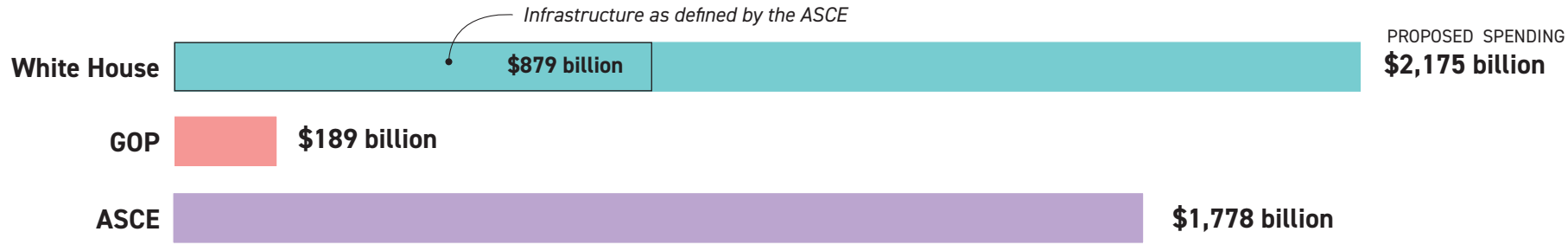
April 29, 2021

Infrastructure: What is it – and what extra money is needed to fix it?

Everyone seems to agree that infrastructure includes roads, bridges, airports and waterways. Broadband and water systems, too. But beyond that, the two major political parties and the American Society of Civil Engineers — an engineering advocacy group — have different ideas about what constitutes infrastructure in need.



Breaking down the plans

IN BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN ADDITION TO BASELINE SPENDING

White House

Infrastructure is at the core of President Joe Biden's "American Jobs Plan," which seeks to modernize the nation's infrastructure while supporting clean energy, broadband and modernized housing and manufacturing. The plan also includes job stimulation, investment in rural and disadvantaged communities, and support for home health care workers.

GOP

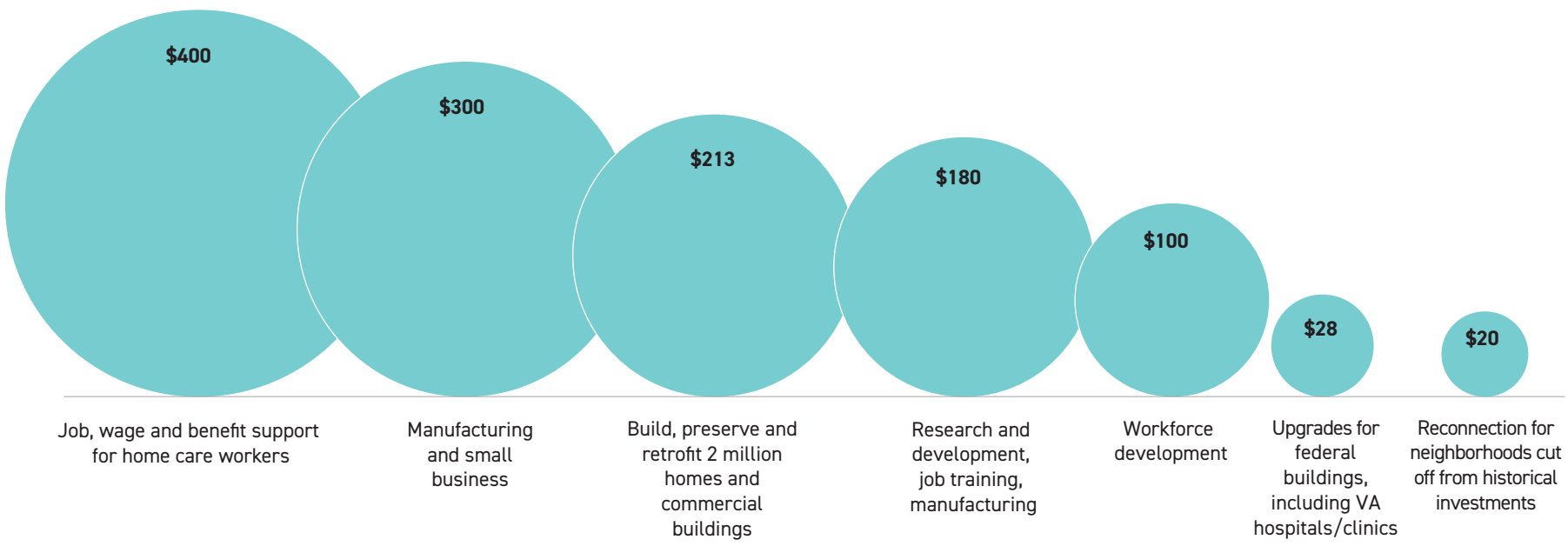
A proposal by Senate Republicans defines infrastructure as including the categories for which it is willing to provide extra funding, listed below. The proposal doesn't mention climate change or clean energy, but says it wants to "bolster our ability to respond to and withstand extreme weather events and natural disasters and protect the environment." The "Republican Roadmap" included figures for some categories that included baseline spending, according the The Washington Post. Only proposed extra funding is included here.

ASCE analysis

Engineers released their quadrennial report card on the state of American infrastructure, with recommendations on extra funding necessary to repair — and expand — infrastructure.

Infrastructure resilience	**$50**		*ASCE mentions resilience across multiple categories*
Transformative, ambitious transportation projects	**$25**	*Dedicated fund for projects too large or complex for existing funding programs*	
Dams		*New dams* **$14**	**$94** *Necessary for dam rehabilitation*
Drinking water and wastewater systems	**$111**	**$35**	**$81** *Annual funding gap*
Broadband	**$100**	**$65**	*Notes recent funding of $20.6 billion from FCC and USDA*
Electric power	**$100** (**$10**, **$5**)	*Jobs for conservation and resilience workers; Civilian Climate Corps*	**$197** *Shortfall by 2029*
Hazardous waste	*Remediation of brownfield sites included in power proposal*		*Considers annual Superfund spending of $1.1 billion — flat since 2009 — to be inadequate*
Federal, state and local parks			**$77.5** *Deferred maintenance*
Schools	**$137**	*Public schools, community colleges and child care facilities*	**$38** *Annual funding gap for public schools*

Items in Biden's jobs plan not traditionally considered as infrastructure



Sources: The White House, ASCE, Senate Republicans, The Washington Post

By Patterson Clark, POLITICO Pro DataPoint

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