

REBUILD WITH US.

REBUILD AND REIMAGINE AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

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GUIDING PRINCIPLES

SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT

Together, cities and our federal partners must address the existing core infrastructure backlog, reestablish long-term funding and use new technologies that will serve America's cities for the next 100 years.

EXPAND REVENUE TOOLS

Cities should be given more flexibility to raise revenues and use innovative financing techniques while protecting existing tools, such as tax-exempt bonds, to drive regional investments that tie into the national network.

LOCALLY-DRIVEN PROJECTS

Local leaders, from cities large and small, are best positioned to identify where infrastructure needs are greatest and should be given a stronger voice in how limited federal dollars are invested.

REBUILD AND REIMAGINE

Cities are leading the way in building intermodal, sustainable and interconnected infrastructure networks that support a modern economy. Congress must invest in cities' vision to rebuild and reimagine America's infrastructure.

FEDERAL-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP

Cities are already paying their fair share and need a steady federal partner to fund existing national programs and make significant capital investments for the long-term benefit of the economy.





WATER



BROADBAND

NLC calls on Congress to improve our nation's water infrastructure by passing legislation that will:

- Reauthorize and provide federal funding for water infrastructure improvements through the **Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF)** programs;
- Provide full appropriation to the **Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)** for loans and loan guarantees for water infrastructure projects, to jump-start the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers WIFIA program, and to permanently establish the program beyond a pilot program;
- Remove the **federal volume cap** on tax-exempt bonds for water and wastewater infrastructure projects, which will make additional private capital available for water projects;
- Establish a comprehensive and flexible **integrated planning and permitting process** for local water, wastewater and stormwater management that will allow communities to meet their requirements under the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act in an efficient and cost-effective manner through the sequencing and scheduling of projects;
- Incentivize **green infrastructure techniques** that can reduce flooding and help manage stormwater runoff in a more cost-effective way; and
- Clarify that **rebates provided by local water utilities to homeowners** for water conservation and water efficiency are not subject to a federal income tax.

NLC calls on Congress to update our nation's broadband infrastructure by passing legislation that will:

- Expand **broadband access** to underserved neighborhoods by eliminating state barriers to municipal broadband networks;
- Target federal money to community institutions, underserved communities, and low-income families by fixing funding shortfalls in the **Federal Communications Commission's Universal Service Fund** and modernizing contribution methods;
- Establish a **broadband grant program** to accompany the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utility Service Broadband Loan program and increase the population threshold for eligible areas to at least 20,000;
- Increase funding for **Community Development Block grants and Choice Neighborhoods grants**, so that local governments can allocate funding for broadband planning and deployment alongside affordable housing and neighborhood improvement projects;
- Expand the **HUD ConnectHome** program to ensure a growing number of HUD-assisted households with children have Internet access; and
- Increase the financial viability of middle- and last-mile broadband infrastructure investment with **dig once policies** for inclusion of conduit or fiber placement in federally-funded infrastructure projects.



WORKFORCE



TRANSPORTATION

NLC calls on Congress to invest in our nation's workforce by passing legislation that will:

- Build on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) by creating additional **workforce funding and training programs through joint partnerships** between the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA);
- Expand dedicated funding for **sector-based partnerships** that would jump-start local infrastructure projects and maintain necessary skilled labor;
- Expand funding and opportunities to bridge the skills gap for those interested in an **apprenticeship program**;
- Connect investments to existing local **Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs** and workforce development board initiatives focused on infrastructure skill development;
- Maintain our current workforce by ensuring **protections for immigrants**, including those with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) status; and
- Improve **housing affordability** by incentivizing mortgage lending for workforce housing.

NLC calls on Congress to modernize our nation's transportation infrastructure by passing legislation that will:

- Identify a long-term, sustainable revenue source that keeps the **Highway Trust Fund fully funded** to be used for both rebuilding and maintaining new investments;
- Fund transportation infrastructure projects by putting money directly into the hands of local governments, who are best equipped to identify **high priority projects** and invest in a coordinated, intermodal network;
- Increase federal funding for **existing programs** that support all modes of transportation, including the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program, Transportation Alternatives, the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, New Starts, and the Smart City Challenge; and
- Create greater **flexibility for private investment** in infrastructure, while also recognizing that public-private partnerships may only be viable for a limited number of infrastructure projects.



ABOUT THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES

The National League of Cities (NLC) is dedicated to helping city leaders build better communities. NLC is a resource and advocate for 19,000 cities, towns and villages, representing more than 218 million Americans.

#REBUILDWITHUS