



Fact Sheet

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The Recovery Act: A Report on the Path to Progress in California Creating and Saving Jobs, Boosting Household Resources, Providing Assistance for the Vulnerable in California

On February 13, 2009, the Senate approved the final version of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* and sent the legislation to President Obama to be signed into law (P.L. 111-5). The *Recovery Act* is an extraordinary response by Democrats to an inherited economic crisis unlike any since the Great Depression. The legislation represents an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create and save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can not only recover but prosper once again.

Nationwide, we have already seen companies rehiring laid-off workers, construction and renovation of facilities, and the re-starting of environmental remediation activities. And, just a few months into the two-year *Recovery Act* programs:

- **We have minimized and avoided reductions in essential services in California** by providing aid to help stabilize state and local budgets, protected critical safety-net programs, and saved teaching and law enforcement jobs.
- **Plans for job-creating infrastructure projects in California are already planned and underway** with the Department of Transportation allocation of \$1.33 billion for highway infrastructure investments (through the Federal Highway Administration); \$58.4 million for transit modernization, repair, and other capital needs (through the Federal Transit Authority); and \$9.5 million in airport grants for development projects that enhance safety, capacity and security and airport facilities and equipment upgrades (through the Federal Aviation Administration) (as of June 2, 2009). These *Recovery Act* projects deliver jobs and make important investments in the safety of our transportation systems. [DOT Allocation Report, 6/2/2009].
- **Families and communities in California that have been hard-hit by the recession** can access increased unemployment benefits, assistance with health insurance premiums for those who have become unemployed, and food aid. And 12.6 million households in California – approximately 95 percent of all families and individuals – have already begun seeing an increase in their take-home pay through the landmark Making Work Pay tax credit. The typical family will have about \$800 extra cash delivered to them in their paychecks over the next year. [The White House, 4/2/2009]

Here is a sampling of projects in California that have been covered by local media and press releases in the past several weeks, demonstrating the real-life impacts that the *Recovery Act* has already made for Californians only four months after the enactment of the *Recovery Act*:

- **\$40 Million in *Recovery Act* funds go to Santa Maria Levee, creating 1,000 jobs and prohibiting future floods.** “Not only will this funding ensure the safety of the citizens of the Santa Maria area, but the project will be a boon to the local economy, creating 1,000 jobs, and saving Santa Marians from having to purchase costly flood insurance... Our economy still has a long way to go, but this package has helped blunt the most negative impact of the economic downturn, and jump-started the recovery process.” [[Santa Maria Times](#), 6/13/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* monies finance solar panels for Yuba City Senior Center, drawing praise from mayor and city council for creating jobs that will improve energy efficiency.** “The city secured almost \$150,000 in *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act* funds for projects that emphasize job creation, increased energy efficiency and further economic investment. City officials decided that installation of solar photovoltaic panels on the senior center's roof would meet those objectives. [[Marysville Appeal-Democrat](#), 6/14/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* funding en route to San Diego State University professors for research pertaining to cancer and lung allergies.** “Two San Diego State University science professors have been awarded a combined \$1.5 million in federal stimulus money for research that could lead to treatments for cancer and lung allergies. The stimulus awards, among the first granted to the California State University system, come from the National Institutes of Health, which recently received about \$10 billion in stimulus money.” [[San Diego Union-Tribune](#), 6/13/2009]
- **“We’re encouraged to see the promises of president Obama paying off sooner rather than later for the Coachella Valley.”** “As President Obama promised Monday to ramp up spending from the \$787 billion stimulus fund, the city of Palm Springs and Coachella Valley and Mission Springs water districts received word of \$3.1 million available to them. The funds will be dedicated to building a new park and providing clean drinking water to communities on wells that now don't meet safety standards.” [[The Desert Sun](#), Editorial, 6/10/2009]
- **The San Diego Workforce Partnership will put 3,000 young people to work thanks to a nearly \$24 million infusion from the *Recovery Act*.** The Partnership says it’s poised to make a dent in the area’s unemployment. [[San Diego Business Journal](#), 6/9/2009]
- **Oceanside School District plans to use *Recovery Act* to rehire 28 laid off teachers.** [[KFMB-TV CBS News Channel 8](#), 6/8/2009]
- **Battery producer Imara seeks *Recovery Act* funds to start manufacturing larger batteries for electric vehicles in the U.S.** “The *Recovery Act* money would accelerate plans to build that manufacturing capacity here... company hopes we have green careers and not just green jobs.” [[EDN Electronics Design Strategy News](#), 6/8/2009]

