

CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM, NC 2026 FEDERAL ACTION PLAN

ISSUE	ACTION ITEMS
COMPETITIVE GRANTS, CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING and SHOVEL READY PROJECTS	 Support all efforts by the City of Winston-Salem to secure additional federal resources for local priorities. A list of grants and projects requesting federal support will be provided as notices for those opportunities, and the criteria for them, are announced. Support the continuation of the local-federal partnership, including competitive grants and congressionally directed spending/community funded projects. Preserve local decision-making authority by limiting additional federal restrictions, such as requirements to amend local ordinances, as conditions for federal funding eligibility.
AFFORDABLE HOUSING and HOMELESSNESS	 Federal funding for permanent affordable housing, fair housing, housing for veterans, rental assistance programs, rehabilitation of housing stock, and resources to prevent and end homelessness, particularly youth homelessness. Support the continuation of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program that provide essential funding for local housing initiatives. Extend HUD audits beyond annually, which is duplicative and costly to local governments.
COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC and WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	 Fund programs to restore and revitalize underserved and/or older neighborhoods, fight poverty, retrofit low-income housing and older buildings to meet code, and enhance Historic Districts. Increase investment in small businesses and funding for job creation, workforce development training, trade training, job placement and apprenticeship programs, as well as programs for youth enrichment and access. Support reentry programs that focus on areas vital to reintegration back into the community, including employment, education, mentoring, substance use, and mental health treatment. Expand designations in and leverage potential investments surrounding the Opportunity Zones Program. Support the continuation of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program that serves as a vital recruitment and retention tool for local governments.
PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE	 TRANSPORTATION Increase federal support for the Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA) through Section 5307 funding and streamlined FTA rules. Provide resources for timely bus replacement, improved service, and innovation. Support reactivating a commuter passenger rail line into the City of Winston-Salem, which is the largest city in the state's western portion without access to Amtrak. Provide funding for the Corridor Identification and Development Program and other federal passenger rail programs. Continue and expand Metropolitan Planning program funding to support MPO planning for regional growth and multimodal needs. Provide greater flexibility with federal transportation funding. Prioritize maintenance and upgrades of roads, bridges, sidewalks, greenways, and transit infrastructure, and expand EV infrastructure for municipal fleet transition.

	WATER AND SEWER
	Funding to replace lead service lines and aging infrastructure.
	• Funding to assist with PFAS and PFOS detection and nutrient management.
	POLICE DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC SAFETY	 Support federal funding to help local law enforcement agencies with crime prevention. Prioritize recruitment and retention, crime-solving technology, and fortifying/protecting WSPD properties. Direct more funding to Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance grant programs, and other USDOJ grants. FIRE DEPARTMENT
	 Direct more competitive grant funding to career fire departments and provide low or no cost match funding for fire department staff hiring and retention. Provide more notice prior to publishing funding opportunities, extend the typical application window, and
	streamline the application and award process for the Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program.
QUALITY OF LIFE	ARTS AND HUMANITIES
	 Fund federal programs that enhance access to arts and humanities at the local level, particularly for youth career options and African American historically significant projects. PARKS AND RECREATION:
	 Funding for local park and recreation departments to meet Americans with Disabilities Act compliance for ongoing maintenance. HEALTH AND WELLNESS:
	 Fund programs that increase access to healthy foods, like community-based grocery solutions and alternative food distribution models, to combat food deserts and childhood obesity.
	Support planning and programming for urban heat island reduction and extreme heat days.
	• Promote citizen engagement; enhance the health and wellness of the senior population; fight substance use; and reduce suicide rates.
	• Support programs to treat mental health and oppose efforts to transfer the costs for mental health treatment from the federal government to the local level. ENVIRONMENT:
	• Support programs for energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainability, and invasive plant removal. EQUALITY
	• Support non-discrimination policies and human rights legislation, including, but not limited to, equality and social justice.
UNFUNDED MANDATES	Oppose legislation that imposes unfunded mandates on local government.

