



CITY SUMMIT
KANSAS CITY, MO • NOVEMBER 17-19 2022

COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
FEDERAL ADVOCACY
COMMITTEE

November 16, 2022, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.



Memorandum

TO: Community and Economic Development Advocacy Committee Members

FROM: The Honorable Sharon Weston Broome, Chair
Mayor-President, City of Baton Rouge, LA

RE: 2022 CED Federal Advocacy Committee Report

On behalf of the Community and Economic Development (CED) Federal Advocacy Committee, I am pleased to present the enclosed committee report for 2022. This report contains recommended policy amendments and resolutions from the CED Committee. Please carefully review these proposals in advance of the upcoming City Summit.

The CED Federal Advocacy Committee will meet in Kansas City, MO during City Summit on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 from 3-5 p.m. central in room 2505-B at the Kansas City Convention Center.

The primary role of NLC's Federal Advocacy committees is to oversee the regular review and updating of the [National Municipal Policy](#) to ensure that it reflects the view of local officials on current and emerging federal policy issues. Adopted positions are used to guide NLC's federal advocacy efforts, shape public policy debates, and communicate positions with the media, Congress and the Administration, and other stakeholders. In addition to developing federal policy, the committees serve as advocates on behalf of our cities, towns and villages and lead on finding solutions to local challenges.

The CED Federal Advocacy Committee has worked diligently to recommend policy changes and pursue initiatives under our Committee's jurisdiction, including authority to make expenditures for affordable housing and support for small businesses under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF). If you have any questions about the proposals in this report, please feel free to contact me, any member of the Committee, or the NLC staff contact for our Committee.

It has been an honor to serve as the CED Committee Chair this year. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Sharon Weston Broome
Mayor-President, City of Baton Rouge, LA
2022 NLC CED Committee Chair

Community and Economic Development Committee Agenda

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2022, 3-5 p.m. central
Room: 2505-B

3:00 p.m.	WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND MEETING OVERVIEW The Honorable Sharon Weston Broome, Chair Mayor-President, City of Baton Rouge, LA Introductions and explanation of expected outcomes from this meeting.
3:05 p.m.	Federal Update: 117th Congress outcomes and 118th Congress strategy Michael Wallace Legislative Director, CED, NLC
3:30 p.m.	City Solutions to Inclusive Entrepreneurship Jenn Steinfeld <i>Director, Entrepreneurship & Economic Development</i> <i>Center for City Solutions, National League of Cities</i> Reports on the latest NLC studies and technical assistance opportunities helping cities pursue economic development efforts that produce equitable outcomes, and that will promote an equitable post-pandemic recovery
3:50 p.m.	Mayors and CEOs for U.S. Housing Investment Eve Maldonado O'Toole Campaign Manager Holland & Knight LLP Mayors and CEOs for U.S. Housing Investment brings elected city officials and business leaders together to highlight housing issues, oppose funding cuts, and advocate for critical tools to advance public-private partnerships to support affordable housing and address homelessness. Holland and Knight LLP and National League of Cities (NLC) coordinate the coalition as executive committee members.

4:10 p.m.	NLC OFFICER GREETING The Honorable Vince Williams Mayor, Union City, Georgia President, National League of Cities
4:15 p.m.	City Solutions to Housing and Homelessness Lauren Lowery Program Director, Housing and Community Development Center for City Solutions, National League of Cities Reports on the latest NLC research and technical assistance opportunities for local governments to meet the housing needs of their residents.
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	CONSIDERATION OF POLICY AND RESOLUTIONS Michael Wallace <i>Legislative Director, CED, NLC</i>
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.	CITY SUMMIT OPENING RECEPTION IN THE EXHIBIT HALL

Enclosures:

- NLC Policy Development and Advocacy Process
- Proposed CED Policy Amendments
- Proposed CED Resolutions

Next CED Committee Meeting:

**NLC Congressional City Conference
Washington, DC
March 24-28, 2023**

Procedures for the Adoption of National Municipal Policy and Resolutions

City Summit Kansas City, Missouri November 2022

The [National Municipal Policy](#) (NMP) is NLC's comprehensive, standing statement of goals, principles, policies and program objectives on federal policy issues directly affecting or of concern to cities, towns and villages. The NMP serves as the basis for NLC's advocacy efforts on behalf of the nation's cities, towns and villages. The policy is subject to annual modification by delegates from direct member cities and state municipal leagues at the Annual Business Meeting during City Summit.

