



Empowering Cities and States: Making Federal Funds Work for Our Communities

CONNECTING LOCAL JOBS TO FEDERAL SPENDING

Across the country, cities and states are working hard to rebuild communities and recover from the devastating impacts of the pandemic on working families. The climate crisis and economic inequity are getting worse by the day. We must act now to build the sustainable infrastructure and jobs we need.

But something is blocking our road to a just recovery: Cities and states are prohibited from using federal funds to create jobs in their communities. Local officials, labor unions, and community groups have argued for years that connecting infrastructure projects with good jobs for local workers is not only something that communities desperately want, but something that would have a major positive impact on regional economies.

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IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY

Currently, a set of decades-old federal rules (known as the Uniform Guidance) impede cities and states from using innovative programs in the procurement process that can amplify the benefit of federal funds for communities. The procurement process can be a powerful tool to address historic inequities and uplift millions of struggling people—particularly people of color—but current rules inhibit this ability. With trillions of dollars set to be spent on infrastructure projects, it's critical that we act now. **By updating and clarifying the Uniform Guidance, we can allow cities and states to maximize the benefits of federal investments for our local communities.**

OUR SOLUTION

We call on President Biden to make the following changes to the Uniform Guidance to allow cities & states to incorporate community-centered policies:

- **Address racial & gender equity, expand local jobs, and support community engagement by:**
 - Removing the ban on local hire
 - Expanding opportunities for local small, minority, & women-owned businesses (MWBs)
 - Encouraging targeted hire and Project Labor Agreements
- **Support the creation of high-road US jobs, including by:**
 - Allowing cities & states to ensure employees and contractors are paid a family-sustaining wage
- **Protect good jobs through workforce transitions, such as by:**
 - Requiring the training of incumbent workers when purchasing new green technologies

TAKE ACTION

In 2023, the Office of Management and Budget will solicit public comments on changing the Uniform Guidance. Take action & learn more [here](#).



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Coalition**

Federal Investment, Community Solutions