

# Federal Updates for City Leaders and Advocacy Ahead

June 2024



1

## Federal Action Agenda Updates

### Legislative

- **Aviation (FAA) Reauthorization** passed with substantial increase to airport improvement program
- Bipartisan legislation on **PFAS municipal liability protection** is needed now
- **Railway Safety Act** (S.576) will see a House response in June
- Reauthorizations ahead – **Flood Insurance** (NFIP), Stronger **Workforce for America Act** (WIOA), **Water Resources** (WRDA) and the **Farm Bill**
- **Streamlining Federal Grants Act** (S.2286) picks up support

### Regulatory

- Changes to OSHA Emergency Response Standards raise unfunded mandate concerns; comment period delayed again until July 22, 2024
- Updating Uniform Grants Guidance to make it easier for local governments to **access grants**
- **ARPA compliance** and obligation deadline looms
- **EECEBG** Grants Extension from April 30 to October 31 - WIN

### Legal

- Joined numerous **amicus briefs** for SCOTUS and lower federal court cases to advocate for local government priorities on important issues including:
  - **Homelessness**
  - **Title VII employment**
  - **Impact fees**
  - **Second Amendment**
- Keeping **local governments informed** on important Court activity and decisions



2

## FY25 Appropriations – Local Priorities

- Direct funding to address urgent housing, homelessness, and community development needs
- Water infrastructure financing programs
- Disaster response and recovery funding
- EDA programs for local governments
- Workforce development programs
- Public safety and violence prevention grants
- Flexible funding grants for transportation and infrastructure needs
- Preservation of State and Local Cybersecurity Program
- Continuation of the Affordable Connectivity Program



3

## 2024-2025 Look Ahead for Advocacy

- Washington state Congressional delegation continues to bring tremendous leadership on local priorities, but we need more support on:
  - **PFAS and water programs**
  - **FY25 Domestic Budget priorities**
  - **Federal process improvements**
- **Congressional composition** will change substantially after November opening up new advocacy needs
- **Plans for next Congressional cycle** are moving on both sides leading to opportunities for NLC priorities
- **Tax package** is highly sought by industry but will be shaped by November elections
- **Infrastructure** Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) will need to be reauthorized and strategy is beginning on ideas
- Tips:
  - Start with **THANK YOU** – for infrastructure grants, federal programs, etc.
  - Make **in-person connections** in August and October while Congress is home
  - Submit funding requests early!



4