Since membership amends the NMP once each year, amendments to the policy typically do not endorse or oppose specific congressional bills, current presidential positions, or technical aspects of federal regulations. Instead, positions on such timely matters – which are subject to major changes during the annual legislative and administrative processes – are the subject of NLC resolutions that stand for one year, from their time of passage until the adjournment of the next City Summit.

At the Congressional Cities Conference (CCC) in March, the Federal Advocacy Committees set agendas for the year. At meeting(s) following CCC, the committees develop recommendations for policy amendments and resolutions. Additionally, during the summer, all NLC direct member cities and state municipal leagues were invited to submit recommendations of policy amendments and resolutions by May 25, 2022.

At least two weeks prior to the City Summit, proposed policy amendments and resolutions for 2023 are published on the NLC website and an announcement is sent to all NLC members. The proposed resolutions book for 2023 can be found [here](#). These proposals are subject to change by the Federal Advocacy Committees and the Resolutions Committee at City Summit prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

Federal Advocacy Committee Meetings: Wednesday, November 16

NLC's Federal Advocacy Committees will meet during City Summit to finalize their recommended amendments and resolutions.

During the Federal Advocacy Committee meetings, action can be taken on policy amendments or resolutions submitted to NLC by the May 25, 2022 advance submission deadline, if the committee did not endorse those positions. Sponsors of these amendments or resolutions, or their representatives, can appear

before the Federal Advocacy Committee on behalf of their proposed recommendations. The Federal Advocacy Committees can also hear additional proposals on the floor from committee members.

Individuals may submit resolutions or policy changes electronically to the NLC staff contact for the committee. (NLC staff should be notified in advance of this intention if possible.)

Federal Advocacy Committee meetings are open to all conference participants. However, only committee members are eligible to vote, make formal motions and debate items. Committee members may be asked to identify themselves.

Adoption of recommendations is by a majority vote of Federal Advocacy Committee members present and voting. Proxies are not permitted. Every reasonable effort will be made to ensure that the views of all committee members are heard.

Resolutions Committee Meeting: Thursday, November 17

Proposals approved by the Federal Advocacy Committees are forwarded to the NLC Resolutions Committee for consideration. The Resolutions Committee will meet during City Summit on Thursday, November 17 at 10:15 a.m. The Federal Advocacy Committee chairs will report the recommendations of their respective committees to the Resolutions Committee members.

In addition to these amendments and resolutions, the Resolutions Committee will consider any appeals by sponsors of policy amendments or resolutions that were received in NLC's offices by the May 25, 2022 advance submission deadline and subsequently rejected during Federal Advocacy Committee debate. Proposals from Resolutions Committee members or the Board of Directors also are eligible for consideration by the Resolutions Committee.

Only Resolutions Committee members or representatives appointed by state municipal leagues who are not represented on the Board of Directors may participate and vote during the meeting. The only individuals who will be recognized to speak at the Resolutions Committee are members of the Resolutions Committee, Board members, Federal Advocacy Committee chairs, and sponsors of policy recommendations being appealed. Adoption of recommendations is by majority vote of Resolutions Committee members present and voting. Proxies are not allowed.

The Resolution Committee Official Rules of Conduct and the NLC Bylaws shall govern the conduct of the Resolutions Committee meeting. In the event that procedural matters arise that are not addressed by the Official Rules or Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 12th Edition shall govern the conduct of the meeting.

Annual Business Meeting: Saturday, November 19

Resolutions Committee actions are referred to the Annual Business Meeting for consideration and adoption by the voting delegates. The report of the Resolutions Committee will include only recommended policy language amendments and resolutions. The Annual Business Meeting will be held during City Summit on Saturday, November 19 at 2:45 p.m.