- **Recovery Act monies provided for repaving of Green Valley and Diablo Roads, markedly increasing efficiency of local transportation and creating jobs.** Approximately 13,000 vehicles travel on these streets each day. The project also will upgrade sidewalks, curb ramps, and traffic signals on Green Valley Road used by school children.” [[Danville Weekly News](#), 6/7/2009]
- **Recovery Act funds will be used to resurface three roads in Menlo Park.** [[San Jose Mercury News](#), 6/4/2009]
- **Recovery Act funding expected to create 180 jobs in Riverside County.** Federal funds will support youth work experience training and affordable housing projects. [[Temecula Valley News](#), 6/2/2009]
- **Lake Elsinore School District employees will not be required to take three unpaid furlough days next year thanks to Recovery Act money.** [[North County Times](#), 6/2/2009]
- **Hire-A-Youth Program allows for 100 students to enter San Diego State University and gain field-pertinent job experience.** The program is a result of the Recovery Act. [[Daily Aztec](#), 6/1/2009]
- **Esperanza is receiving a grant of \$875,000 from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to help identify and clean up lead and other health hazards in 225 homes.** [[Environmental News Services](#), 5/15/2009]
- **Recovery Act funds will repair exigent Santa Maria River Levee.** Project will improve safety for tens of thousands and create hundreds of jobs. [[City of Santa Maria](#), 5/28/2009]
- **EPA awarded \$440 million in Recovery Act money to California to fund water projects around the state.** “This money has been a wonderful infusion of cash for the state of California, especially for disadvantaged communities in the state.” [[Associated Press](#), 5/21/2009]
- **Banning and Beaumont school districts will offset anticipated losses with Recovery Act funds.** [[Record Gazette](#), 5/21/2009]
- **Ventura County will receive more than \$300,000 in Recovery Act funds for emergency food and shelter programs.** [[Ventura County Star](#), 5/21/2009]
- **Recovery Act funds will pay for emergency food and shelter in Ventura County.** [[Ventura County Star](#), 5/20/2009]
- **Recovery Act funds will pay for 200 jobs for young people in Yuba County.** [[The Appeal-Democrat](#), 5/20/2009]
- **The Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians will receive Recovery Act funds to replace aging water and sewer facilities.** The funding helps projects that local companies must bid for. [[The Desert Sun](#), 5/19/2009]

- **City of Turlock allocated \$1.8 million in *Recovery Act* funds to encourage economic recovery and address foreclosed homes.** According to the Turlock Housing Division, the Community Development Block Grant funding could help to draft business plans, conduct Web development, offer job training, or to help construct new infrastructure, possibly with an emphasis on renewable energy. [*Turlock Journal*, 5/19/2009]
- **California motorcycle dealership sales starting to increase.** Dealerships hoping to grow sales by advertising *Recovery Act* tax break. [*Associated Press*, 5/17/2009]
- **California is the first state in the nation to apply for *Recovery Act*'s state energy program.** The Energy Commission estimates that retrofitting California's aged and inefficient residential and non-residential structures could save the state's consumers 2.7 billion BTU annually and create over 2,100 jobs. [*Environmental Protection*, 5/18/2009]
- **First construction project in California has begun and is 40 percent under the original cost estimate.** Savings from this project have been directed to advance other highway projects." [*Environmental Protection*, 5/18/2009]
- **University of California, Irvine, is among the four universities across the country that will participate in global health studies using recovery funds.** "The money, made possible by the Recovery Act, will preserve and create U.S. jobs in the timely and competitive arena of global health research." [*NIH News*, 5/12/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* will allow long-awaited construction to begin on the most congested freeway in the nation.** The freeway work is expected to create about 18,000 jobs." [*LA Times*, 5/9/2009]
- **About 2,500 Riverside County teenagers and young adults will have summer jobs, thanks to nearly \$2.9 million in federal stimulus funds.** [*Desert Sun Wire Service*, 5/8/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* money will go towards seismic repairs, energy-efficient heating, electrical systems, and other work on a federal office building in San Francisco's U.N. Plaza.** [*San Francisco Chronicle*, 5/10/2009]
- **Sec. LaHood said California and Florida are on the fast-track for high-speed rail funding.** [*UPI*, 5/9/2009]
- **Garfield Elementary School will likely spend *Recovery Act* funds to retain reading teacher.** Hayward will retain teachers for another year; San Francisco will train teachers. [*San Francisco Chronicle*, 5/6/2009]