Regional Meetings Report
Strategic Planning Process | August 2023
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Prepared by

Kathy Sexton, Senior Management Consultant, PPMC at Wichita State
Noel Rasor, Assistant Director for Curriculum & Program Quality, KU PMC
Brett Zollinger, PhD, Director, FHSU Docking Institute
Introduction

As part of the comprehensive strategic planning process for the League of Kansas Municipalities (the League) in 2023, six regional meetings were held in July to review results of the recent online survey of members (June) and discuss in more depth several key issues revealed by the survey and by the focus groups (March).

The regional meetings also provided an opportunity to directly engage with about 118 people representing 73 members (primarily cities plus a few counties) to hear their ideas about how the League could best meet the needs of the membership over the next three years and begin the process of identifying priorities.

Lunch meetings (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.) were held in Hays, Garden City and Andover on July 18-20. Late afternoon meetings (4 – 6 p.m.) were conducted in Olathe (July 24) and Pittsburg (July 27). The final meeting occurred online on July 31 at 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Locations were selected to cover the vast geography of the state. Times, days of the week, and formats varied to appeal both to elected city officials as well as staff.

Each of the six meetings followed similar formats, asked participants to discuss the same questions, and yielded some common themes. Each meeting also had some unique characteristics reflecting local relationships, regional cultures, and the experiences of the diverse people in the room. For example, some participants had years of experience with League services, while others were quite new to their roles in their cities and offered their recent experiences about what their cities need in terms of services and support from the League going forward.

Participants included primarily elected mayors and commissioners as well as city clerks, attorneys and administrators. Participants clearly valued the League’s legal, advocacy, educational, and communications services.
The format of the regional meetings was designed to hear from a member of the League Governing Body; introduce the League's new executive director, Nathan Eberline; and engage participants in small group discussions and report outs to the entire room about important considerations as the League plans its next three years. The feedback garnered from the conversations falls into four common themes:

1. Foster Collaboration
2. Enhance Orientation & Professional Development
3. Build Relationships
4. Lead on Common Challenges

A summary of each of the above common themes follows. Comments from each focus group can be found summarized in the Appendices beginning on Page 7.

**Common Themes**

**Foster Collaboration**
Members participating in the regional meetings were curious to hear perspectives of other communities and interested in combining forces to exert the influence of the League’s 549 member cities and 42 member counties across all areas of the state. Members want to collaborate, ensure their regions of the state are involved, and connect/reconnect with the League to shape the future.

Participants suggested the League embrace the value of routinely hosting or participating in group discussions to enhance collaboration and support each other (e.g., Leadership Coffee). The League could play a critical convening role in bridging natural divides between east and west, between rural and urban, and between the state and local units of government.
In areas of the state with active regional networks (e.g., REAP, MARC), perhaps League staff or Governing Body members could have an obvious presence with the intention of listening to learn, sharing information among regions, and building relationships.

Another way to foster collaboration could be for the League to make it easy for smaller interest groups to get together before or after League events.

**Enhance Orientation & Professional Development**

While survey results indicated 84% of respondents used the League services in the past three years and most were satisfied with and appreciated the services, they also desire more education/training and better online resources. Participants in regional meetings were surprised with survey results showing that so many members are unaware of various services provided by the League.

For some members, the process of participating in the regional meetings and/or survey educated them on services about which they previously were not familiar. Building more awareness of current services and resources would be beneficial in addition to the expansion of offerings.

Many member cities are rebuilding with new talent following losses of elected officials, staff, and traditional ways of doing business during the COVID pandemic years (2020-2022). The level of turnover in both staff and elected officials necessitates more focus on orientation, help with issues common to all cities (e.g., KOMA/KORA), and easily accessible online information resources.

A disparity was revealed between the needs of small cities and those of larger cities, indicating that while some topics apply to most all cities, the “one size fits all” approach in training is not sufficient. Some topics are of extreme relevance to certain cities (e.g., dealing with the effects of mental illness and homelessness) yet not a current priority for others. Care should be taken to address evolving needs as well as the basics.
**Build Relationships**

Member cities have much in common. Participants in regional meetings expressed the desire for the League to be a connector of both information and opportunities to cooperate. They expressed a desire for the League to increase its connections with members (e.g., personal contacts, ambassador program, recurring group calls like during COVID) and facilitate member cities’ connections with neighbors.

Participants asked the League to share information about cities tackling certain issues to share best practices, who’s on the leading edge, and lessons learned. They suggested promoting intergovernmental cooperation and sharing resources, as well as public education (e.g., media campaign) about critical services provided by cities, challenges the cities face, and the value of public service.

