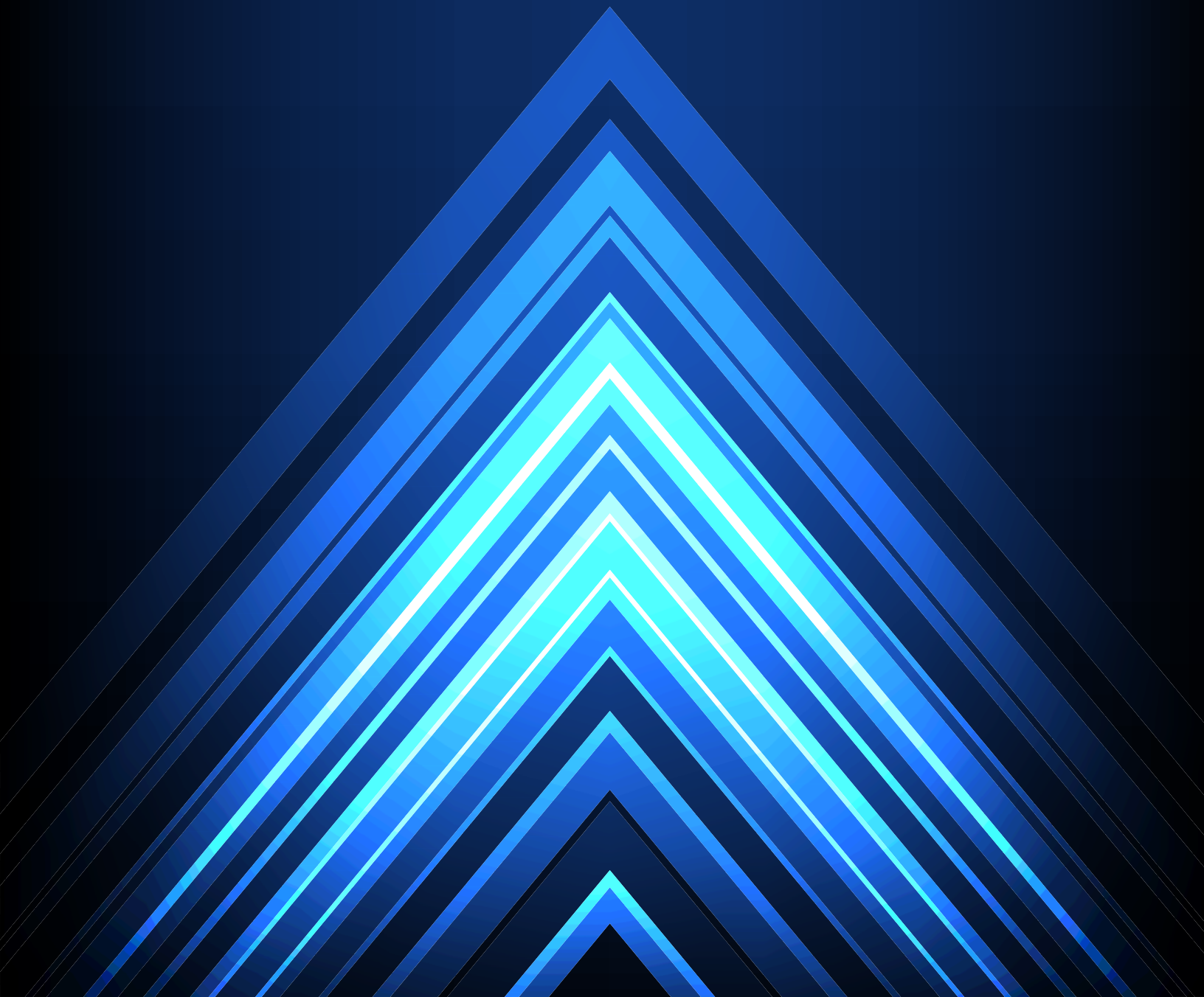


2023 ANNUAL REPORT

ACCELERATOR  
FOR AMERICA

# National Change, From the Ground Up

CAPACITY BUILDING | TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE | ADVOCACY



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**MESSAGE FROM OUR DISTINGUISHED CO-CHAIRS AND CEO**

To the Accelerator Community:

Our core mission has always been to find and develop solutions to economic insecurity and to share them with communities to create national change from the ground up. This year has been one in which Americans all across the country and at most income levels are feeling financial stress, adding even more urgency to our work.

With guidance from our network of now more than 50 mayors, we have continued to see around corners and respond to the needs of local communities with new and impactful initiatives. In partnership with Tolemi, we launched Data for Housing Solutions, which is helping 17 cities address the housing affordability crisis. USDOT selected our team to help 14 communities access Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding opportunities. Our i3 cohort comprises 10 communities that we are helping to lead ambitious infrastructure projects, and our California Accelerator is helping 8 communities create inclusive infrastructure and workforce development opportunities.

At the same time, we are making progress through continuing initiatives like our place-based economic development work in Kansas City and St. Louis, and our Honeywell Smart City Accelerator Program, which this year delivered Smart City Strategic Plans to five cities. Our Economic and Community Development Practitioners’ Network has grown to include 70 cities, and we led our first Infrastructure Week since becoming the home of United for Infrastructure. More than 30 organizations partnered with us to produce Infrastructure Week programming, which also included the White House’s infrastructure chief, cabinet departments, governors and mayors.

