

State of the Cities 2020: Leading through a Pandemic

Speaker Biographies

Andy Berke is the mayor of Chattanooga, Tennessee. A former two-term state senator, Berke served as vice chairman of the Tennessee Senate Democratic Caucus. During his career, he has been honored as Tennessee Congress of Parents and Teachers Legislator of the Year, Tennessee Education Association Friend of Education, County Officials Association of Tennessee Legislator of the Year, Lipscomb University Institute for Sustainable Practice Public Official of the Year, and *American City and County Magazine* Municipal Leader of the Year. Berke holds a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and a doctoral degree from the University of Chicago Law School.

Carolyn Coleman, executive director of the League of California Cities, holds more than 25 years of experience as a leader and advocate in the public and private sectors. Under her leadership, the league advances policies that expand and protect local control for cities through education and advocacy and enhance quality of life for all Californians. She joined the League of California Cities in 2016 after a decade with the National League of Cities (NLC) in Washington, DC, as senior executive and director of federal advocacy. Before working with NLC, Coleman served as deputy mayor for the city of Indianapolis, where she focused on affordable housing, economic development, infrastructure, and community engagement initiatives. In addition to her professional endeavors, Coleman serves on the board of trustees of the University of Indianapolis and on the dean's cabinet at the McGeorge School of Law. She is also a governor appointee to the California Complete Count Committee and serves on the boards of directors for NLC and the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy.

Tracy Gordon is a senior fellow with the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, where she researches and writes about fiscal challenges facing state and local governments, including budget trade-offs, intergovernmental relations, and long-term sustainability. Before joining Urban, Gordon was a senior economist with the White House Council of Economic Advisers. She was also a fellow at the Brookings Institution, assistant professor at the University of Maryland School of Public Policy, and fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California. Gordon was a member of the District of Columbia Infrastructure Task Force and the District of Columbia Tax Revision Commission. She serves on the boards of trustees for the American Tax Policy Institute and the National Tax Association. Gordon holds a master's degree in economics with a concurrent doctoral degree in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley.

Michael A. Nutter is a former two-term mayor of Philadelphia, who spent almost 15 years in the Philadelphia City Council. Since leaving public office in 2016, he has remained active in public policy, government, and civic life. He is the inaugural David N. Dinkins professor of professional practice in urban and public affairs at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and holds fellowships at the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Chicago, and Harvard Kennedy School. He is a senior fellow and national spokesperson for the What Works Cities program at Bloomberg Philanthropies and a member of the external advisory council for JPMorgan Chase's AdvancingCities initiative. Nutter is past president of the United States Conference of Mayors and founder of Cities United. He is on the boards of the Center for Science in the Public Interest, the Council on Criminal Justice, Heartland, Sandy Hook Promise, and the Urban Institute.

Kim Rueben is the Sol Price fellow and director of the State and Local Finance Initiative at the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center. Rueben is an expert on state and local public finance and the economics of education. Her work examines issues of state and local public finance and focuses on state budget and tax issues, intergovernmental relations, fiscal institutions, and the economics of education, including federal and state financing of both K-12 and postsecondary education and how decisions affect different individuals across states. She serves on a council of economic advisors for the Controller of the State of California and a National Academy of Sciences panel on the economic and fiscal consequences of immigration, and she was on the DC Tax Revision Commission in 2013. Rueben received a bachelor's degree in applied math-economics from Brown University, a master's degree in economics from the London School of Economics, and a doctoral degree in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.