Enhancing the League’s relationships with statewide organizations with similar purposes (e.g., Kansas Association of Counties, Kansas Farm Bureau, KDHE) also should yield opportunities for cities to better address current and emerging issues.

Participants were asked to dig deeper into how to improve or replace the annual legislative dinners sponsored by the League each November. They suggested reconsidering the purpose, format, time, and location, including perhaps replacing the sit-down dinner and review of League positions on legislative issues with social activities around the state (e.g., Wind Surge baseball game, happy hour, Strataca, Big Well) to promote building relationships. Ideas ranged from focusing on intra-League conversations and relationships (not inviting legislators) to continuing the tradition of inviting legislators but “flip the script” to city and League officials listening to their messages instead of advocating our positions.

**Lead on Common Challenges**

Participants indicated the League should lead on challenges common to many cities, especially those critical to the overall success of the statewide community. In addition to home rule and protecting local revenue sources, key issues may include water policy,
broadband, retention of city employees, getting state officials to understand local needs, and attracting/preparing volunteers for elected public service both in cities and at the state level.

Participants requested the League lead in fostering civility (disagree without vilifying), growing leadership capacity, and increasing collaboration among governments.

Because many member cities lack the capacity to write and administer federal grants, assistance from the League was requested in several of the meetings, especially with those that require regional collaboration.

Because many member cities lack capacity for advanced communications (professional communicators, graphic design skills, social media expertise, etc.), continued assistance from the League was requested with infographics, shareable social media posts, and videos.

Regional meeting participants appreciated the opportunity to interact face to face with the League and were excited to hear about the goals, objectives, and timelines that will inform the work of the League for the next three years.
Appendices

Regional Meeting Notes
- Summaries of conversations at table groups and their report-outs at six meetings (Hays, Garden City, Andover, Olathe, Pittsburg, and Virtual)
- Handwritten thoughts, questions and wisdom from some individuals in attendance at regional meetings who chose to contribute individually in addition to their group discussions.
**League Strategic Planning Regional Meeting Notes – Location: Hays**

1. *What motivated you to attend today?*

   - Desire to hear what other league members/cities want and think.
   - Have voice heard – don’t participate, can’t complain later.
   - Hear perspectives from other communities. Make sure Western KS can be heard.
   - Get update from where the league is at. Voice what’s appreciated about the league, especially when it comes to legislative services, assistance during COVID.
   - To learn more and help their city. Be involved. Opportunity to attend a meeting in Western KS (not often available). To meet and engage with people.
   - Do our part to advance our city’s work. Our previous City Admin was here 21 years, I’m 19 months in and try to go to everything the League offers. To learn as much as possible!
   - To explore different ways the league can work for our city. To find out what the league has to offer. Education and the networking opportunity for small cities and western Kansas.
   - Here because Dave called. Pure interest to learn more. To take a break from budget prep.
   - Interested to learn about effective strategic planning process. Stay engaged with community.

2. *What did you learn from seeing the survey results? Any surprises?*

   - Felt that it was mostly aimed at what the league is saying and not enough about us listening. Importance of online resources and communication or lack of.
   - Surprised at how many people didn’t know what the League does – the League does well. Don’t use legal services - response time very good. Mostly highly satisfied. Need orientation for new officials. Need more training.
   - Water quantity wasn’t listed – just water quality. Childcare was so low on list of issues, but is a big issue. Public utility issues – water, wastewater, electric. Solar issues—finding a balance between green initiatives and protecting city utility.
   - Not necessarily surprised, just recognition of everyone feeling they get their money’s worth from membership. Everything seemed positive – how cities view legislative and attorney services. Not a huge response from elected officials.
3. *In planning for the next 3 years, what are the important considerations?*

- Website improvement—really overhaul it.
- What can future media & outreach campaigns look like? Future technology? Ways to involve elected officials—Improving the annual conference by asking elected officials to attend. Revenue neutral rate.
- Revenue neutral rate--only about the dollar value. What is the message to legislators and the public? How do we better communicate our concerns to legislators?
- Educate the public on budget discussions.
- Legal services--we live in a “sue happy” environment. City attorneys need resources to back them.
- Provide messaging and talking points/templates/contacts on legislation--how to testify, submit letters, etc.
- More/better preparation before legislative session.
- Encourage eastern Kansas to come visit western Kansas so they can see what issues we face and maybe they will understand that we need to help each other.
- Send a league representative to western Kansas.
- Make training mandatory for newly elected officials or those running for office. Have a training specifically for newly elected officials.
- Legislative session—laser focus on three to four issues most impactful to city instead of trying to keep up with 20 plus bills.
- Get younger people involved in government. Hard to work around helping with other activities. 7th grade essay contest. Include 10th grade and 12th grade. Schools require community service for kids to graduate. Government is an interesting, important piece of service. Invite students to come to a council meeting.