In great Accelerator tradition, we were thrilled to host our convenings this year in Phoenix and in Kansas City and come together to learn from each other. We are fortunate that the Accelerator family includes some of the most talented local and regional leaders in the country, and partners and advisers drawn from the highest echelons of government, business, labor, and NGOs.

Until we meet again, we are excited to invite you to review our work for 2023 in this report. You will see that Accelerator for America has become an even more vital and impactful resource that truly lives up to our “do tank” moniker.



**Kate Gallego**  
 Mayor of Phoenix, AZ  
 AFA Advisory Council Co-Chair

**Quinton Lucas**  
 Mayor of Kansas City, MO  
 AFA Advisory Council Co-Chair

**Mary Ellen Wiederwohl**  
 President and CEO

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

AFA is actively engaged with local communities across the country to expand opportunity, equity, and economic growth through technical assistance and by developing and sharing models, tools, partnerships, and thought leadership.

**Data for Housing Solutions**

Launched as a Commitment to Action through the Clinton Global Initiative, Data for Housing Solutions is a collaboration between AFA and Tolemi that leverages a data analysis tool and peer learning to provide insights into local real estate markets. An initial cohort of 17 cities will use those insights to help preserve and build affordable housing, keep families in their homes, combat predatory real estate investors, and ensure publicly-owned real estate is utilized for the greatest community benefit. The program is organized around Building Blocks, a technology platform developed by Tolemi that aggregates municipal data and applies proprietary analytics to deliver actionable, property-level insights. Participating cities can map portfolios of publicly owned property across agencies and departments, identify site assembly opportunities, and understand where underutilized public property overlaps with redevelopment incentives and areas in need of affordable housing. The tool will also help cities track which corporate owners control large portfolios of rental properties, what neighborhoods are rapidly shifting from owner-occupied to rentals, where rises in corporate ownership coincide with rises in housing cost burden, and which corporate owners are common across AFA peer cities.

**Stimulus Command Centers**

Capping more than two years of work across the country to maximize the moment of new federal investment under the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), AFA joined with partners Brookings and NACo to produce a report highlighting how city leaders are using American Rescue Plan funds to support an inclusive recovery in their communities. Titled “From Recovery to Revitalization: How Local Leaders are Unlocking the Potential of the American Rescue Plan,” the report featured case studies from Birmingham, AL; Cleveland, OH; Dayton, OH; Kansas City, MO; Louisville, KY; Phoenix, AZ and St. Louis, MO (as well as a number of county governments). It also included policy recommendations for federal and local officials to maximize the long-term impact of these projects and programs once federal relief funds are exhausted. In collaboration with Brookings, AFA hosted a national webinar featuring St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones to publicize the report and the city’s Economic Justice Action Plan, a transformative and comprehensive economic development initiative funded through the city’s ARPA allocation.

**Smart City Accelerator**

Honeywell’s Smart City Accelerator Program – a partnership between AFA and Honeywell – delivered draft Smart City Strategic Plans to Cleveland, OH; Kansas City, MO; Louisville, KY; San Diego, CA; and Waterloo, IA. According to Matthew Britt, Honeywell’s general manager of Smart Cities and Communities, “A smart city eliminates silos, identifies integration opportunities, and uses data to institute change.” Each city’s Strategic Plan aligns key stakeholders, defines priorities, and identifies high-impact and inclusive initiatives that advance residents’ quality of life by improving climate resiliency, public safety, operational efficiency, and service delivery.

Through the Smart City Accelerator, Kansas City and San Diego recently submitted grant applications to USDOT’s SMART Stage 1 grant program, which could provide up to \$2 million in funding for each community. Louisville won a \$2 million SMART grant through the Smart City Accelerator in the last round of funding, which was announced in March 2023. Other participants are engaged in ongoing planning work to prepare for applications for upcoming federal grants, such as USDOT’s Safe Streets for All initiative.

**With support from the Smart City Accelerator program, Louisville has already secured a \$2 million SMART grant from USDOT.**

**Economic & Community Development Practitioners’ Network**

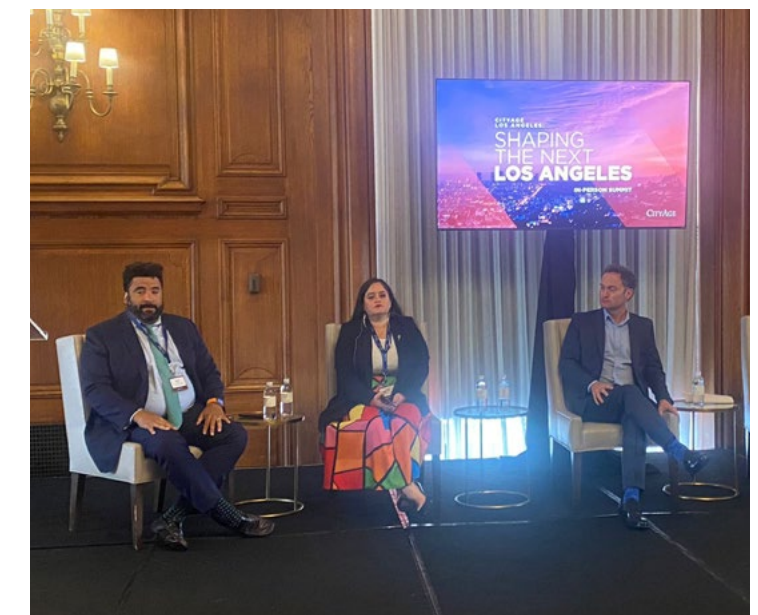
Mayors work with a broad network of economic and community development professionals who are critical to the success of a city’s agenda to advance economic mobility. ECDPN provides these critical local partners with access to national experts, direct technical assistance, and a cohort of peers. ECDPN monthly convenings included deep dives into key federal investment opportunities (IRA, Build America Bureau, CHIPS) with policymakers and direct access to industry experts and peers to evaluate and share data-driven insights and promising practices.



