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## **Building Cities With Online Platforms And Opportunity Zones.**

If recent headlines have taught us anything, it is that economic support and investments can go a long way toward helping cities, businesses and individuals navigate any number of challenges (the pandemic is only among the most recent challenges).

Unemployment is at historic levels. Small businesses (and not a few large ones) are at risk of going under. Across urban and rural settings, communities are in need of investment.

To that end, according to Valla Vakili, managing director and head of the studio at [Citi Ventures](#), data can make all the difference in helping funds get where they need to go to revitalize those communities.

His conversation with Karen Webster took place after Citi Ventures added new features to the City Builder online platform — a digital offering launched at the end of last year that connects investors with “opportunity zones.”

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