

# CITIES ARE ESSENTIAL

Cities are making the tough choices and hard decisions to ensure the health, safety and welfare of their communities.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES' *CITIES ARE ESSENTIAL* CAMPAIGN IS A GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY EFFORT TO SECURE DIRECT RELIEF FOR CITIES, TOWNS, AND VILLAGES AS PART OF THE FOURTH STIMULUS PACKAGE. NLC IS ASKING FOR \$500 BILLION OVER TWO YEARS THAT WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR MUNICIPALITIES REGARDLESS OF POPULATION.

## WHAT WE ARE ASKING

**\$500 BILLION**  
in direct relief

for cities, towns, and villages of all sizes to help with the projected cut in services and loss of vital infrastructure dollars to keep communities safe and healthy.



This will be split over two years:

**\$250 BILLION**

in 2020 to be divided evenly between cities and counties

**\$125 BILLION**

to go directly to cities in 2021

## WHY NOW?

The last stimulus funding package was passed in early March and while it included some funding for local governments with populations over 500K, **only 36 communities across the country are eligible.** That leaves the majority of America's municipalities on their own to face the dramatic budget shortfalls and cover the essential services needed for their community to continue fighting this pandemic.



**88%**

of Americans are concerned that coronavirus is going to drastically affect their local economy

Between **300,000 and 1 million** public-sector workers could be **laid off** or **furloughed**

**86%**

of Americans support the federal government providing funds directly to cities and towns to support coronavirus challenges in local communities.

We know that cities are the engine of the American economy. An investment in local communities has a stimulating effect on the entire American economy.

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The health, safety and vibrancy of our communities are at stake. **Up to 1 million public sector jobs are in jeopardy** if local governments do not get much needed help to ensure critical services continue.

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**We are looking for a partner to help local communities recover and reopen.** Local governments have been on the frontline fighting the COVID-10 pandemic from the onset. They are ready to take the next step to transition to reopening but need a partner. Federal-state-local partnerships are the key to success.

## WE NEED YOUR VOICE

### JOIN NLC'S CITIES ARE ESSENTIAL CAMPAIGN

As a partner you can lend your support by showing support for the campaign on social media. Add your voice using the hashtag [#citiesareessential](#)

### CALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

We need as many supporters to help influence and tell the importance of direct relief for local government.



Learn more [www.nlc.org/CitiesAreEssential](http://www.nlc.org/CitiesAreEssential)