The National League of Cities (NLC) represents cities of all sizes, from the 8.4 million residents of New York City to the five residents of Thurmond, West Virginia.

We are not partisan, but we are passionate about making America’s cities great.

We believe in the values of local authority, ethics, civility, diversity, and collaboration.

NLC serves as the voice of America’s cities in Washington.

Policy ideas from around the country

NLC works closely with local officials to elevate policy ideas built on the best practices of local governments across the country. We have the city perspective that can inform your work as a Member of Congress.

NLC also conducts original research, from emerging issues like drones and driverless cars to annual studies of city fiscal conditions and the issues most important to mayors. We know what matters to our nation’s cities.
An unparalleled coalition of 19,000 cities

In addition to our member cities, NLC partners with state-level municipal leagues. Together we are connected with the more than 19,000 municipalities in the U.S. We are the voice for America’s cities of all sizes. We are also the best resource to help the Federal Government get information to the leaders of America’s cities.

A partner to implement change

We provide on-the-ground assistance to cities on all sorts of issues: attracting businesses, education, and land use to name a few. Federal policies get implemented locally. That’s why it’s critical for the Federal Government to work in partnership with city leaders on solutions that move our country forward. We help make that happen.

An advocate for city priorities

We stand for sensible policies that help cities build economic prosperity. Cities help build a bridge to the middle class and help our communities grow.

We look forward to serving as both a resource and partner as we work together to build better communities.

CITIES DRIVE THE U.S. ECONOMY.

METROPOLITAN AREAS ARE HOME TO

86% of the nation’s population
88% of total non-farm employment
88% of total real income
91% of real gross domestic product

The majority of rural Americans

live within a reasonable commute of a city.

Local governments invest $1.7 trillion annually on services such as transportation, public safety and education.

78% of road miles
50% of bridges
95% of water infrastructure are owned by local government.

THE ECONOMY IN AMERICA’S CITIES AND TOWNS DETERMINES THE ECONOMY OF THE NATION.