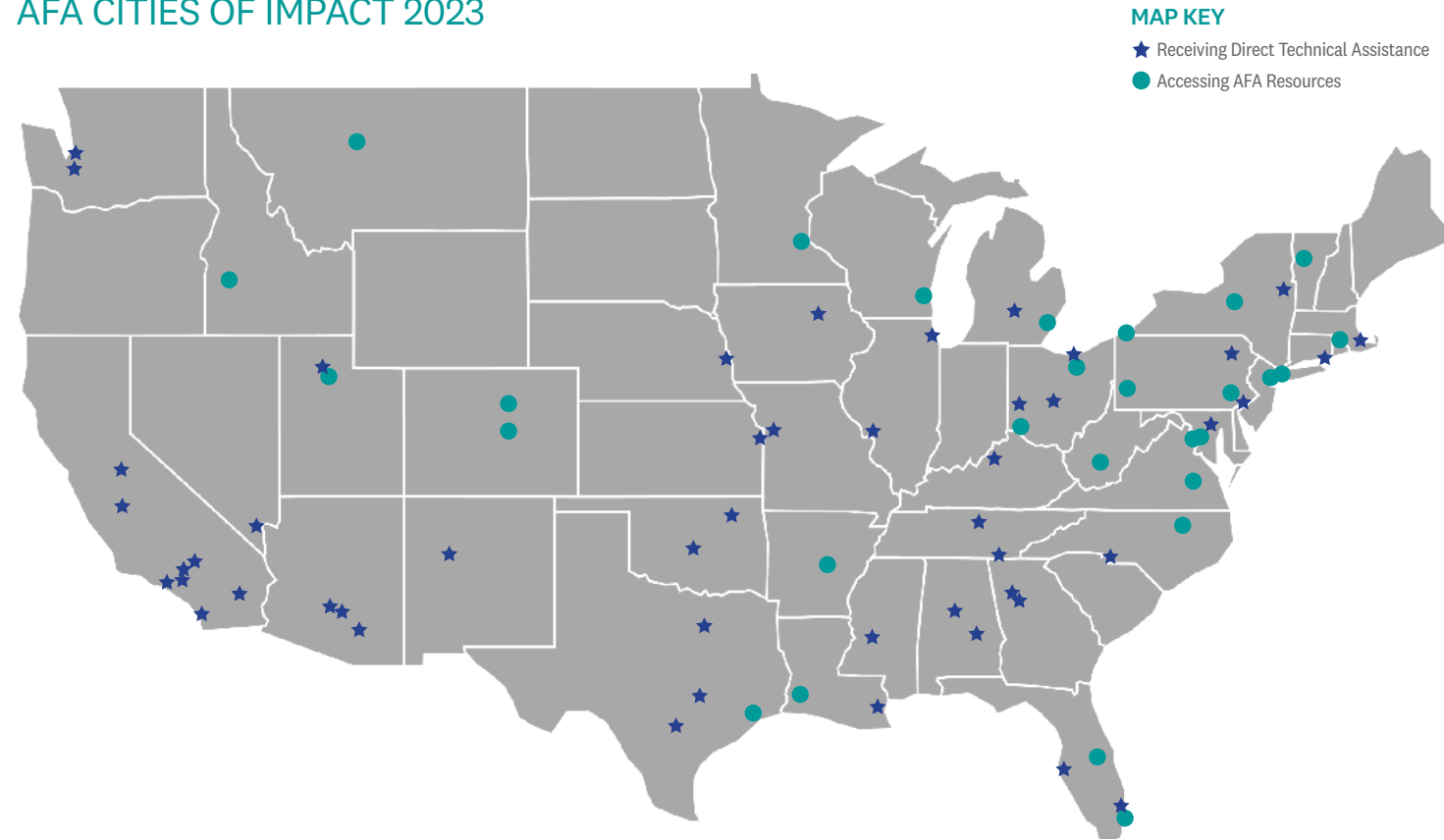
Top left: AFA hosted a Mayoral Roundtable at the 2023 meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative. Pictured left to right: Mayor Frank Scott, Little Rock; Mayor Justin Bibb, Cleveland; AFA CEO Mary Ellen Wiederwohl; Mayor David Holt, Oklahoma City; Mayor Quinton Lucas, Kansas City; Mayor Steven Reed, Montgomery.