4. *When you think of the future of legislative and intergovernmental relations, what issues should be considered?*

- *How could the Legislative Dinner events be improved? Or should they be replaced with something else?*
- *How can the League help your city engage with your legislators more effectively?*
- *What might cities need the League to lead on?*

- Intergovernmental meetings to discuss issues and solutions – city administration, governing body, USD superintendent. Example: K96 corridor—similar issues, brainstorm solutions.
- Legislative Dinners—busy time of year, do before legislative session. November meeting could affect attendance. Lack authentic engagement – always vying for votes. Have legislators from other districts. Spend too much time on SMP.
- Flip the script, give legislators a chance to ask questions of us. Issues with legislators.
- Reduce government red tape to expedite projects. – KDHE daycare approvals, grant projects.

- Legislative Dinner—very one-way communication. League to cities. Could more legislative people come? What is their incentive? The legislative priorities discussion is nice, but it’s very high-level discussion, not meaty. Less focus on the host city (we recall they spoke, gave goodies). Should there be more of them? Is there a better time? Are there better locations?
- Tack onto local government day at the Capitol? Engage with legislators/take lead on—help facilitate field trip for cities and their schools or bringing legislators to schools—create a template/framework (the essay contest is ok, but we don’t have many do it).
- How to facilitate local government. Programs for younger folks – Leadership Kansas – Leadership academies at the local level/involve legislators.
- Connect us to grant opportunities and connect cities and their counties, etc. to collaborate.
- How do we think as concentric circles around communities rather than lines between cities? So many small cities need to help each other, not complete against each other—combine our strengths.

- Legislative dinners--Are there enough? location considerations – could they be lunches? or combined with some other event to get more out of it?
- Also, can’t guarantee your legislator will be in attendance. Maybe not easy to make the 2-hour drive.
- Is it valuable to have leadership try to attend legislative dinners. Hearing from them could be valuable.
- Trying to work closer with counties—easier to lobby legislators when working together; finding other partners as well. Are there ways for the League to take the lead on county relationships?
- League take the lead on building leadership capacity—as well as fostering civility in governmental issues.

- More collaboration and less “us against them.” Make follow through more common.
- Legislative dinners are an inconvenience either because of location or time.
- Build leadership capacity. Improve civility.
5. *Cities have lots of needs. The list of things the League could do is long. What would you say should be the top 3 priorities?*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Home Rule—covers so many issues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Website redesign—make more user friendly.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>More league staff visiting the cities—more direct interaction.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Relationship building and education programs between legislators, public, counties, and cities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Send a representative to each city in western Kansas.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Educate the public at the local level. Communication between all, not just at the local level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Collaboration between city, county, and state. Follow through with action.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Prioritize legislative focus areas for cities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Retain great league staff.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Access to league legislative supper.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Build alliances with other agencies to facilitate projects.</td>
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</table>
**League Strategic Planning Regional Meeting Notes – Location: Garden City**

1. *What motivated you to attend today?*

   **N/A**

2. *What did you learn from seeing the survey results? Any surprises?*

   - Number of don’t knows. Possibly a way to combat the issue with personal follow-up. Send out to City Council but don’t ask them to respond. Get on listserv asking Clerk to pass on.
   - Put governing body handbook online so it is accessible to all elected and appointed officials during council meetings. Many don’t know what this is. An online resource would benefit smaller cities who often don’t have an attorney at each Council meeting.
   - More joint work with association of counties.
   - Whimsical communication from the League (like the format/tone of Hawver’s Report); info at back of Kansas Government Journal is good…so email it.
   - Send League emails to elected city officials without them having to sign up.
   - Grant writing services, city clerk training, relationships, apathy. We don’t know skills results--Apathetic or don’t know had a high level of satisfaction at the beginning.
   - Train elected officials to engage with city employers. Services highly rated. Grant writing services, but not provided.
   - Interesting: city clerk training was low on the rating.
   - City government and state level relationships. Need to work on that.
   - The “going ok” question should not be part of the question. Looked like respondents checked “doing good” and went on with questionnaire.
   - Apathy = those who did not respond. The rest don’t know, this is important for cities. But still did not fill in the survey. What does it say, we have a high rate of satisfaction, predominately a high rate of don’t know, only 1 section was maybe 25%.
3. In planning for the next 3 years, what are the important considerations?

