

10 Priorities for Advancing Economic and Racial Equity Through Federal Investments

The Build Back Better Act and bipartisan infrastructure framework represent the most significant investment in our nation's infrastructure and people in decades. Together, these bills will move our country toward meeting its climate goals, create millions of good jobs, and grow our economy by investing in people. Now we must ensure that these resources benefit the [100 million people](#) in this country who are economically insecure and are consistently left behind.

Achieving equity—just and fair inclusion into a society where all benefit, prosper, and reach their full potential—requires intentional planning and a sharp focus on delivering measurable benefits to those most impacted. The lessons from past recovery efforts are clear: absent an intentional approach, current economic and racial inequities will become further entrenched. To meet the urgency and potential of this moment,

policymakers must ensure recovery resources are used to support the hardest-hit workers, businesses, and communities and commit to building an equitable economy.

These 10 priorities provide guidance and support to policymakers at all levels of government committed to advancing an equitable recovery. They were informed by chief equity officers, policymakers, community leaders, economic development practitioners, research and policy organizations, and philanthropic partners.

1	Explicitly name equity as a goal of new programs and resources, with specific targets to produce results at scale	6	Invest in frontline, Covid-impacted, and disinvested communities
2	Engage historically underserved communities in prioritizing investments	7	Prevent displacement and increase community ownership of land and housing
3	Connect unemployed and low-wage workers with good jobs and careers	8	Invest in the power and capacity of marginalized communities to advance equitable policies and practices over the long term
4	Stabilize and grow businesses owned by people of color and immigrants	9	Encourage interagency and cross-sector equity investments to ensure communities are leveraging resources
5	Restore and expand public services that deliver critical physical and care infrastructure to disadvantaged communities	10	Track disaggregated data to ensure progress toward population-level impact



Lifting Up What Works®

Headquarters

1438 Webster Street
Suite 303
Oakland, CA 94612
t 510 663-2333
f 510 663-9684

Communications

75 Broad Street
Suite 701
New York, NY 10004
t 212 629-9570

policylink.org

Facebook: /PolicyLink
Twitter: @policylink
Instagram: @policylink