

52ND ANNUAL

CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION



JUNE 3-6, 2018

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

**NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
REGIONAL COUNCILS,
METROPLAN
ORLANDO,
& BROWARD MPO**

**ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

#REGIONSLEAD

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) COALITION

- Consists of 28 national associations dedicated to supporting the CDBG Program and raising awareness of the need for increased program funding
- 15+ Hill meetings attended
- Submitted letters to Congress regarding FY 2018 & FY 2019 CDBG funding
- Coalition's ask for FY 2019 funding: \$3.5 billion

CAMPAIGN TO INVEST IN AMERICA'S WORKFORCE (CIAW) COALITION

- Diverse coalition of national organizations that calls for greater and more effective federal investments in supporting and educating our nation's workforce
- 15+ Hill meetings attended
- Submitted letters to Congress regarding FY 2018 Appropriations and FY 2019 President's Budget
 - Collecting final signatures on FY 2019 appropriations letter
- Coalition's ask for FY 2019: Fund WIOA Title I Programs at authorized levels of \$3.29 billion

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STAKEHOLDERS COALITION

- Discusses the regional importance of supporting the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and raising awareness of the need for increased program funding
- Recently met with Senator Gillibrand's director of economic development to give feedback on the summary of their EDA overhaul statement of principles for their upcoming introduction of the *No Community Left Behind Act*
- If interested in reading the summary and giving feedback, email Maci at maci.morin@narc.org

NEW COALITION: HOME COALITION

- Works to increase awareness about the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), its importance to the development and provision of affordable housing, and the need for funding
 - Attended first meeting last month
 - Coalition's ask for FY 2019: \$1.5 billion
 - Hill meetings to start soon

NEW COALITION: CAMPAIGN FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDING (CHCDF)

- More than 70 national organizations work to ensure the highest allocation of resources possible to support affordable housing and community development
- Attended first meeting on May 25
 - Three HUD representatives were in attendance
 - Each meeting attendee (including NARC) was able to talk to the HUD representatives about a couple of their HUD priority programs and why they were important

INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

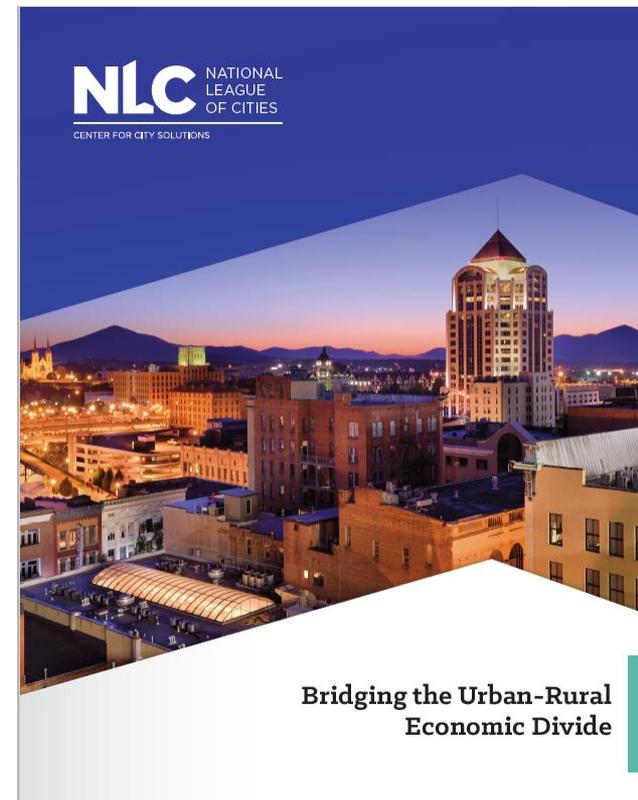
- During Infrastructure Week, we teamed up with the National League of Cities; Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson of Gary, IN; and Commissioner Gil Ziffer of Tallahassee, FL to discuss the intersection of infrastructure and workforce investment with the following committees:
 - House Committee on Education and the Workforce – Majority Staff
 - House Committee on Education and the Workforce – Minority Staff
 - Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions – Majority Staff
 - Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions – Minority Staff

FARM BILL

- Signed onto a House letter with the Campaign for a Renewed Rural Development
 - Supported a robust rural development title that promotes economic growth and stability by investing in our nation's rural infrastructure, incentivizing regional collaboration, and ensuring the success of our next generation of farmers
- Co-wrote a House letter with the National League of Cities
 - Supported shared priorities in the Farm Bill, including critical investments to support infrastructure, economic development, nutrition, and conservation

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES – URBAN RURAL DIVIDE

- “It’s time for the narrative to shift from urban vs. rural to a shared economic future. Bridging the economic divide between urban and rural areas will require states, regions and localities to understand and bolster *the relationship between urban and rural areas* in economically meaningful and strategic ways.”



Source: <https://www.nlc.org/resource/bridging-the-urban-rural-economic-divide>

NLC URBAN RURAL DIVIDE

KEY FINDINGS: BROADBAND

- Nationwide, 10% of Americans do not have access to broadband, with rural areas experiencing significantly greater access challenges
- Urban-rural divides in broadband access are inversely related: as overall state access increases, so does the *divide* in access between urban and rural areas
- Overall, rural communities have 37% more residents without broadband access
- In all states, urban areas outpace their rural counterparts in broadband access

NLC URBAN RURAL DIVIDE

KEY FINDINGS: EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

- On average, 59% of those 25 and older in the U.S. have at least some college education
- Urban areas have 7% more people with at least some college education, when compared to rural areas
- Kentucky has the most significant divide (17% more in urban)
- California has the narrowest education divide, with urban and rural areas having about the same proportion of people with at least some college education
- Often, rural areas are home to universities, which connect rural residents to educational opportunities and narrow the gap

NLC URBAN RURAL DIVIDE

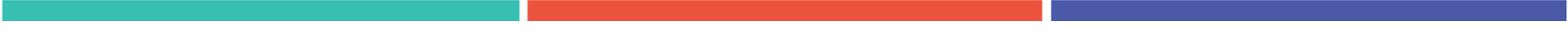
KEY FINDINGS: BUSINESS GROWTH

- In many states, rural areas actually outpace the high-value business growth of their urban counterparts
- On average, across states, urban areas only had 3% greater growth in traded sector establishments than rural areas
- Example: Oregon urban jobs are often tied to natural resources which depends on raw materials from rural areas
- Example: In Idaho, agriculture is a leading industry so food and beverage processing depends on a rural-based chain
- Although urban areas have somewhat stronger rates of **high-value business growth** (growth of establishments in exporting industry sectors), rural areas don't appear disadvantaged in this characteristic

NLC URBAN RURAL DIVIDE

KEY FINDINGS: PROSPERITY GROWTH

- States with greater growth in their contributions to national GDP have stronger employment growth and wage growth
- Rural areas in many states contribute the same, if not more, than urban areas to the growth of the state economy
- Most states do not have significant urban-rural divides in **prosperity growth**, defined as their per capita contributions to state GDP (gross domestic product)



CONCLUSION

“To improve economic outcomes, the report encourages states, regions and cities to generate new drivers of economic growth by strengthening value chains, market access and other economic relationships between urban and rural areas. These approaches not only provide a new perspective on strategies for rural and distressed communities, but shifts the narrative from urban vs. rural to a shared economic future.”