- Education of Home Rule—educate legislators on what it means. Especially to cities. Protect local revenue sources. Is it intentional that home rule is left off the sheet? Add home rule.
- Help small communities keep their people or bring them back. Not everything needs to be in northeast Kansas.
- Broadband—make highspeed, affordable internet a state issue, not a local issue.
- Small communities need access to economic development and developers.
- Better recognition that if rural succeeds, the city succeeds. If the small town succeeds, the larger community and counties succeed.
- Advisory groups—reach out and have energetic training for up-and-coming leaders whether they are in the school district, businesses, next generation. Invite the advisory groups to trainings as up and coming leaders. Cross pollinate.
- Educate what Home Rule means to the city – Problem solving by the city rather than decisions from Topeka or with push from corporations.

4. When you think of the future of legislative and intergovernmental relations, what issues should be considered?

- How could the Legislative Dinner events be improved? Or should they be replaced with something else?
- How can the League help your city engage with your legislators more effectively?
- What might cities need the League to lead on?

- Progressive dinner or assigned, mixed seating.
- Have local leaders speak at legislative dinners. Allow attendees to invite others.
- Alternate locations-- Meetings out of session and in the summer to make personal connections.
- Offer staff Zoom capabilities as may have better attendance.
- Have a league dinner and an additional dinner when they are not focused on legislative issues. Invite legislative leadership to hear the locals.
- Designate regional hubs for trainings. Make it routine. More training west of Hays.
- Help locals vocalize story of Home Rule, Revenue, history of cities, etc.

- Home Rule—educate legislators on what it means. Especially to cities.
- Keep the revenue streams intact for cities.

5. Cities have lots of needs. The list of things the League could do is long. What would you say should be the top 3 priorities? N/A
**League Strategic Planning Regional Meeting Notes** – Location: Andover

Attendees represented the cities of:

Norwich, Wichita, Maize, Highlands, BelAire, Sterling, Halstead, Haysville, Andover, El Dorado, South Hutch, Medicine Lodge, Mount Hope, Inman, Kechi, Augusta, Whitewater, Holcomb, Benton, Valley Center, Park City, Rosehill, Wellington, Goddard, Emporia, McPherson

1. **What motivated you to attend today?**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motivation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Focus on League lobbying efforts. Concern about losing ground at legislative level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make new connections and networking</td>
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<tr>
<td>See what the process is about</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opportunity to guide League future</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve the League and how they can help us</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helping the League because they help us</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excited about new leadership and direction</td>
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<td>Good meeting time; lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>New to service. See what the League is about; learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Learn more about the League while getting out of the office</td>
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<tr>
<td>League is a tremendous resource that helps fill gaps cities don't have capacity for</td>
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<tr>
<td>All cities need a voice at the State level. Want the League to impact at that level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Want to be more active with the League (legislative)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meet new leadership and engage with other municipalities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Here to listen to what others’ concerns/opinions are. Reconnect with folks (closed off since COVID). Love the advocacy of the League. Appreciate information being provided on what’s going on at the state level.</td>
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</table>
2. What did you learn from seeing the survey results? Any surprises?

- Overall general satisfaction with League services, but opportunities to collaborate with other organizations
- Lack of knowledge around who the League collaborates with
- Surprised there’s not more utilization of legal services
  - More than half used legal services.
- Surprised the legislative dinners were rated so low, because those are the one event that my electeds attend
- Surprised about the desired methods of communication
  - Avenues of communication are different for everybody. Balance with modern techniques.
- Good to see a high percentage used the League services in recent years (84% in past 3 years)
- Education is such a problem. As a city official, don’t know what I don’t know. Training for new members is desired.
  - Younger generation may not be open to being involved.
- Legislative silos (1st class, 2nd class, 3rd class) might be contributing to differences of opinion on the legislative dinner.
- Are you saying that, timing-wise, right now (June/July) is the best time to engage with the state legislature?
- Encourage the League to engage with cities and encourage cities to engage with each other more

