

Proven and Promising Interventions to Support Small Businesses: A Guide for Cities

Speaker Biographies

Javier Marin is the Director of Economic Opportunity within the Development and Economic Opportunity portfolio of the City of Tampa. He is responsible for ensuring all stakeholders benefit from projects initiated by, or in partnership with, the City of Tampa. The department includes small business navigation and small business resources. Additionally, he acts as the City's liaison to economic development, tourism, Foreign Trade Zone, Sister Cities and International Trade & Protocol. Marin sees his role as "supporting firms and communities to foster a 'Global' Economy."

Todd Rufo joined Bloomberg Associates in 2018 and works with cities worldwide to build stronger, more inclusive economies. He supports job growth through cluster development, investment attraction, small business support, site regeneration, and workforce development, with a focus on data-driven, tech-enabled economic development. Previously, Rufo served as Director of the San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development, overseeing a period of historic growth that added more than 143,000 jobs and reduced unemployment to 2.4 percent by 2018.

Dan Teles is a principal research associate in the Housing and Communities Division at the Urban Institute. His research studies policies and programs that strive to increase access to decent affordable housing, support community and economic development, or strengthen the nonprofit sector. Teles is leading research examining the development of subsidized housing in low-poverty or high-opportunity neighborhoods and an exploration of potential alternative calculations for Fair Market Rents for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. He has contributed to the Journal of Economic Inequality, Housing Policy Debate, Cityscape, Journal of Housing Research, the Handbook of Research on Nonprofit Economics and Management, and the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy's Significant Features of the Property Tax. Teles received a BS from the George Washington University and an MA and PhD in economics from Tulane University. Between George Washington and Tulane, he worked for New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity and Louisiana's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. At Tulane, Teles was a community-engaged graduate fellow and coprincipal investigator of the AmeriCorps Crowd Out Study.

Brett Theodos is the director of the Center for Local Finance and Growth at the Urban Institute. He is a leading researcher in mission finance, small business outcomes, place-based development, and wealth-building tools. Theodos is regularly called upon by practitioners and policymakers to inform how to better expand prosperity in the US. Theodos serves on the board of directors with the Center for Community Progress, the Douglass Community Land Trust, Grounded Solutions Network, and the Housing Authority of Prince George's County, Maryland. Theodos received his BA from Northwestern University, MPP from Georgetown University, and PhD in public policy from the George Washington University.

Brodie Turner is the Assistant Director for Economy and Culture at the London Borough of Lambeth, leading work on economic development, business support and inclusive growth. She has senior responsibility for the design and delivery of borough-wide strategies and major investment programs that support SMEs, social enterprises and the borough's priority sectors, including the Lambeth Growth Plan,

the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Future Workspace Fund. With extensive experience managing large-scale funding programs and working in partnership across the public and private sectors, Turner focuses on targeted interventions that deliver measurable economic impact whilst reflecting Lambeth's unique identity.