To cast a vote at the Annual Business Meeting, all voting or alternate delegates must be registered with the Credentials Committee and must have official voting materials. Each direct member city has a certified voting delegate, or alternate, who is entitled to vote at the Annual Business Meeting. The delegate may cast a certain number of votes based upon the direct member city's population as of the 2010 census; member cities may not split their votes. Each state municipal league is entitled to cast a total

of 20 votes by its delegate or delegates, and those votes may be split and distributed at the discretion of each state municipal league. Voting delegates must be present to vote. Proxies are not permitted.

After a brief presentation of the Resolutions Committee's report, the Annual Business Meeting's Presiding Officer will call for adoption of NMP amendments and resolutions as proposed by the Resolutions Committee. Amendments to each chapter will be considered in the order in which those chapters appear in the NMP. Motions from the floor to amend the Resolutions Committee's recommendations require a majority vote for passage. Final adoption of amendments to the NMP requires a two-thirds vote of voting delegates.

Policy proposals not submitted by the Resolutions Committee may be presented by petition to the NLC Federal Advocacy team. Such petitions must be received by 10:00 AM on the day of the Annual Business Meeting – Saturday, November 19. Petitions must carry the text of the proposal and printed names, titles and signatures of 10 certified voting delegates with their respective cities and states. The petition must receive a majority vote of the voting delegates to be accepted for floor consideration, and all proposals to amend or adopt the NMP and all separate resolutions require a two-thirds vote for final approval. Petitioners should complete the packet that can be found [here](#).

The Official Rules of Conduct and the NLC Bylaws shall govern the conduct of the Annual Business Meeting. In the event that procedural matters arise that are not addressed by the Official Rules or Bylaws, Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 12th Edition shall govern the conduct of the meeting.

For further information about this process prior to City Summit or to contact the NLC staff for a Federal Advocacy Committee, contact Dion Taylor at 202-626-3064 or taylor@nlc.org.

During City Summit, please contact the Federal Advocacy staff at the Policy Office located in the Kansas City Convention Center, Room 2209.

Only sections of the *NLC National Municipal Policy (NMP)* where modifications are proposed are reproduced in this report. The complete text of the current *NMP*, divided into seven policy chapters, can be found at nlc.org/national-municipal-policy

On the following pages, please note:

- Proposed new language is underlined;
- Proposed language for deletion is struck out; and
- Existing, unchanged language is shown as plain text (unless noted otherwise).

POLICY

There are no proposed amendments to existing policy.

NLC resolutions are annual statements of position that sunset at the end of the calendar year unless action is taken. The committee must review each of the 2022 resolutions that originated in the CED Committee to determine recommendations for 2023. The committee has the following options:

1. Renew the resolution for the coming year (with or without edits)
2. Incorporate the resolution into permanent policy; or
3. Let the resolution expire.

The CED resolutions that were approved for 2022 at the City Summit with recommendations for 2023 are:

Resolution	CED Federal Advocacy Committee Recommendations
NLC RESOLUTION #2022-19 Supporting A Federal Agenda for Local Economic Development, Economic Mobility, and Entrepreneurship	Renew with edits
NLC RESOLUTION #2022-20 Urging the Development of Criteria for Neighborhood Preference as an Anti-Displacement Tool	Expire (HUD now permits local anti-displacement preferences)
NLC RESOLUTION #2022-21 Urging the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to Enact Safeguards Against Abuses in Contracts for Deeds	Renew
NLC RESOLUTION #2022-22 Supporting the Need for Public Transparency Surrounding Installation Scoring from Past Rounds of Base Realignment and Closure	Renew
NLC RESOLUTION #2022-23 Supporting A National Agenda for U.S. Housing Investment and Opportunity	Renew
NLC RESOLUTION #2022-24 Endorsing the Recommendations of NLC's National Housing Task Force Report "Homeward Bound, The Road to Affordable Housing"	Renew

NLC RESOLUTION #19

RECCOMENDATION: RENEW WITH EDITS

SUPPORTING A FEDERAL AGENDA FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC MOBILITY, AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WHEREAS, cities are the engine of our nation’s economy. From infrastructure like roads and water to parks and libraries, to workforce development centers and business support, to law enforcement and emergency services; cities create the conditions that drive new business, spur innovation, and attract talent and investment; and

~~**WHEREAS**, NLC’s indicates America’s cities and towns are prioritizing economic recovery and addressing declines related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and~~