Bottom right: AFA’s Matt Horton led a panel discussion on how to leverage IJJA/ BIL investments across the Los Angeles region, and discussed California’s ability to accelerate opportunity and change across the country.

Bottom left: A.J. Hermann moderated a panel discussion at the Up For Growth Housing Underproduction event.



**AFA CITIES OF IMPACT 2023**



**Cities Receiving Direct Technical Assistance**

- Adelanto, CA
- Albuquerque, NM
- Anaheim, CA
- Atlanta, GA
- Austin, TX
- Baltimore, MD
- Barstow, CA
- Birmingham, AL
- Brockton, MA
- Broward County, FL
- Charlotte, NC
- Chattanooga, TN
- Chicago, IL
- Cleveland, OH
- Cobb County, GA
- Columbus, OH
- Dayton, OH
- Fort Worth, TX
- Fresno, CA
- Glens Falls, NY
- Indio, CA
- Jackson, MS
- Johnson County, KS
- Kansas City, MO
- Lansing, MI
- Las Vegas, NV
- Louisville, KY
- Montgomery, AL
- Nashville, TN
- New Orleans, LA
- Oklahoma City, OK
- Omaha, NE
- Philadelphia, PA
- Pierce County, WA
- Phoenix, AZ
- Riverside, CA
- Salt Lake County, UT
- San Antonio, TX
- San Diego, CA
- San Joaquin County, CA
- Scranton, PA
- St. Louis, MO
- Tacoma, WA
- Tampa, FL
- Tempe, AZ
- Tucson, AZ
- Tulsa, OK
- Union City, GA
- Waterloo, IA
- West Sacramento, CA

**Cities Accessing AFA Resources**

- Akron, OH
- Boise, ID
- Burlington, VT
- Cincinnati, OH
- Colorado Springs, CO
- Denver, CO
- Detroit, MI
- Erie, PA
- Fairfax, VA
- Fayetteville, VA
- Great Falls, MT
- Houston, TX
- Lake Charles, LA
- Little Rock, AR
- Miami, FL
- Milwaukee, WI
- Minneapolis, MN
- Montgomery County, PA
- New York, NY
- Newark, NJ
- Orlando, FL
- Pittsburgh, PA
- Providence, RI
- Richmond, VA
- Rocky Mount, NC
- Salt Lake City, UT
- Syracuse, NY
- Washington, D.C.

**Advancing Equity**

AFA is partnering with the St. Louis Development Corporation (SLDC) and the St. Louis Community Foundation to implement the economic justice vision set forth by Mayor Tishuara Jones and the St. Louis community. Through technical assistance and other support, AFA is helping advance the St. Louis Economic Justice Action Plan, create the Economic Justice Accelerator, and further its \$1 billion funding goal.

*“The efforts and leadership of Accelerator for America is incredible, and I am thankful for their partnership. AFA’s ability to convene and elevate best practices across the country provides valuable learning opportunities for cities to utilize their resources more effectively, which is exemplified through their support of the Economic Justice Accelerator program.”*

— Neal Richardson, CEO  
St. Louis Development Corporation

With Drexel’s Nowak Metro Finance Lab and The Enterprise Center, AFA convened national practitioners and corporate and philanthropic funders in Philadelphia to develop new financial models and strategies to invest more holistically in commercial corridors to support historically disadvantaged businesses and community developers. AFA also led a roundtable on philanthropic partnerships with cities to advance inclusive economic development at the Community Foundation Opportunity Network (CFON) Learning and Action Forum. CFON is a nationwide coalition of community foundations.

AFA additionally authored, “Small Business Capital: A Place-Based Approach,” with contributions from Dr. Dell Gines of the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), to outline promising strategies and local models that city leaders and philanthropic organizations can take to advance more equitable capital access for entrepreneurs and small businesses.

**California Initiatives**

With support from The James Irvine Foundation, AFA’s California Accelerator is providing the cities of Adelanto, Barstow, Fresno, Indio, Los Angeles, and Riverside, as well as San Joaquin County, the Long Beach Economic Partnership, and the San Joaquin Economic Partnership, with technical assistance and capacity building to leverage federal infrastructure funding to build a more resilient economy and inclusive workforce development opportunities. AFA also advanced its work in California to match cities’ infrastructure and economic development priorities with IIJA/BIL and IRA

funding opportunities by working with several cities and CBOs on grant applications and capacity building. For example, AFA collaborated with the Department of Energy Loan Program to host a regional Accelerating Clean Infrastructure event in Riverside to highlight opportunities for cities and local leaders to leverage the DOE loans to support renewable energy production capabilities and broader job growth.

**Kansas City Regional Accelerator**

With support from the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, AFA continues to provide technical assistance and capacity building to the Office of Mayor Quinton Lucas (Kansas City, MO) and regional partners in securing federal funding to promote equitable economic development, workforce, and infrastructure policy. AFA staff co-authored and coordinated proposals for place-based economic development funding through Economic Development Administration (EDA) Technology Hubs and RECOMPETE programs. Each application was submitted by a regional consortium, including corporate, workforce, educational, and government partners from both sides of the state line—a key success given historic challenges with achieving regional coordination and unity in pursuit of these types of applications.

