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LOCAL LEADERSHIP IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Advocating for a better future for America’s cities
"All through organized history, if you wanted prosperity you had to have cities. Cities are places that attract new people with new ideas."

Jane Jacobs
CITIES 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.

A CHANGING ECONOMY
Prior to the Industrial Revolution, the majority of people worked in agriculture or small businesses.

The Industrial Revolution transformed an agrarian society into one driven by large-scale factory operations.

In the first half of the 20th Century, the labor movement gained significant strength, but union membership has declined significantly since 1954.

Advances in information technology, advanced robotics and artificial intelligence have increased productivity and disrupted the relationship between capital and labor.

As new technologies revolutionize the workforce, jobs in 2025 and beyond will look very different from those of today.
BY 2025:

25%

15 – 25% of tasks in manufacturing, packing, construction, maintenance, and agriculture could be automated by 2025.
BY 2035:

47%

Within two decades, 47% of U.S. jobs might be at risk due to advances in computers, automation, and AI.
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SHARE OF INCOME AND WEALTH OWNED BY TOP 10% OF HOUSEHOLDS, 2012
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$50 - $80 Billion

AMOUNT SPENT ON TAX ABATEMENTS AND INCENTIVES BY STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, ANNUALLY
53 Million
Freelance and contract workers in the U.S.
INNOVATION DISTRICTS
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CHATTANOOGA’S INNOVATION DISTRICT
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BOSTON’S INNOVATION DISTRICT

33,000 JOBS

$10 BILLION TO GDP

ADDED 5,000 NEW JOBS IN LAST 6 YEARS

NLC
NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES
MAKER ECONOMY
2,000 maker spaces worldwide
26% of cities have maker spaces
13% have hosted a maker fair
SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESSES
What city leaders can do:

1. Connect entrepreneurs to technical assistance
2. Streamline regulations
3. Create small business mentorship programs
4. Establish funding opportunities
NLC IS YOUR RESOURCE
ADVOCACY FOR CITIES
ADVOCATING FOR CITIES

#FightTheCuts in the federal budget proposal
MAKING OUR VOICES HEARD
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Join other city leaders in Charlotte this November!

citysummit.nlc.org
THANK YOU!

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@LeagueOfCities