~~**WHEREAS**, NLC’s State of the Cities 2022 Report identifies “Economic Development” as the second most-covered policy issue in 2022 state of the city speeches; and~~

~~**WHEREAS**, following two years of stewarding turbulent local economies, local governments are using a wide range of policies and programs to increase their city’s economic resiliency, maintain commercial competitiveness and lift up the members of their communities most negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and~~

WHEREAS, the federal government has an essential role to play – in cooperation with local leaders – to help address the social, economic, and fiscal challenges weighing on the nation’s cities; and

WHEREAS, local entrepreneurs and small businesses lead a majority of economic growth and are essential stakeholders in the success of neighborhoods, help create a community’s sense of place, and serve as a vital link to connect communities to the larger, global economy; and

WHEREAS, successful neighborhood revitalization requires effective plans for both community development and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), a landmark civil rights law passed in 1977 to end discrimination in America’s banking and housing markets, remains a critical tool for both community and economic development that ensures regulated financial institutions have continuing and affirmative obligations to help meet the credit needs of the local communities in which they are chartered; and

WHEREAS, working with Congress, the President has an opportunity to partner with local officials to renew and reinvigorate federal economic development policies and programs that local entrepreneurs have increasingly been unable to access; and

~~**WHEREAS**, in many cases federal programs and policies created in response to the great~~

~~recession have remained static and increasingly inaccessible or irrelevant to small businesses and local entrepreneurs at the center of today's urban growth and revitalization; and~~

WHEREAS, high federal regulatory barriers to accessing capital in both public programs and the private market are one reason why racial and ethnic wealth gaps have grown since the great recession (Pew); and

~~**WHEREAS**, NLC supported the formation of the bipartisan House Entrepreneurship Caucus, which will serve as a forum for policy discussions and collaboration to address the most pressing issues facing entrepreneurs throughout the country. The caucus will seek to analyze new business formation trends and form a wide-ranging strategy to boost entrepreneurship growth, ensuring new business ventures continue to create jobs and drive innovation.~~

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NLC urges federal investment and support for economic mobility and opportunity, regional economic development, local entrepreneurship, community banking and community development financial institutions, and direct federal investment in distressed and underserved communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC supports the bipartisan House ~~and Senate~~ Entrepreneurship Caucuses and urges growth in their membership; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government can make an immediate and enormously positive impact on local economies by acting on the following ~~five-four~~ areas:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 1.) that NLC urges federal lawmakers to help local entrepreneurs by supporting policies that result in a supportive ecosystem for entrepreneurship. To that end, Congress should:

- Create an Entrepreneurs Extension Partnership to connect startups with the basic resources needed to create and grow their businesses locally.
- Establish an Office of Entrepreneurship within the Small Business Administration to broaden eligibility for SBA support ~~beyond the types of businesses traditionally supported for the smallest businesses.~~
- Launch a network of non-equity based, “revenue first” accelerators for new businesses that fall within a grey area where they are too risky for traditional banks and not risky enough for venture capitalists.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 2.) that NLC urges the federal government improve equity and economic mobility by modernizing the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) to increase public accountability of banks to serve every community. To that end, federal regulators should:

- Update CRA assessment areas to include areas with considerable bank lending and deposit gathering outside of bank branch networks.
- Improve public data around community development lending and investments in order to provide greater clarity to lenders about what qualifies for CRA and to help identify areas around the country in need of greater community development lending and investing.

- Federal regulators should not adopt a one-ratio or single-metric approach to CRA exams and should not adjust bank asset thresholds solely for making exams easier for banks to pass, or otherwise dilute attention to LMI borrowers and communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 3.) that NLC urges federal lawmakers to increase the pace of economic development by continuing on the path of regulatory reform that reduces barriers to development. To that end, Congress should:

- Establish a shot-clock on federal agencies making rulings and determinations on local governments to expedite the federal decision-making processes; and to provide for the certainty that project partners and project finance require; and
- Appoint an independent Intergovernmental Ombudsman at each cabinet level agency to serve as point of contact for state and local elected officials and serve as a facilitator at times of intergovernmental impasse; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 4.) that NLC urges federal lawmakers make economic mobility a federal priority. To that end, Congress should:

