



Georgia Municipal Association 2023 Top Federal Priorities

ARPA State and Local Fiscal Relief Fund

GMA will continue to work with the U.S. Treasury Department to insure that recipients will have the maximum flexibility to use ARPA SLFRF funds to address a variety of pandemic-related needs for public health, economic impacts, and government services.

Broadband/ Telecommunications

GMA opposes any legislation or regulation that weakens the authority of Georgia's municipalities to regulate the use of their public rights-of-way, and which diminishes their authority to locally determine appropriate compensation for such use. GMA supports a balanced approach to telecommunications policy that allows new technologies to flourish while preserving traditional local regulatory authority.

Building Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure

GMA supports federal efforts to research and develop national policies and strategies that address climate resiliency and sustainability. A federal focus on sustainability and resilience is needed in order to assist local communities adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate. The continued occurrence of extreme weather events in Georgia such as droughts, floods and heat waves, will have a long-term impact on local infrastructure, economies, economic development efforts, public safety, as well as health and quality-of-life. Collaboration between the federal government and cities is needed in order to better understand the impact of differing climate impacts as well as to assess, adapt to and mitigate current and future threats. Creating strong resilient communities is the foundation of a resilient and vibrant nation.

Skilled Workforce Readiness

GMA urges Congress to invest in programs to support workforce development and job skills training. Investing in the American workforce is critical to expanding our nation's economic success and ensuring that all people have opportunities to thrive. Research by the [National League of Cities](#) indicates infrastructure jobs take longer to fill than non-infrastructure jobs. In some Georgia Congressional districts, it can take 30-40 days to fill these jobs, resulting in delays and cost increases for much-needed capital projects. Cities are prepared to put Congressionally approved infrastructure dollars to work, but we need help from Congress to invest at-scale in the workforce cities need to build and maintain our nation's critical infrastructure assets. These investments will help ensure that the jobs across infrastructure sectors that will be created by the historic federal infrastructure legislation will be filled and that shifting business demands in other sectors can be met.

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