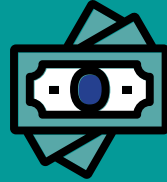
AFA also assisted with applications from Kansas City for Technical Assistance through Bloomberg’s Sustainable Cities program and IEDC/EDA’s Economic Recovery Corps program, which will help the city augment staff capacity focused on climate adaptation and equitable economic development. Kansas City continues to be an active participant in AFA’s i3, Smart City Accelerator, and Tolemi partnership programs.

**Through our ongoing place-based work in Kansas City supported by the Kauffman Foundation, AFA facilitated a new partnership with USDOT’s Build America Bureau, which could provide up to \$15 billion in subsidized funding and technical assistance for transportation projects and also helped secure the region’s successful EDA Tech Hubs Designation — 31 designees were selected from more than 380 applicants nationally.**

**AFA IMPACTS AT-A-GLANCE**

**\$3.6 Billion**

in discretionary funds awarded from IIJA/BIL and IRA to cities across the country that have utilized AFA resources



**AFA + TOLEMI**

**17 Cities**

**Data For Housing Solutions**



An analysis tool and peer learning to provide insights into local real estate markets to help preserve and build affordable housing

**14 COMMUNITIES:**

AFA and partners were tapped by USDOT through its Thriving Communities initiative to help localities across the country build technical, grant management and other skills and capacity to optimize their outcomes from IIJA/BIL investments.

**80 U.S. Communities**



AFA's work spans communities large and small, all across the country, with 80 localities accessing AFA resources or receiving direct technical assistance from our expert staff and committed partners.



**15 million Americans**

in 10 communities across 9 states are benefiting from AFA's Innovative Infrastructure Initiative cohort project initiatives, ranging from transit hubs to mixed-used development.

**300 PRACTITIONERS**

AFA's Economic and Community Practitioners' Network helps public and private sector economic and community development professionals who work closely with cities to advance economic mobility.

**TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

AFA works with communities to generate local infrastructure funding and to maximize the impact of the federal government's historic investment in infrastructure. By focusing on people and not just projects, investments in infrastructure can create life-changing careers, build small businesses, and create community and generational wealth.



**Maximizing Federal Infrastructure Investment**

United for Infrastructure (UFI) founded Infrastructure Week and was the leading advocacy group behind the passage of the federal infrastructure bill. Now, as a project of AFA Action, UFI's Infrastructure Week 2023 included events co-hosted by more than 30 organizations focused on every sector of infrastructure. Leaders from all levels of government participated, including White House Infrastructure Coordinator Mitch Landrieu, U.S. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Chair Rep. Sam Graves (MO), Gov. Wes Moore (MD), Commissioner Eileen Higgins (Miami-Dade County), and Mayors Quinton Lucas (Kansas City, MO) and Victoria Woodards (Tacoma).

In August, UFI was honored to facilitate a workshop with officials from the U.S. Department of Transportation to highlight best practices for IIJA/BIL discretionary grant applications. The widely attended event provided government staff and stakeholders with key insights into how local leaders can craft their best NOFO responses. UFI also hosted a Regional Summit in Atlanta that included Atlanta Mayor Andre Dickens, USDOT Deputy Secretary Veronica McBeth, Atlanta BeltLine CEO Clyde Higgs, and Atlanta Regional Commission CEO Anna Roach.

AFA is a key partner in the national Local Infrastructure Hub and, in partnership with the Drexel Nowak Metro Finance Lab, produced case stories detailing BEAD (Mesa, AZ and Waterloo, IA), BRIC (Hoboken, NJ), RAISE (Lincoln, NE), and Direct Pay (Denver, CO and Madison, WI) opportunities.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*"In the past, too many communities have lacked the resources to apply for and deploy transformative Federal funding opportunities. Accelerator for America is providing technical assistance and capacity building to help local government and economic development leaders maximize this moment of new investment in infrastructure and climate action."*

— The White House

**USDOT Thriving Communities**

The U.S. Department of Transportation selected AFA and its partners – WSP USA, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, and Sidewalk Infrastructure Partners – as a Capacity Builder Team within its Thriving Communities initiative to help 14 communities access new infrastructure and transit-oriented development funding opportunities that are available through the IJA/BIL and other funding streams. The team provides expertise and resources to help develop and deliver projects that advance equitable transit access and economic mobility in communities that have been historically marginalized and disinvested. The 14 communities are Albuquerque, NM; Anaheim, CA; Baltimore, MD; Brockton, MA; Broward County, FL; Charlotte, NC; Cleveland, OH; Glens Falls, NY; Hinds County, MS; Lower Connecticut River Valley, CT; Omaha, NE; Pierce County, WA; San Antonio, TX; and Tempe, AZ.

**Innovative Infrastructure Initiative (i3)**

Founded by Sidewalk Infrastructure Partners and other infrastructure leaders, i3 became a project of AFA in January 2023. AFA launched the i3 cohort – 10 communities across the country that are working with AFA and each other to lead ambitious infrastructure projects through project delivery, advance tech integration and sustainability, and explore innovative finance models. The i3 cohort includes Albuquerque, NM; Chattanooga, TN; Johnson County, KS; Kansas City, MO; Lansing, MI; Louisville, KY; Riverside, CA; San Diego, CA; Scranton, PA; and Tulsa, OK.