- Restore full funding for the Community Development Block Grant Program, which serves as the first line of defense against local neighborhood decline and has been the bridge for countless families to the middle class; and
- ~~Authorize significant annual increases in funding for economic development grants for cities and towns through the U.S. Economic Development Administration~~Increase EDA funding for Partnership Planning, Research and National Technical Assistance, and Public Works, and enhance the scope of related activities; and
- Enact the broadest possible definition of economic development to permit EDA grant funding for innovative programs at the intersection of economic development and education, workforce, and infrastructure; and
- Elevate the office of Economic Development Integration at U.S. EDA to fill the role of central integrator of all federal economic development programs across federal agencies to streamline and simplify city access to those programs; and
- Support greater offerings of technical assistance and capacity building at federal agencies tasked with economic development, including HUD, EDA, and USDA, for small and mid-sized cities and towns to create and fill economic development positions within municipal governments – or to support NGO partners assisting local governments; and

~~1. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED 5.)** that NLC urges federal lawmakers remain focused on workforce development. Specifically, Congress should:-
Create a workforce planning and development grant jointly administered by the U.S. Departments of Commerce, HUD, and Labor to help cities create a streamlined workforce plan to foster economic mobility by focusing on the education, apprenticeship, and housing needs of those seeking to move up the income ladder;-
and-~~

Support federal programs and efforts, such as ban the box initiatives, that assist with reintegration of ex-offenders into the workforce, and that ensure applicants with a criminal history have a fair opportunity to compete for Federal jobs.

NLC RESOLUTION #20

RECCOMENDATION: EXPIRE

HUD now supports carefully structured local anti-displacement preferences

~~URGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF CRITERIA FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PREFERENCE AS AN ANTI-DISPLACEMENT TOOL~~

~~WHEREAS, federal Fair Housing Act does not allow for any lender, landlord, or housing provider to institute policies or practices that could negatively affect a protected class (race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status); and~~

~~WHEREAS, many cities have the affirmative duty to further the Fair Housing Act which includes but not limited to anti-displacement mechanisms; and~~

~~WHEREAS, many cities have communities with diverse population of many races, colors, and national origin who have often chosen to live in communities that are like their own race, color, or national origin; and~~

~~WHEREAS, in many cities, certain communities, primarily communities of color, are facing gentrification leading to displacement of longtime residents to less desirable areas of the city or displaced entirely from the community; and~~

~~WHEREAS, in many communities facing gentrification by market and unaffordable housing, the only source of new housing affordable to the low-income residents is government subsidized housing; and~~

~~WHEREAS, the Fair Housing Act does not allow any preference to be given to residents of gentrifying communities being displaced upon the construction of a new housing affordable to low-income residents of that community; and~~

~~WHEREAS, if the residents could have preference to these better and safer affordable housing structures recently developed in their communities, the residents would be able to vacate the deteriorating structures which are the only ones they can afford, allowing for the redevelopment of the properties; and~~

~~WHEREAS, cities have a legitimate interest in protecting long-term residents as long-term residents are often engaged positively in the community, provide community stability, and stability often lends to less crime; and~~

~~WHEREAS, neighborhood/community preference is a very powerful anti-displacement tool which operation (interpretation) of the Fair Housing Act has taken away from municipalities.~~

~~NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED~~ that NLC urges the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) give municipalities guidance as to how a Fair

~~Housing marketing plan can be set up with a neighborhood preference that will be acceptable to the department; and~~

~~—~~

~~**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that such guidance can include demographic parameters such as percentage of minorities in a neighborhood, percentage of displacement over the last five years, fair market rent as a percentage of low-income residents and a percentage limit of the local preference.~~

NLC RESOLUTION #21

RECCOMENDATION: RENEW

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) TO ENACT SAFEGUARDS AGAINST ABUSES IN CONTRACTS FOR DEEDS

WHEREAS, the subprime home mortgage crisis damaged housing affordability across the country and caused disproportionate harm in African-American communities, resulting in the loss of forty percent of non-home-equity wealth. Moreover, home-equity wealth, which dropped nineteen percent during the crisis, has declined by an additional thirteen percent in the years since the crisis; and

WHEREAS, over three million families have entered into a Contract for Deed to purchase a home due to the inaccessibility of the traditional mortgage market; and

