



# Fact Sheet

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## **The Recovery Act: A Report on the Path to Progress in North Carolina**

### **Creating and Saving Jobs, Boosting Household Resources, Providing Assistance for the Vulnerable in North Carolina**

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 North Carolina** 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 North Carolina are already planned and underway** with the Department of Transportation allocation of \$451.6 million for highway infrastructure investments (through the Federal Highway Administration); and \$5.6 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 North Carolina 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 3.4 million households in North Carolina – 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 North Carolina 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 North Carolinians, only four months after the enactment of the *Recovery Act*:

- **Recovery Act allocation for transit projects will create or retain an estimated 3,200 jobs.** “Transit operations in the Triangle will receive a total of about \$23 million in federal stimulus funding, including \$11.6 million for the city of Raleigh to build a new maintenance and operations facility for its Capital Area Transit buses...Projects in rural areas across the state totaled more than \$33 million.” [*Triangle Business Journal*, 6/10/2009]
- **Daimler Buses sold 200 bus orders bought with Recovery Act funds.** Daimler Buses Chief commercial officer: “I would guarantee you, without this stimulus bill, we would have to curtail our operations.” [*Fox Channel 5 News*, 6/7/2009]
- **Raleigh beltline repaving effort underway thanks to \$3.4 million from Recovery Act.** Project is an investment in transportation efficiency as well as motorist safety. [*Press Release – Gov. Beverly Perdue*, 6/2/2009]
- **Recovery Act funds enable local food and shelter program to enlarge outreach of seven agencies.** United Way community impact manager: “We were fortunate to get those additional dollars. It allows us to go back and look at the gap.” [*Fayetteville Observer*, 6/2/2009]
- **Recovery Act funds will be used to fund road projects and to help several local agencies assist crime victims and improve community safety.** [*Rocky Mount Telegram*, 5/31/2009]
- **Recovery Act funding is the most federal aid to the Blue Ridge Parkway in history.** “More than \$14 million in federal stimulus money will go toward helping the Blue Ridge Parkway make a dent in its \$250 million maintenance backlog, while also infusing money into the local economy. Funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will go toward repairing stone walls, removing trees and vegetation to restore views, rehabilitating hiking trails, controlling invasive plants, fixing tunnels and paving picnic areas along the nation's most visited national park unit.” [*Asheville Citizen-Times*, 6/1/2009]
- **North Carolina will receive over \$34 million in Recovery Act funds for law-enforcement projects.** [*Charlotte Business Journal*, 5/13/2009]
- **Five North Carolina cities are receiving \$1.6 million in Recovery Act money to help clean up brownfields.** [*Associated Press*, 5/12/2009]
- **Marion will receive Recovery Act loan, enabling work on sewer treatment plants with “less debt” than expected.** [*The McDowell News*, 5/6/2009]