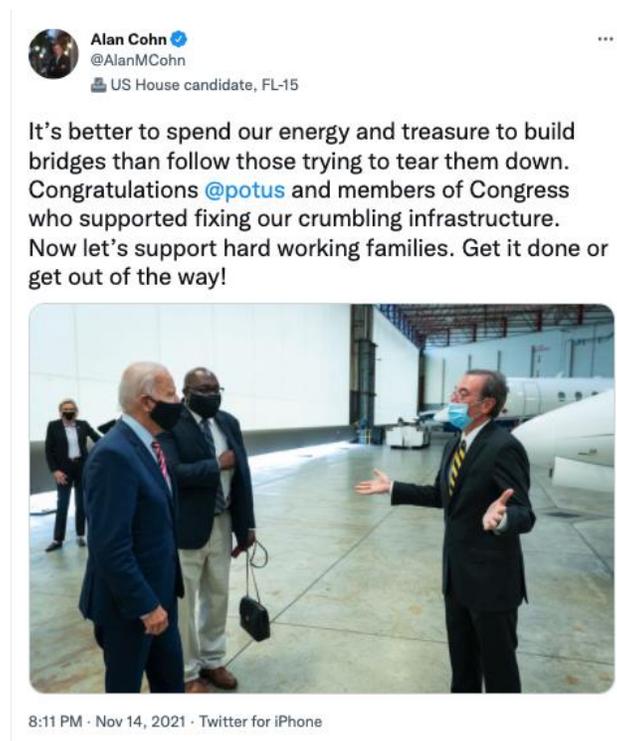


Alan Cohn praised Congress and President Biden for hundreds of billions of dollars in new spending that has made Florida's inflation problems even worse. The spending hike that Cohn praised has increased the costs of groceries and basic necessities, and gas prices have reached record highs.

Alan Cohn praised Congress and President Biden for their support “fixing our crumbling infrastructure,” legislation which “contains an estimated \$550 billion in new spending above baseline levels:”

- Alan Cohn praised Congress and President Biden for their support “fixing our crumbling infrastructure.”



(Alan Cohn, [Twitter](#), 11/14/21)

- **Joe Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.** “President Biden signed a \$1 trillion infrastructure bill into law Monday, enacting a key piece of his domestic spending agenda that will funnel billions to states and local governments to upgrade outdated roads, bridges, transit systems and more.” (Brian Naylor and Deirdre Walsh, “Biden signs the \$1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill into law,” [NPR](#), 11/15/21)
 - **The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act “contains an estimated \$550 billion in new spending above baseline levels.”** “By almost any measure, IJA is enormous. The roughly \$1.2 trillion bill contains an estimated \$550 billion in new spending above baseline levels. This spending touches every sector of infrastructure, from transportation and water to energy, broadband, and the resilience and rehabilitation of our nation’s natural resources.” (Adie Tomer, Caroline George, Joseph W. Kane, and Andrew Bourne, “America has an infrastructure bill. What happens next?” [Brookings](#), 11/9/21)

Biden's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act contributed to "the worst inflation surge in decades:"

- **Joe Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.** "President Joe Biden signed a \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill into law Monday, finalizing a key part of his economic agenda." (Katie Lobosco and Tami Luhby, "Here's what's in the bipartisan infrastructure package," [CNN](#), 11/15/21)
- **According to the Heritage Foundation, Biden's infrastructure bill contributed to "the worst inflation surge in decades."** "The harmful effects of excessive government spending have become the most pressing issue for Americans due to the worst inflation surge in decades. Washington's reckless choice to pump trillions of dollars into the economy is the reason we face more inflation than other top economies around the world. Yet, incredibly, Congress is still planning an onslaught of additional inflationary spending bills with seemingly no end in sight... Compared to projections from February 2021, when Biden had just taken office, the latest analysis shows a combined \$2.77 trillion in additional deficits over the 2021-2031 period. The largest factor for this increase was the wasteful and opportunistic \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 package that passed with exclusively Democratic support in March 2021. The shoddy \$1.2 trillion infrastructure bill that Biden championed added even more red ink." (David Ditch, "New Charts Reveal Harms of Biden's Budget-Busting Binge," [The Heritage Foundation](#), 6/8/22)

