



NADO Alert: Administration Seeks Cuts to Federal Agencies; EDA among Those at Risk

The Trump Administration is approaching the next federal budget with an eye towards reducing government spending by eliminating several federal agencies. Using the Heritage Foundation's blueprint for reducing government, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) has been targeted as a part of these cuts. As EDA plays an integral role in job creation and critical infrastructure for economic development, cuts to the agency would negatively impact communities throughout the country.

At NADO, we are committed to advancing legislation and spending packages which continue EDA's investment in regional economies. NADO is the lead convener of an EDA stakeholder group and we plan to use these partnerships to communicate to the administration the importance of EDA's role in supporting locally driven economic development. We continue to work with House and Senate Appropriations Committee staff and members of Congress to advocate for EDA. In the coming weeks, we will also connect with NADO members to gather relevant and meaningful stories of EDA's role in specific regional economic activities. We will then share these examples with federal legislators and administration officials to explain how EDA creates jobs and encourages economic growth. At this time, we also need your support to save EDA from potential rollback or elimination. Here's how you can help:

- **Attend the [2017 Washington Policy Conference: NADO on the Hill](#) and discuss EDA's impact with your members of Congress during Hill visits on Tuesday, March 21st.** NADO will have a customized outreach tool available to accompany you as you speak with congressional members.
- **Call your congressional office to voice your concerns regarding EDA and how communities would be affected by the proposed cuts.** Be prepared to offer specific examples of EDA's success in supporting your region's economic development.
- **Discuss EDA's role with your board and EDA grant recipients in your region; inquire about their availability to reach out to congressional members.** As elected officials, your board members can offer an invaluable perspective on EDA's impact on local and regional development. EDA grant recipients can provide testimonials on the benefits of EDA investments and how they can be leveraged.

Looking forward at the next steps, here is a timeline of expected action related to EDA funding:

- Late February: President Trump is expected to release a budget outline. It is not clear if this would include details on EDA funding.
- April 28: Current continuing resolution (CR) for FY2017 expires. Congress must by this date pass another CR or an omnibus spending package for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- May: Full FY2018 budget proposal is expected.

- May: Congress begins consideration of FY2018 spending bill in the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.
- October 1: FY2018 begins.

NADO will continue to work with partners and stakeholders to influence policy making and spending decisions on behalf of NADO members. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact us.