➤ **With a total value of \$2 billion, i3 projects range from fleet electrification, to multimodal transit hubs, to massive mixed-use development. i3 communities are in 9 states and represents a total population of 15 million.**

**Ballot Measures**

AFA Action continues the mission that partly catalyzed Accelerator’s formation by offering guidance and best practices to support communities considering or pursuing ballot measures for transit, transportation, and infrastructure development. We are currently working with stakeholders and local officials in several communities across the country who are considering or preparing to go to the ballot in the 2024 or 2026 election cycles, and are monitoring activity in several communities where the possibility of a measure exists.



**Advisory Council Meetings**

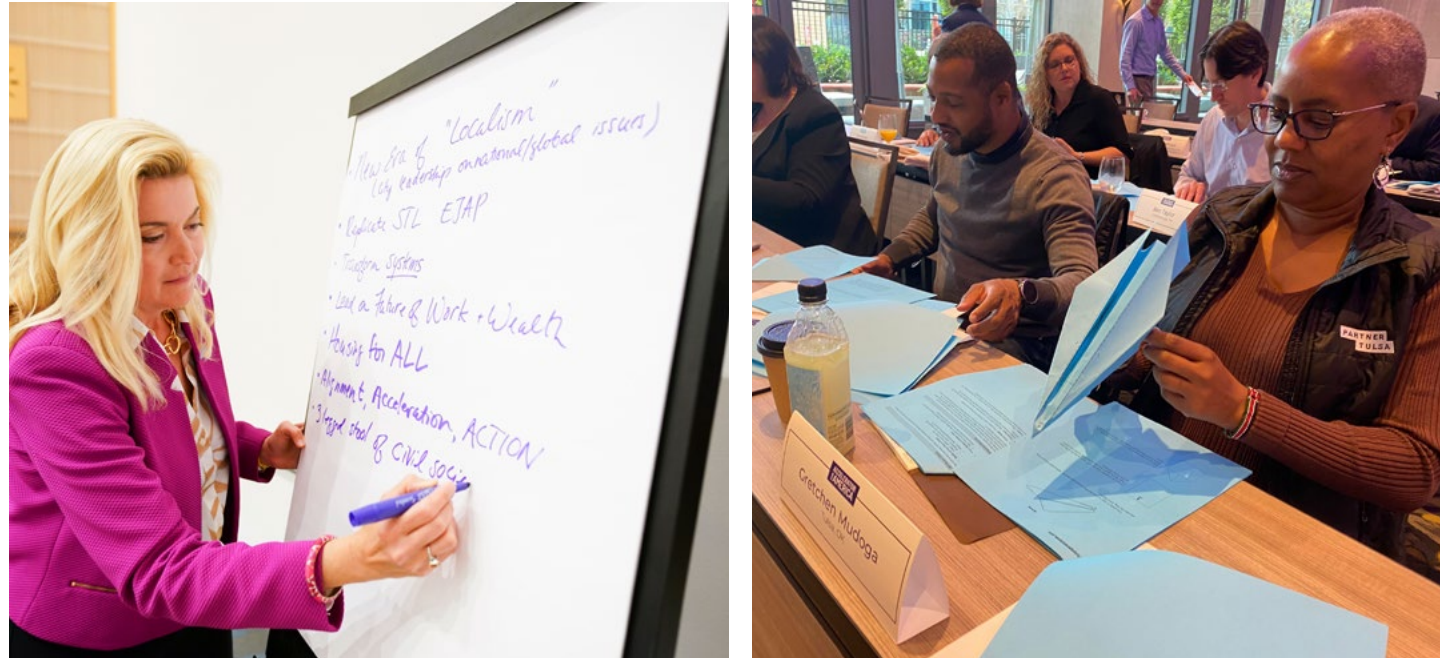
It’s not just Taylor Swift who spent time in Kansas City this year. AFA brought together leaders from across the country to the hometown of our Advisory Council Co-Chair, Mayor Quinton Lucas. While keeping AFA’s long standing tradition of food, fun, and hard work, we changed things up a bit and anchored our convening in conversations among leaders as opposed to presentations from them. Discussions were focused on how local leaders and place-based philanthropy can work better together to advance mutual community goals.

AFA’s Advisory Council Co-Chair Mayor Kate Gallego timed our first in person gathering of the year perfectly, hosting us at Chase Field in Phoenix to see her Arizona Diamondbacks take on Mayor Lucas’ Kansas City Royals. With presentations from USDOT, USDOL, and Commerce leaders, alongside thought provoking dialogue about the increasing complexity of issues facing our local leaders, everyone took in a lot and definitely took a lot home for innovation and implementation.

