



THE LEAGUE News

Volume 22 | Number 48 | DECEMBER 8, 2017 |

Follow us on:



United States Census 2020

CENSUS ADDS ADDITIONAL LUCA TRAINING FOR KANSAS CITIES

The Census 2020 staff will be presenting two free presentations for local government officials (staff or elected) to understand the LUCA portion of the Census. LUCA is the Local Update of Census Addresses and is important to make sure residents in your city are counted accurately.

Two presentations have been filling up fast in Lawrence and Derby. In response to the demand, the Census will now host a LUCA training on Topeka in Wednesday, January 10 from 1-5 p.m. at the League offices, 300 SW 8th Ave.

Please RSVP to Jason Dean, (720) 962-3828 or jason.p.dean@census.gov.

© League of Kansas Municipalities

[HOME](#) | [LEAGUE NEWS ARCHIVE](#) | [EMAIL US](#) | [MUNICIPAL BUSINESS ALLIANCE](#) | [ABOUT US](#)

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE LEAGUE STAFF

Happy holidays from the League of Kansas Municipalities! During this holiday season, we hope you are able to spend time with family and friends. We are thankful to serve Kansas' cities each day and we look forward to working with you in 2018!

On behalf of our entire staff, thank you for your service to local government and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year! [View our video holiday card!](#)



LEAGUE HOSTING CALL FOR WATER UTILITIES

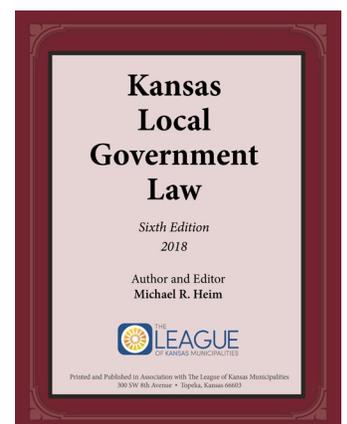
The League has been asked to host a call for large water utilities to discuss priority projects for funding. The focus is particularly on projects that could be funded through the state, however, we are also seeking to gain a better understanding of what projects large utilities are planning to self-fund, too. The call will be Thursday, December 14 at 9 a.m. If you would like to participate in this call, please let Executive Director Erik Sartorius know in advance. We'll provide a conference access code information to utilities to participate. Please contact Anna DeBusk (785) 354-9565 for code.

LEAGUE TESTIFIES ON TAX LID

Deputy Director Trey Cocking testified on behalf of the League and our member cities on Thursday, December 7 in front of the Special Committee on Assessment and Taxation for the Kansas Legislature. The special committee is meeting ahead of the legislative session to review and prepare for tax discussions this session. The League testified that our member cities strongly oppose the tax lid and believe local taxing decisions should be made by cities. The League also cited concerns regarding the Consumer Price Index as a tool for the calculation of the tax lid as well as a need for additional exemptions, particularly for employee healthcare and benefit cost increases. Thank you to the cities who provided information for our testimony. The legislative session begins on January 8, 2018.

REVISED LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAW HANDBOOK READY TO ORDER

The updated Kansas Local Government Law Handbook (2018) by Mike Heim is considered an essential publication for individuals who interact with local government on a regular basis. The handbook provides an analysis of new election laws shifting local elections from spring to fall; the open meetings law and the open records law changes including new penalty provisions and new enforcement authority for the Attorney General and local prosecutors; new city and county tax lid information; budgeting, cash basis law, auditing, accounting, public funds, deposits and investments, and municipal bond updates; the latest Kansas Tort Claims Act, Section 1983 and other federal civil rights laws updates; preemption of local governments' ability to regulate the open carrying of knives, firearms and handguns and the concealed carrying of handguns; employment-at-will, due process, and free speech of public employees updates; city and county Home Rule powers, planning and zoning, and a new section dealing with economic development tools and public incentives. The Sixth Edition is available to [order online](#) and will be shipped in January 2018.



[HOME](#) | [LEAGUE NEWS ARCHIVE](#) | [EMAIL US](#) | [MUNICIPAL BUSINESS ALLIANCE](#) | [ABOUT US](#)



THE LEAGUE OF KANSAS MUNICIPALITIES

Follow us on:



For subscription changes, address changes, comments or suggestions, please contact Nikki Harrison nharrison@lkm.org

MUNICIPAL TRAINING INSTITUTE: PLANNING & ZONING

City planning and zoning is a perennial issue for municipalities. It's challenging; yet essential to good governance. The League of Kansas Municipalities is offering an elective Municipal Training Institute course in January 2018. This course will focus on the authority of Kansas cities to enact planning and zoning laws and regulations. The course will focus on:

- The roles/responsibilities of a city Planning Commission;
- Comprehensive planning;
- Zoning regulations, rezoning topics and zoning appeals; and
- Best practices for municipal zoning professionals and appointed officials.



We encourage the following city officials attend this course: city managers/administrators, city attorneys, planning/zoning staff or commissioners, and/or elected officials. The course will be a coordinated effort taught by Eric Smith, Deputy General Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities and planning/zoning professionals from Kansas cities. This course will be submitted for IIMC credit.

The course is offered in two locations:

- January 12, Bonner Springs
- January 19, McPherson

All attendees will receive a copy of the newly revised manual, Planning and Zoning for Kansas Municipalities (revised December 2017).

The MTI will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost to attend this course is \$75 for members, \$100 for nonmembers. Lunch and materials provided. Register online at www.lkm.org/events.

GOVERNING BODY ORIENTATION & TRAINING

Many municipalities will welcome new faces on the governing body in the coming months. Creating a governing body orientation program or packet can help lay the groundwork for a successful transition for elected officials – both new and experienced. An orientation program can help describe the roles within the organization, explain legally required procedures, and educate governing body members about ongoing and existing city projects/programs. Providing a comprehensive orientation program can help new elected officials determine their role and balance the demands of public service with their private life as a resident.

This course is developed for city managers/administrators, city clerks, city attorneys, and elected officials seeking ideas for orientation procedures. Webinar registration is required ahead of time (limited to 100 participants). Webinar cost is \$25 for member cities, \$35 for non-member cities. The webinar will be held on Tuesday, December 12 from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. [Register online.](#)

The League is also developing a special insert in the January/February 2018 *Kansas Government Journal* for newly elected officials. This will be a "quick reference" guide for elected officials and will be available before swearing in on January 8, 2018.

Local Government Day

January 24, 2018

Save the Date!

Register at www.lkm.org

Presented by

Kansas Association of Counties & The League of Kansas Municipalities