WHEREAS, a Contract for Deed is a seller finance method to purchase a home where the seller retains the legal title to the property until the homebuyer finishes paying all principal payments and interest owed under the contract. Contracts for Deeds are principally used by low-income homebuyers who are unable to obtain a traditional mortgage or financing because of poor credit ratings, inadequate income or other issues; and

WHEREAS, bad actors can abuse Contracts for Deeds to allow the seller to avoid health and safety regulations, and crucial repairs to the property, while transferring the burden of property taxes, property insurance, and repairs to the homebuyer; and

WHEREAS, in comparison to renting, the homebuyer must pay more per month for the property under Contracts for Deeds, make a larger upfront payment, and take better care of the premises, because the homebuyer is working toward ownership. However, sellers that abuse Contract for Deeds rarely end up transferring the title to the prospective homebuyer; and

WHEREAS, Contracts for Deeds are often consummated between the homebuyer and the seller without the benefit of a title search and title insurance, government regulatory protections and standardized legal documents in many states including Texas, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, West Virginia, South Dakota, Ohio, South Carolina, and Florida; and

WHEREAS, the proliferation and abuse of Contracts for Deeds presents the risk of creating yet another large drain on African-American wealth comparable in impact to the housing finance abuses that brought about the 2007-2009 subprime crisis; and

WHEREAS, the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials, a constituency group of the National League of Cities, has endorsed this resolution; and also, strongly condemns the use of Contracts for Deeds to exploit low-income homebuyers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National League of Cities urges the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and

the Rural Housing Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to enact regulations and safeguards against predatory uses of Contracts for Deeds, and to protect consumers from the practice of using Contracts for Deeds to unjustly evict families from their homes.

NLC RESOLUTION #22

RECCOMENDATION: RENEW

SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY SURROUNDING INSTALLATION SCORING FROM PAST ROUNDS OF BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE

WHEREAS, the strength of the United States Armed Services is a matter of critical national security; and

WHEREAS, the communities surrounding the military installations throughout the United States have a symbiotic relationship with the installations; and

WHEREAS, communities are engaging in efforts to build collaborative networks to support the needs of active duty and transitioning military personnel, their families, Veterans, and members of the reserve and National Guard through Community Veteran Engagement Boards (CVEBs), Points of Light Foundation's Community Blueprint program, and the U.S. Department of Defense's Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program; and

WHEREAS, realignment and closure of those installations will have a significant economic effect upon the communities surrounding the installations; and

WHEREAS, previous rounds of base realignment and closure resulted in installations and the surrounding communities being scored on specific criteria; and

WHEREAS, providing communities surrounding military installations with scoring criteria and prioritization from previous rounds of base realignment and closure will assist them in making necessary changes to better prepare their communities against potential closure of an adjacent installation; and

WHEREAS, 52 cities that are a part of NLC's Military Communities Council (MCC) represent the communities adjacent to military installations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National League of Cities (NLC) urges Congress and the Department of Defense to provide the criteria and scoring of installations and surrounding communities from previous rounds of base realignment and closure to allow communities to better prepare themselves against potential closure of the installation and to work closely with the installations to improve low scoring criteria.

NLC RESOLUTION #23

RECCOMENDATION: RENEW

SUPPORTING A NATIONAL AGENDA FOR U.S. HOUSING INVESTMENT AND OPPORTUNITY

WHEREAS, America’s cities are the strength of the nation – communities of neighborhoods where people live, work, learn, and play; and

WHEREAS, every American deserves a decent home in a suitable living environment with adequate financial stability to maintain it; and

WHEREAS, affordable housing contributes to the economic vitality of our communities and local economic regions as a vehicle for creating jobs and increasing municipal tax bases; and

WHEREAS, there is an irreplaceable role for the federal government in addressing our nation’s housing needs; and

WHEREAS, research demonstrates that inadequate housing is linked to issues including unemployment, rising health care costs, public safety challenges, and poor academic performance; and

WHEREAS, the demand for affordable housing far outpaces the supply in the United States, as wages have not kept pace with rising home values over the period following the subprime mortgage crisis; and

WHEREAS, [data](#) shows that in no state, metropolitan area, or county can a worker earning the federal minimum wage or prevailing state minimum wage afford a two-bedroom rental home at fair market rent by working a standard 40-hour week; and