*Inviting business, labor, philanthropy, and NGO leaders together with our Mayors and other local, state and federal leaders to engage in focused discussions, AFA convened in Phoenix and Kansas City in 2023.*



**YEAR IN REVIEW: HEADLINES, PUBLICATIONS, THOUGHT LEADERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT ACROSS THE COUNTRY**



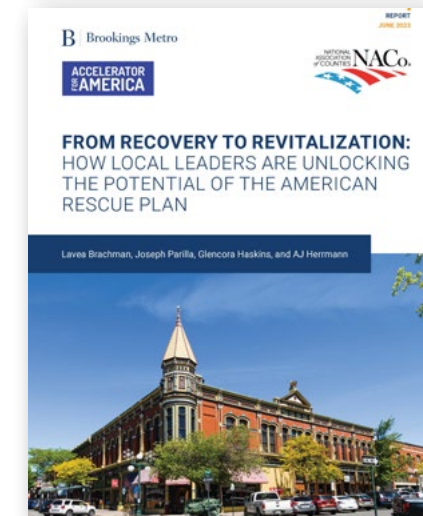
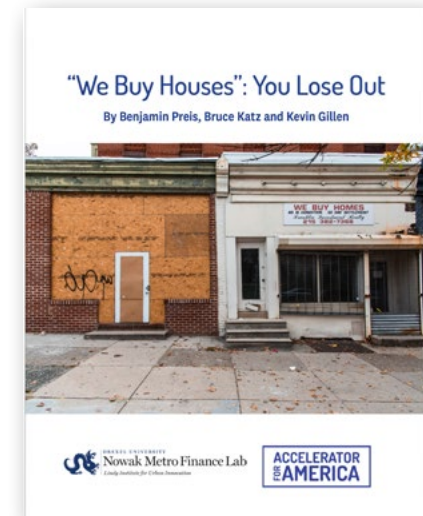
➤ **Accelerator for America's mission is to find and develop solutions to economic insecurity, and to share them with communities to create national change from the ground up. We are an action-oriented Do Tank – not a think tank.**

**News from the Accelerator**

- Innovative Infrastructure Initiative Joins Forces with Accelerator for America to Transform Infrastructure Delivery in U.S. Cities
- USDOT Selects Accelerator for America and Partners as 'Capacity Builder Team' and Awards \$5+ Million
- At the Clinton Global Initiative convening, Accelerator for America and Tolemi Announce Partnership to help 11 U.S. Cities with Affordable Housing Crisis
- White House Recognizes Accelerator for America as Technical Assistance Resource
- AFA Releases Local Case Stories Through the Local Infrastructure Hub
- Accelerator for America Launches the Inaugural i3 Cohort
- AFA Convenes in Phoenix, Accelerates Economic Growth and Opportunity
- Welcome to Infrastructure Week 2023

**Publications**

- We Buy Houses: You Lose Out
- Data Deficit: Flying Blind on Small Business
- How Communities Can Maximize The Inflation Reduction Act
- Accelerating Economic Opportunity Across the Country: Lessons from California
- From Recovery to Revitalization: How Local Leaders are Unlocking the Potential of the American Rescue Plan
- How Cities Can Access New Climate Incentives
- White House Announces Critical BEAD Funding Allocations
- Advancing Neighborhood Commercial Corridors
- Clinton Global Initiative + Accelerator for America Mayors' Roundtable
- Small Business Capital: A Place-Based Approach



*Accelerator for America publishes several reports annually in partnership with the Drexel University Nowak Metro Finance Lab, Brookings Metro and others. Full reports are available for download in the resources section of our website.*



## ACCELERATING OUR EFFORTS

This year, Accelerator proudly added new partners, funders, and initiatives, further proving the power of our work, and our network, and driving us in a clear direction forward into 2024.

### 2023 AFA Funders

- Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth
- James Irvine Foundation
- Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- U.S. Department of Labor
- Bloomberg Philanthropies and Results for America
- Sidewalk Infrastructure Partners
- DRK Foundation
- St. Louis Community Foundation
- WSP USA
- North America's Building Trades Unions
- Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

### 2023 AFAA/United for Infrastructure Funders

- HNTB
- Business Roundtable
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- Siemens
- AECOM
- Meridiam
- Stantec
- Sidewalk Infrastructure Partners
- US Water Alliance
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
- American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)

## WHAT LEADERS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE ACCELERATOR








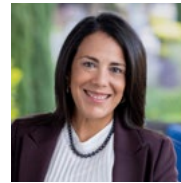







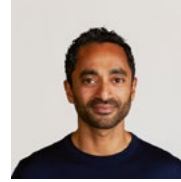
**LEADERSHIP**

Accelerator for America is led by an Advisory Council comprising mayors, elected leaders, labor leaders, corporate CEOs, and nonprofit executives from across the country. Our work is driven by an exceptional staff.

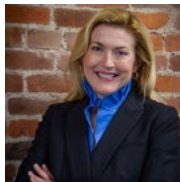






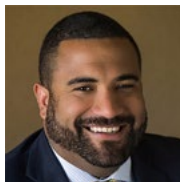

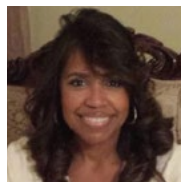
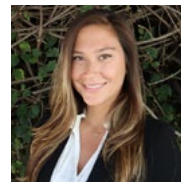
**ADVISORY COUNCIL**

