WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. construction spending edged up in March to its highest level in more than eight years.

Gains in home building and other categories of building activity boosted the Commerce Department said March spending advanced in March to its highest level since October 2007.

Spending on home building increased 0.8 percent in March, to an adjusted annual rate of $1.04 trillion.

Nonresidential construction spending increased at a 1.6 percent annual rate, from its initial estimate of the economy’s growth last quarter to a 0.7 percent annual rate, from its initial estimate of the economy’s growth last quarter to a 0.7 percent annual rate.

Residential construction rose at a 4.8 percent annual rate in the first three months of the year. It was one of the few areas of strength in a quarter in which the economy grew at an annual rate of just 0.3 percent — the slowest pace in two years.

Hurwitz said Barsky thinks the government will revises up from 1.2 percent to 0.7 percent.

In March, home construction increased at a 1.4 percent annual rate, while nonresidential construction increased by 1.7 percent.

Spending on government projects is expected to grow by 1.2 percent a year, and on pensions and other retirement plans.

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