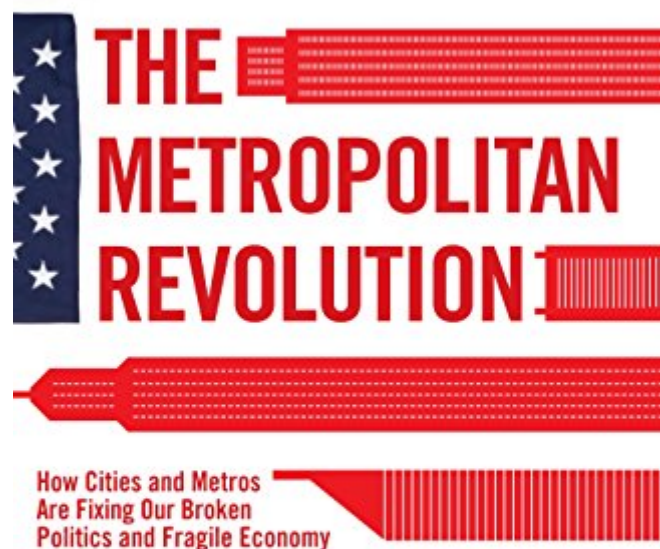




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# The Metropolitan Revolution: How Cities And Metros Are Fixing Our Broken Politics And Fragile Economy (Brookings Focus Book)



**BRUCE KATZ AND  
JENNIFER BRADLEY**



## Synopsis

Across the US, cities and metropolitan areas are facing huge economic and competitive challenges that Washington won't, or can't, solve. The good news is that networks of metropolitan leaders — mayors, business and labor leaders, educators, and philanthropists — are stepping up and powering the nation forward. These state and local leaders are doing the hard work to grow more jobs and make their communities more prosperous, and they're investing in infrastructure, making manufacturing a priority, and equipping workers with the skills they need. In *The Metropolitan Revolution*, Bruce Katz and Jennifer Bradley highlight success stories and the people behind them. New York City: Efforts are under way to diversify the city's vast economy. Portland: Is selling the "sustainability" solutions it has perfected to other cities around the world. Northeast Ohio: Groups are using industrial-age skills to invent new twenty-first-century materials, tools, and processes. Houston: Modern settlement house helps immigrants climb the employment ladder. Miami: Innovators are forging strong ties with Brazil and other nations. Denver and Los Angeles: Leaders are breaking political barriers and building world-class metropolises. Boston and Detroit: Innovation districts are hatching ideas to power these economies for the next century. The lessons in this book can help other cities meet their challenges. Change is happening, and every community in the country can benefit. Change happens where we live, and if leaders won't do it, citizens should demand it. *The Metropolitan Revolution* was the 2013 Foreword Reviews Bronze winner for Political Science.

## Book Information

File Size: 2625 KB

Print Length: 276 pages

Publisher: Brookings Institution Press; 1 edition (June 19, 2013)

Publication Date: June 19, 2013

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00D3QBXX6

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #421,065 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #36

inÃ Â Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Business & Money > Economics > Urban & Regional #129

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## Customer Reviews

This book, aside from providing confirmation to an idea for an initiative, provides inspiration for us - non political people - to take charge in changing the economic course of our own cities. The future lies (as it should) in the hands of the private sector, through entrepreneurial activity, as the economic leading engines of any urban area. I say, let politicians be administrators and allow for true leaders to rise and in an effort of many key players, build... build a future that can barely be dreamt yet. I highly recommend this book as a must read for anyone not yet ready to throw in the towel.

I am reading a great book (on my Kindle app I put on my tablet) called 'The Metropolitan Revolution.' While the title of the book says Metropolitan the book really applies to regions where more than one city or group of small cities and rural areas are in collaboration for the greater good. His essential premise is the cavalry is not coming to our cities, towns or rural areas (by cavalry he means state/federal government or old industry giants). He writes about and uses many great examples of regional collaborations whereby diverse elements, previously stationed in their silos are now working together, across political, geographic and sector borders and making sustainable economic growth happen.

This book does a good job of detailing an evolving community societal model whereby varied individuals with varying skills but sharing a common passion can be melded into an active and very productive business community. Some great examples of this model being developed in major U.S. cities are provided. An interesting read providing insight into the future of "Co-Op" business entrepreneurship....LS

A remarkably apposite book in these difficult times. The common thread is cooperation among organizations (businesses, non-profits, local governments, etc) which once competed. Simply put, in

today's economic environment, metropolitan areas can achieve far more through cooperation within themselves because then "the whole is greater than the sum of the parts". Another key conclusion is that solving the problems takes time - think 10, 15, 20 years or more. The authors also make the valuable point that neither state governments nor the federal government are going to solve a particular area's problems. They may provide funding but little else. This book is not a recipe for solving a specific area's problems but it provides a framework for developing a solution.

This is a good read on understanding some of the economic transformation taken place at both state and federal level, and the new landscape of our new economy. Overall, good book for everyone, but for college students..

Katz and Bradley posit that with gridlock in Washington, it's up to metropolitan areas to heal themselves, in part by cooperating instead of competing with one another. They show examples of metropolitan areas picking themselves up by their own bootstraps. Of course, all this power can be used for good or for ill....

This book shows that we don't need to depend on a dysfunctional federal government (also, in most cases, state governments) to get done what is needed for our society and economy. The Federal approach - one size fits all - is an obvious failure, even without the parochial bickering, and the examples of cooperation within metropolitan areas is very refreshing.

Important to book to keep business professionals, community leaders engaged in thinking about ways to create positive change and a bright future in their cities and states. Don't wait for the federal government to work - take action on the ground at home now.

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