Inflation has led to higher prices on various cost of living expenses, including record highs for gas prices:

- **Inflation has led to higher prices on groceries, and "cost of living expenses."** "Though some workers have received pay increases, their salaries aren't keeping up with widespread inflation. And inflation has pushed up rent and cost of living expenses, which is curbing some households' ability to save money. No food category saw a price decrease in 2021 compared to 2020, according to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). And the department predicts food prices to rise a total of 5% to 6% in 2022, according to its April report. For consumers who were already cash-strapped, record inflation leads to even more pressure to rein in spending and juggle strained budgets." (Lisa Rowan, "When Everything Is More Expensive, Is It Even Possible To Save Money On Groceries?" [Forbes Advisor](#), 5/3/22)
 - **Costs are going up for various groceries, including eggs, chicken, milk, and butter.** "Food prices at the grocery store rose 0.9% from March and 9.4% from the year prior. Eggs, chicken and milk were among those hit hardest. The cost of eggs rose 10.3% from last month, while milk was up 3.1% and chicken prices increased 3.4%. Butter increased 3.7% month over month, compared with a 7.1% hike in margarine prices." (Michelle Fox, "Inflation is costing U.S. households an extra \$341 a month. Here's what's more expensive and how you can save some money," [CNBC](#), 5/12/22)
- **"As inflation continues to rise across the globe, the United States is on the verge of a cost of living crisis, an economist has warned."** "As inflation continues to rise across the globe, the United States is on the verge of a cost of living crisis, an economist has warned. Mohamed El-Erian told CNBC on 11 May: 'It's just a matter of time before we're talking about a cost of living crisis.'" (Kate Whiting, "Cost of living: This chart shows how the price of products has risen in the US," [World Economic Forum](#), 5/25/22)

- **“U.S. households are spending an additional \$341 a month to purchase the same goods and services compared to a year ago due to inflation above typical inflation of 2%.”**
 “Consumer prices rose 8.3% in April from a year ago. As a result, U.S. households are spending an additional \$341 a month to purchase the same goods and services compared to a year ago due to inflation above typical inflation of 2%, according to an analysis by Moody’s Analytics senior director Ryan Sweet.” (Michelle Fox, “Inflation is costing U.S. households an extra \$341 a month. Here’s what’s more expensive and how you can save some money,” [CNBC](#), 5/12/22)
- **“Common household purchases continue to be significantly more expensive than a year ago.”** “Core inflation, a measurement that omits volatile commodities to give a more accurate picture of the rise in prices, remains at troublesome levels. The core inflation rate was 6% in May, accounting for a slight decrease from its measurement in April. Common household purchases continue to be significantly more expensive than a year ago. Food prices increased to 10.1%, the first increase of 10% or more since the period ending in March 1981.” (Kelly Anne Smith, “Inflation Hits New 40-Year High. Here’s What’s More Expensive,” [Forbes](#), 6/10/22)
- **Inflation has led to higher costs for rent, hotel rates, and airline fares.** “Housing costs are still climbing. The government’s shelter index, which includes rents, hotel rates and a measure of what it costs to own a home, increased 5.5% in the past year, the most since 1991. Airline fares are up nearly 38% in the past year, the sharpest such rise since 1980.” (Christopher Rugaber, “US inflation at new 40-year high as price increase spread,” [AP](#), 6/10/22)
- **In June 2022, it was reported that gas prices hit record highs.** “For the first time ever, a gallon of regular gas now costs \$5 on average nationwide, according to AAA’s Saturday reading. The record is hardly a surprise. Gas prices have been rising steadily for the last eight weeks, and this latest milestone marks the 15th straight day that the AAA reading has hit a record price, and the 32nd time in the last 33 days.” (Chris Isidore, “Average US gas price hits \$5 for first time,” [CNN](#), 6/13/22)