

October 18, 2024

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to express the support of the National League of Cities (NLC) for the activities detailed in the National Research Support Project's (NRSP's) proposal, *"Building Collaborative Research and Extension Networks to Advance the Conduct and Application of Science with Urban Communities,"* led by Dr. Brad Gaolach from Washington State University.

NLC focuses on delivering innovative solutions to municipalities and local governments. We believe NRSP's proposed project can offer valuable insights from research at public land-grant universities, ensuring the findings are practical for real-world applications. If funded, NLC will support this initiative with the following resources:

- Appointing an NLC staff member to serve on the project's advisory committee (currently proposing Dr. Christine Baker-Smith, NLC's Director of Research).
- Establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Urban Research and Extension Center (NUREC) to support this project and the overall missions of NLC and NUREC, including by:
- Leveraging NLC's expertise as a technical assistance provider to connect NUREC's research and Extension personnel with NLC members to support the co-creation of applied research and Extension programs;
- Collaborating on grant applications to federal, corporate, and philanthropic funders;
- Connecting NUREC personnel with NLC program staff to build professional relationships that drive new research efforts in alignment with municipal needs;
- Sharing research and Extension opportunities and resources with NLC member cities;
- Recruiting NLC staff and member city personnel to participate in NUREC's Applied Research and Extension Communities of Practice, as outlined in the proposal.

We are excited to participate in this project, as it aligns with our shared focus areas of climate resilience, workforce development, and civic engagement. While NLC and its member cities may receive grant funds through this collaboration with NRSP and NUREC, NLC will not be the primary recipient. For questions, please contact NLC's Director of Research, Christine Baker-Smith, at baker-smith@nlc.org.

Sincerely,



Clarence Anthony
CEO and Executive Director
National League of Cities