TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE
Transportation and infrastructure are critical components that support the economies of our counties and improve the standard of living for all Americans. By providing efficient transportation and transit systems such as buses, trains, light rail and subway systems, counties are the driving force connecting communities. Counties invest in building the schools where you spend time with family and friends, the hospitals that treat and provide care to the community and the jails that house and rehabilitate wrongdoers. From cleaning up storm debris and restoring safety to the community to cleaning the water we drink by maintaining reservoirs, purification plants and pumping stations, counties provide the basic services that are often taken for granted.

HEALTHCARE
counties provide vital services to all Americans, from issuing birth certificates and marriage licenses to operating 911 call centers. Counties are responsible for running elections, which represent more than 76% of the publicly owned nursing homes. Counties support 960 hospitals with a total of 96,225 beds that serve more than 14 million patient days annually.

COUNTIES INVEST
$70.2 BILLION TOTAL in justice and public safety services annually, of which...

$30.2 BILLION in support of police and sheriffs departments
$23.3 BILLION in support of correctional facilities
$11.6 million people were admitted to county and other local jails in 2012

$16.7 BILLION is spent on county courts and legal services annually

$70.2 BILLION in construction of public facilities annually

Every TWO years...
COUNTY MANAGEMENT
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HEALTHCARE
COUNTIES INVEST
$69.7 BILLION for community health and hospitals annually

COUNTIES Invest
$70.2 BILLION in construction of public facilities annually

WHY COUNTIES MATTER!

JOINT & PUBLIC SAFETY
Counties keep communities safe by providing law enforcement and promoting crime prevention. From patrolling and policing the streets, to operating and maintaining county detention facilities, to serving as the arm of the county courts, county sheriffs and police departments are the linchpin of the criminal justice system. The other key players in the system are judges, district attorneys, public defenders, court clerks, parole directors and correctional officers.

Criminal justice components include:
- Sheriff’s departments
- County police departments
- County court systems
- Jails and correctional facilities
- Juvenile detention and juvenile services
- District attorneys
- Public defenders
- Correctional officers
- Probation

There are 3,105 county police and sheriffs departments.

$30.2 BILLION IN support of police and sheriffs departments
$23.3 BILLION in support of correctional facilities

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COUNTIES INVEST
$52.2 BILLION in construction of public facilities annually

COUNTIES SUPPORT
960 hospitals with a total of 96,225 beds that serve more than 14 million patient days annually.

COUNTIES ARE INVOLVED IN the operation of:
- 3,105 county police and sheriffs departments
- 1,550 local health departments

COUNTIES INVEST
$106.3 BILLION IN building infrastructure and maintaining and operating public works annually

COUNTIES ARE INVOLVED IN the operation of:
- 45% of America’s roads
- 27% of public transit systems
- 30% of America’s bridges
- 30% of all publicly owned airports

COUNTIES INVEST
$18.6 BILLION in sewage and solid waste management annually

COUNTIES ARE INVOLVED IN:
- 27% of public transit systems
- 45% of America’s roads
- 27% of America’s bridges
- 30% of publicly owned airports

NACo’s VISION:
HEALTHY, VIBRANT, SAFE, AND RESILIENT COUNTIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

COUNTIES INVEST
$9.3 BILLION to build and maintain parks and recreational facilities annually

COUNTIES INVEST
$25.6 BILLION into economic development

19,300 elected county board members and elected executives
+$482.1 BILLION total expenditures annually
+$3.3 MILLION county employees = 296 MILLION county residents

Every TWO years...
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