 KATE GALLEGO Co-Chair Mayor, Phoenix, AZ	 QUINTON LUCAS Co-Chair Mayor, Kansas City, MO	 JANE CASTOR Mayor Tampa, FL	 PAIGE COGNETTI Mayor Scranton, PA	 JOHN GILES Mayor Mesa, AZ	 TODD GLORIA Mayor San Diego, CA	 QUENTIN HART Mayor Waterloo, IA
 DAVID HOLT Mayor Oklahoma City, OK	 TIM KELLY Mayor Chattanooga, TN	 MATTIE PARKER Mayor Fort Worth, TX	 ROB NIRENBERG Mayor San Antonio, TX	 ANDY SCHOR Mayor Lansing, MI	 RANDALL WOODFIN Mayor Birmingham, AL	 REBECCA RHYNHART Former City Controller Philadelphia, PA
 ANNA VALENCIA City Clerk Chicago, IL	 MICHELLE DIPPEL Executive Vice President, Western US, HNTB	 AMANDA EDWARDS Former Houston City Council Member at Large	 LARRY JACOB Vice President, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation	 BRUCE KATZ Co-Founder The New Localism	 MICHAEL MCAFFEE President and CEO PolicyLink	 MIKE MONROE Chief of Staff North America's Building Trades Unions
 SWATI MYLAVARAPU CEO Incite.org	 NATHAN OHLE President & CEO IEDC	 JOHN PORCARI Former Port Envoy The White House	 SHAMINA SINGH Founder & President Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth	 ROB SLIMP President and CEO HNTB	 SONALI SHAH Founding President The Asian American Foundation	 STUART SUNSHINE Senior Vice President, National Director of Government Affairs, WSP USA



**ADVISORY COUNCIL: ALUMNI**

 ERIC GARCETTI Founding Advisory Council Chair Former Mayor of Los Angeles	 STEVE BENJAMIN Former Mayor Columbia, SC	 JOHN CRANLEY Former Mayor Cincinnati, OH	 MICHELLE DE LA ISLA CEO of Hack.Diversity Former Mayor, Topeka, KS	 NAN WHALEY Former Mayor Dayton, OH	 PETE BUTTIGIEG U.S. Secretary of Transportation Former Mayor of South Bend, IN	 CHERYL DORSEY President Echoing Green
 ANGELA GLOVER BLACKWELL Founder in Residence PolicyLink	 CYRUS HABIB Former Lt. Governor Washington	 GREGORY A. KELLY President & CEO STV	 MICHAEL LYNTON Chairman of the Board Snap, Inc.	 CHAMATH PALIHAPITIYA Founder and CEO Social Capital		


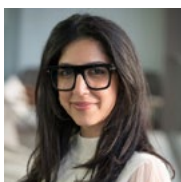

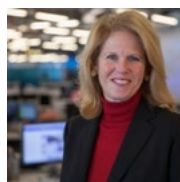

**STAFF**

 MARY ELLEN WIEDERWOHL President & CEO	 AARON THOMAS Former CEO & Strategic Advisor	 YUSEF ROBB Senior Advisor	 LLJU VARGHESE CFO	 ANNE BOVAIRD NEVINS Director Economic Development	 ROSS VAN DONGEN Director Infrastructure & Intergovernmental Affairs	 A.J. HERRMANN Director Policy and Program Innovation
 MATT HORTON Director Policy and Strategic Initiatives	 ZACH ETZIN Program Manager Infrastructure	 ZELIA WILLIAM Program Manager Workforce	 SAMANTHA DEUTCHMAN Manager Events & Operations			

**RESEARCH PARTNERS**

 BRUCE KATZ Director & Co-founder Drexel University, Nowak Metro Finance Lab	 MICHAEL GREENLE Managing Director Drexel University, Nowak Metro Finance Lab
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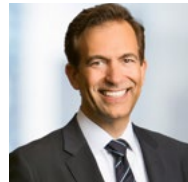
**CONSULTANTS**

 MANDY BENSON HR Consultant	 SHEHARAZAD FLEMING Communications Consultant	 ABIGAIL GARDNER Communications United for Infrastructure	 KERRY O'HARE Senior Advisor United for Infrastructure	 JOSH COHEN Campaigns Consultant AFAA
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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board members bring unique perspectives and expertise to advance our work and organizational mission. In 2023, we proudly welcomed Matthew Denn to the Accelerator Board, and Joy Rohadfox, Marcia Hale, and Julie McCoy to the Accelerator Action Board.

### ACCELERATOR FOR AMERICA



JONATHAN WEISS  
Board Chair  
Partner, Proskauer



DAN CAROL  
Director of Financial Markets  
Milken Institute



GLEN DAKE  
Board Secretary & Treasurer  
Landscape Architect



MICHELLE DE LA ISLA  
CEO of Hack.Diversity &  
Former Mayor, Topeka, KS

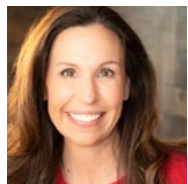


MATTHEW DENN  
Managing Director  
DRK Foundation



MARY ELLEN WIEDERWOHL  
President and CEO  
Accelerator for America

### ACCELERATOR FOR AMERICA ACTION



DEIDRE LIND  
Board Chair  
Former President and CEO  
Mayor's Fund for Los Angeles



GLEN DAKE  
Board Treasurer  
Landscape Architect



REYAHD KAZMI  
Board Secretary  
President  
Kazmi Advisors



MARCIA HALE  
Policy Consultant  
Hale Strategies



JOY ROHADFOX  
CEO  
Rohadfox Construction



JULIE MCCOY  
Principal  
Mercury Group

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