



Fact Sheet

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

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 New Hampshire** 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 New Hampshire are already planned and underway** with the Department of Transportation allocation of \$101.4 million for highway infrastructure investments (through the Federal Highway Administration); \$3.3 million for transit modernization, repair, and other capital needs (through the Federal Transit Authority); and \$3.9 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 New Hampshire 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 500,000 households in New Hampshire – 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 New Hampshire 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 New Hampshire residents, only four months after the enactment of the *Recovery Act*:

- **\$1.7 million from *Recovery Act* awarded to University of New Hampshire will lead to streamlining of university transportation, new buses.** “Wildcat Transit will soon have four new buses after the University of New Hampshire received more than \$1.7 million through the federal stimulus program. The \$1,776,000 grant will be used to replace four 35-foot compressed natural gas buses in the current fleet that are ‘at the end of their life.’” [*Foster’s Daily Democrat*, 6/13/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* money allowed Pike Industries to maintain 250 jobs and hire up to 100 more.** “When President Obama announced his stimulus package to rebuild America’s infrastructure, many wondered how this would help the economy. Pike Industries, a local leader in such construction, is proof that this strategy has been a boost to jobs and the local economy.” Pike President: “Because of this stimulus money, we were able to maintain about 250 jobs and hire up to 100 more people in N.H. alone. There’s been a real trickle down effect as a result. The guys out on the job sites go to a store during their breaks, they buy a sandwich for lunch. On long-term jobs they stay in local hotels, and all of this means money back into the communities. Visit a town at the end of the summer when we’re through a long-term job and see what the impact has been.” [*Winnisquam Echo*, 6/10/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* funding will be directed to affordable housing projects in Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Washington State.** These states have elected to exchange a portion of their unused allocation of low-income housing tax credit for direct cash assistance, which will be then transferred to affordable housing developers. [*Thomson Reuters*, 6/4/2009]
- **National Passport Center, the largest passport facility in the United States, will be upgraded with \$2.57 million from the *Recovery Act*.** “Federal stimulus money will fund a \$2.57 million upgrade to the National Passport Center at Pease International Tradeport, which has seen an increasing demand in business and now employs more than 800 people. The money will be used to expand the center’s new home, a four-story, 75,000-square-foot facility at 207 International Drive.” [*Portsmouth Herald*, 6/4/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* money will fund up to 750 miles of road resurfacing – three times the typical amount.** The New Hampshire Department of Transportation received \$147 million in *Recovery Act* funding to accelerate the state’s 10-year plan for road projects, prevent layoffs and create new jobs. [*Laconia Citizen*, 6/2/2009]
- **Before the *Recovery Act*, a paving company was planning to lay off 60 people, now they are planning to hire 50.** [*New Hampshire Business Review*, 5/22/2009]
- **The president of a New Hampshire paving company estimates he would have had to lay off 75 employees if it weren’t for the *Recovery Act*.** [*The Nashua Telegraph*, 5/10/2009]

- **Paving company president: “I wasn’t a stimulus supporter when it started, but I didn’t expect work to stop the way it did. This has been great.”** [[The Nashua Telegraph](#), 5/10/2009]