

# City Finances Proposal

## Objectives:

- *Analyze* 150 cities across the United States using data from 2002 to 2016 to determine...
  1. percent of cities that are managing expenses within revenues (sound budget practices)
  2. if annual remaining balance (deficit or surplus), after adjusting for inflation, is increasing, stable, or decreasing for each city
  3. which states have the highest percent of fiscally responsible and not responsible cities
  4. Using (revenue – spend) apply clustering methods to look for ways to group the cities that over-spend versus cities that maintain budget or generate a surplus.
- *Build a model* that can be used to predict the probability that a city will remain solvent or go bankrupt
- *Create a Tableau viz* that can be used to assess the health of a given city and whether the city is going to go bankrupt

## Client/Target Audience:

Anyone interested in an improved understanding of the financial footing that America's largest cities are trending towards.

## Datasets:

- The "[Fiscally Standardized Cities Database \(FSCB\)](#)" is the primary source for this study
- A listing of cities that require bailouts or went bankrupt (source is tbd)

### *About the FSCB:*

This database makes it possible to compare local government finances for 150 of the largest U.S. cities across more than 120 categories of revenues, expenditures, debt, and assets.

## Approach:

1. Analyze the data to identify which of the 120 features can contribute to the analysis and model
2. Prepare/clean the data
3. Assess feasibility of using this data to create a model to predict bankruptcy. If feasible, build a model. If not feasible, create model/s to predict which cities are likely to continue to have surpluses and which will most likely continue to run deficits.
4. Share results via Github

## Deliverables:

1. Summary of results
2. Supporting data and analysis (analysis will in Python via Jupyter notebooks)