WHEREAS, three out of four households eligible for federal housing assistance receive none; and

WHEREAS, on any given night, there are in excess of 560,000 Americans experiencing homelessness, meaning they are sleeping outside, in an emergency shelter, or in a transitional housing program; and

WHEREAS, NLC supports the bipartisan coalition “[MAYORS AND CEOS FOR US HOUSING INVESTMENT](#)”, and welcomes all city leaders and CEOs to consider joining the coalition as common stakeholders in expanding housing opportunities and ending homelessness; and

WHEREAS, NLC supports the national, multi-sector housing campaign “[OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME](#)”, a long-term, multi-sector campaign to meet the rental housing needs of the nation’s lowest income people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NLC urges the President and Congress to work with city leaders to end homelessness and ensure that the lowest-income and most vulnerable households have the opportunity for safe, decent, affordable housing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC urges Congress to bridge the funding gap between rents and income for extremely low-income households through rental assistance programs, including supporting a mechanism to address the acceptance of federal rental assistance vouchers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC urges the federal government to work with local governments to expand the stock of affordable housing and workforce housing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NLC urges Congress to restore and improve funding for neighborhood and household stabilization to provide emergency assistance to avert housing instability, homelessness, and neighborhood decline.

NLC RESOLUTION #24

RECCOMENDATION: RENEW

ENDORING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF NLC’S NATIONAL HOUSING TASK FORCE REPORT “HOMEWARD BOUND, THE ROAD TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING”

WHEREAS, in cities, towns, and villages across the country, demand for affordable housing is far outpacing supply. According to property data provider Attom Data, home prices are rising faster than wages in 80% of U.S. markets. And according to the National Low Income Housing Coalitions annual report on housing affordability, Out of Reach, there is no county in America where a renter working 40 hours a week, and earning minimum wage, can afford a two-bedroom apartment without spending more than 30% of their income on housing; and

WHEREAS, unmet demand for safe, healthy, affordable housing is reaching crisis levels for local governments in both urban and rural areas. According to the Housing Assistance Council, of the nation’s most rural counties, none with towns of more than 10,000 residents, approximately one quarter have seen a sizeable increase in the number of households this decade spending at least half their income on housing; and

WHEREAS, in response to the housing crisis, former Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson, Gary, Indiana, announced the formation of the National Housing Task Force in November 2018, under the leadership of chair Muriel Bowser, mayor of Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the National Housing Task Force was comprised of 18 local elected officials representing a diversity of city sizes, geography, and market types - plus the executive directors of two state municipal leagues. The task force was charged to develop a set of policy recommendations for local governments and the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the Housing Task Force developed a federal/local housing platform consisting of five policy recommendations for the federal government, and five policy recommendations for local governments; and

WHEREAS, the National Housing Task Force Housing released the report [Homeward Bound: The Road to Affordable Housing](#). The report is a call for action on the ten federal/local policy recommendations based on evidence that housing stability is a prerequisite for economic mobility, job security, and health and well-being.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the National League of Cities congratulates and applauds the members of the National Housing Task Force for their work and participation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National League of Cities endorses the findings and recommendations of NLC’s National Housing Task Force Report “Homeward Bound, the Road to Affordable Housing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National League of Cities urges federal lawmakers to advance the following five priorities:

1. Immediately stabilize and stem the loss of public and affordable housing.
2. Enact a long-term housing bill that provides ten years of funding certainty for pilot programs advancing housing for all.
3. Support innovation and modernization of land-use and planning at the local and regional level.
4. Fix inequities in housing development and the housing finance system.
5. Support scalable innovation and financing for cities, towns and villages.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the National League of Cities makes the following five recommendations to local governments:

1. Establish local programs by combining funding and financing streams to support housing goals.
2. Modernize local land use policies, including zoning and permitting, to rebalance housing supply and demand.
3. Identify and engage broadly with local stakeholders; and coordinate across municipal boundaries, to develop a plan to provide housing opportunities for all.
4. Support the needs of distinct sub-populations including the homeless, seniors and persons with conviction histories.
5. Prioritize equitable outcomes in housing decision as it is an essential component for success.