Market

Stephen Moore, an informal economic adviser to President Donald Trump, floated eliminating the federal tax subsidy for municipal bonds, a concerning sign for the market where states and cities raise debt. Local governments, as well as bankers and investors, have been worried that the key feature of the public finance market could be at risk as Republicans search for ways to raise money to extend 2017 tax cuts. Muni bonds pay interest that's exempt from federal taxes, costing the government roughly \$40 billion each year. The subsidy is one of the top federal tax expenditures, according to the Bipartisan Policy Center. ...He said eliminating the subsidy aligns with Republican efforts to "broaden" the tax base and is more "politically plausible" than in prior years because it would directly impact wealthy investors.

Trump Nominates Army Corps of Engineers Leader

On March 24, President Donald J. Trump nominated Adam Telle to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA(CW)), a critical civilian leadership position overseeing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Civil Works program.

Adam Telle brings deep experience in congressional affairs and public service. He currently serves as Chief of Staff to Senator Bill Hagerty (R-TN), and previously led the Senate affairs team within the White House Office of Legislative Affairs during Trump's first term. Earlier in his career, Telle served in senior roles for Senators Richard Shelby and Thad Cochran. A native of Alabama, he is a graduate of Mississippi State University with degrees in Computer Science and Communication.

Telle's nomination now goes to the U.S. Senate for consideration. The confirmation process typically includes committee hearings followed by a full Senate vote. While timing can vary, historical precedent offers some guidance: Michael Connor, nominated by President Biden, was confirmed about seven months after his nomination in 2021. R.D. James, nominated during Trump's first term, was confirmed approximately four months after his nomination in 2017.

POLITICO: The latest tax bill contender: Low-income housing (\$)

Senate Finance Chair Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) certainly got some people's attention last week, when he singled out expanding the low-income housing credit as one of the scores of tax suggestions he's getting from Republican colleagues. In fact, Crapo said that his fellow Senate Republicans have given him around 200 ideas in all. The low-income housing incentive was one of three he mentioned during an appearance at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. But advocates for the housing tax break said they were heartened to see Crapo's comments, and that they feel like they're in a decent spot to get the incentive expanded this year as part of the expected broader legislation that extends the expiring parts of the 2017 tax law and likely adds other new tax relief provisions.

FEMA Terminates Flood Risk Management Standard

FEMA announced that, pursuant to the President's Executive Order 14148, the agency has stopped implementing the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Policy that required certain construction projects to adopt flood risk standards.

The Hill: HHS fires entire staff of program that helps low-income people afford heat and air conditioning

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has fired all of the workers in its program that seeks to help low-income Americans pay their energy bills. Everyone who had been working on the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) was let go on Tuesday, according to now-former employee Andrew Germain. ...He said that prior to both probationary cuts and the latest round of firings, there had been about 15 people working on LIHEAP. The program doles out funds to states, which in turn use the money to help people pay to heat and cool their homes and prevent utilities from shutting off the air or heat. According to Germain, all of the staff who worked on Social Services Block Grants, which help states and territories pay for social services that protect people, including children, from neglect and abuse, were also let go. The firings come as HHS fired thousands of people as part of the Trump administration's efforts to cut staffing for federal agencies. A press release from the agency said that HHS was letting go of 10,000 people on top of another 10,000 staffers who were lost to prior efforts to reduce jobs.

E&E News: FEMA blocks \$10B in disaster aid over immigration concerns (\$)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has frozen nearly \$10 billion in disaster aid for nonprofits including hospitals as it seeks to identify funding that could be used to help undocumented migrants, according to agency documents obtained by POLITICO's E&E News. The blocked money had been approved for nongovernmental organizations to rebuild their own facilities after a disaster and to provide services such as short-term housing to survivors. FEMA is reviewing the funding to determine whether it helps migrants in violation of a Feb. 6 executive order by President Donald Trump to "stop funding NGOs that undermine the national interest." The review is part of Trump's broader crackdown on immigration and other programs that focus on climate change or diversity. "That will adversely impact recovery, whether it's North Carolina, Los Angeles or West Virginia," former FEMA chief of staff Michael Coen said in an interview on Friday.