

From... *The New York Times.*

Opinion

How Biden Can Free America From Its Zoning Straitjacket

“If a state wants funds for infrastructure, it should meet strict conditions about housing construction.”

By Edward L. Glaeser

“Mr. Glaeser, an economist, has written extensively about urban America, infrastructure and housing policy.”

April 12, 2021

“President Biden’s American Jobs infrastructure plan hopes to shake this country free of wasteful barriers to affordable housing — especially in booming areas.

“An “innovative” competitive grant program will act to eliminate these harmful zoning and land-use practices. Mr. Biden has the right goal — reducing regulatory barriers on new construction could have wide-ranging economic benefits that exceed anything else in his \$2 trillion plan. But a competitive grant program is too weak to overcome the entrenched interests — like the homeowners who control local zoning boards and the wealthy residents of cooperatives who oppose all neighborhood change — that limit building in productive places.

“If the president wants to break the country out of its zoning straitjacket, the infrastructure plan should ensure that no benefits go to states that fail to make verifiable progress enabling housing construction in their high-wage, high-opportunity areas.”

Professor Glaeser goes on to include sustainability, climate change and social justice as issues to be linked with federal aid...CT.org.

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“**Edward L. Glaeser**, a professor of economics at Harvard and a leader of a Department of Transportation-funded project on the economics of transportation at the National Bureau of Economic Research, is a co-author of the forthcoming book ‘[Survival of the City](#): Living and Thriving in an Age of Isolation.’ ...nyt

From CT.org, **Professor Glaeser** also wrote *Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes Us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier, and Happier*, 2012.

LINK:

<https://www.amazon.com/Triumph-City-Greatest-Invention-Healthier/dp/0143120549>