The Problem

Based on studies of philanthropic contributions to legacy cities’ revitalizations...

Small legacy cities’ urban revitalization efforts by local governments do not integrate foundations enough.

Adam Goudjil
Problem Outlook

Small legacy cities have consistently greater revitalization grantmaking relative to their populations. This marks an opportunity for governments to take advantage of foundations’ capital.
Complicating Factors

1. Proximity to major cities can compromise funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Funding Difference ($)</th>
<th>Distance (mi.)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Detroit vs. Warren</td>
<td>723,404,003</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati vs. Dayton</td>
<td>192,878,791</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rochester vs. Syracuse</td>
<td>17,758,146</td>
<td>88</td>
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Neighboring legacy cities have larger funding disparities the closer they are to each other.

2. Large legacy cities have national foundations, unlike smaller ones

Example: Detroit’s locality to the Kresge Foundation
(Source)

3. Governments must account for constituents and history

“Urban policy [in New Haven, historically] has been determined by a top-down system, with little or no input from people who live in neighborhoods” (Source)

Historically, philanthropies have invested in unequal ways.
Modelling Meaningful Partnership: Evidence from Syracuse

**Funding projects** to drive downtown development (Connective Corridor)

**Funding government-led nonprofits** revitalizing neighborhoods (Blueprint 15)

Working with the **Mayor’s Office** to renovate commercial centers (Salt City Market)

**Successful philanthropic inclusion in urban revitalization**
Alternative Recommendations for Local Governments

Pursue Funding For Revitalizing Specific Streets
Examples: New Haven’s Starr Street Revitalization
(Source)

Pursue Funding Towards Equitable Participatory Planning
Example: Post-Katrina New Orleans resilience initiatives
(Source)

Embrace Individual Philanthropists
Example: Tony Staub and the Dayton Arcade
(Source)