3. In planning for the next 3 years, what are the important considerations?

- Water, education & participation of League members, tools to eliminate duplicative work (i.e., data storage); neighboring!
- PR campaign
  - “art of neighboring”
- Educate the public about what it means to be a volunteer for the community, communicate what city staff and administrators are, educating the younger generation about government and politics (i.e., PR campaign for government jobs), soft skill development, face to face time with legislators, electeds, and community members; potentially mandate training after elected
- Water – relationship between municipalities
- Training volunteers for emergency services
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Highlights</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration between cities and counties</td>
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<td>Protecting revenue streams</td>
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<td>Educating new electeds for continuity</td>
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<td>Boot camp for elected officials</td>
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<td>Make public service attractive (elected or staff)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civility in local government (how to handle inappropriate behavior in the public meeting)</td>
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<th>Measures</th>
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<tr>
<td>Make sure the League continues to have the resources to fund and staff the mission (dues)</td>
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<td>Continue to demonstrate the League’s value</td>
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<td>MTI: develop a career track for different roles and positions (ie, city admin., clerks, etc.)</td>
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<td>Training of volunteers for emergency services especially in small cities</td>
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<td>Assist in collaboration between cities and counties</td>
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<th>Initiatives</th>
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<td>Develop programs/curriculum for youth councils</td>
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<td>An “Angie’s list” for consultants and contractors</td>
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<td>Provide information about cooperative purchasing opportunities</td>
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<td>Make public service attractive to the public (for elected and staff service)</td>
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<td>Better strategies for engagement of local elected officials with the League</td>
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<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
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<td>Protecting revenue from State legislature overreach (i.e., cutting sales tax has an effect downstream. How can cities/counties make up the revenue?)</td>
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<td>Employee retention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partisanship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build relationships with legislators</td>
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<td>RNR policies</td>
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<th>Support Systems</th>
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<td>Water resources; relationships with KMU, KMEA, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relationships between cities and Groundwater Management Districts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communicating and strengthening current relationships</td>
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<td>Employee retention and replacement tools and resources</td>
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<td>More frequent regional meetings like this one; direct outreach to individual governing bodies</td>
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4. **When you think of the future of legislative and intergovernmental relations, what issues should be considered?**

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<th>Focus Areas</th>
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<tr>
<td>More frequent in-person meetings to help know who people are given turnover</td>
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<td>More regional meetings (multiple options for lunch or dinner times)</td>
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<td>Face time with the League at local meetings, events, etc. Try something different. Facilitate the “no agenda being sold” philosophy.</td>
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<td>Conversation starters or pointers</td>
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<td>Education/training of lobbying efforts and etiquette</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education on local government and successful intergovernmental collaborations</td>
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| Breakouts for different classes of cities at regional meetings or legislative dinners |
| More dinners or social gatherings would be extremely beneficial to help see each other through different lenses. |
| Classify legislative news by color or highlight important things |
| Cheat sheet for event attendees with information about legislators to help make connections and facilitate conversations (i.e., they went to K-State, they’re a farmer, etc.) |
| Healthcare |
| Local economy |
| Discuss future partnerships with industries (i.e., Integra coming to BelAire) and coordinate among cities |

| Establish guardrails for legislators to let them know about the effect of their decisions (i.e., trickledown effect of reducing sales tax at the state level) |
| An agency like the League to provide arbitration between cities and cities or cities and counties |
| Be proactive rather than defensive when it comes to legislative issues |

| Need for civility and how to disagree without demonizing all local governments |
| Identify future municipal leaders – League leadership program for smaller cities |
| Would see benefit from creating an event or dinner with cities of like class (size) |

| Coordinate something more social than the legislative dinners like going to a Wind Surge game, happy hour on Friday, etc. Not during legislative sessions |
| Identify priorities for legislative issues. Be a “funnel” for the information |
| Grant writing |
| Cost to publish ordinances for small cities & requirement in a newspaper vs on website |

| Evil word of “lobbyist” – use government relations or even just personal relationships |
| More frequent in-person meetings. |
| Help set up/facilitate/participate in regional groups |

5. Cities have lots of needs. The list of things the League could do is long. What would you say should be the top 3 priorities? N/A
The League Strategic Planning Regional Meeting

Olathe Meeting – 7/24/23

Notes from verbal report-outs

What motivated you to attend today?

- Enhance information sharing and collaboration between cities/organizations through the League x3
- Concerns that home rule / local govt is under attack x2
- League is a strong organization that needs to stay strong x2
- Long involvement with the League
- Want to learn more about what the League does
- Motivate people to want to be a part of local government
- Interest in learning about the strategic plan
- Wanting to reconnect with the League after having been away for a while
- League of the past isn’t necessarily the League of the future—want a role in shaping that
- Increased legal services for writing new ordinances
- See the lovely Olathe Library location

What did you learn from seeing the survey results? Any surprises?

- Surprised at the amount of “don’t know”s x2
- Advocacy and education services strongly confirmed in results
- Needs in smaller cities versus larger cities disparity revealed
- Weren’t surprised by how high the importance of training ranked. New commissioner in respondent’s district really benefited
- Affirmed widespread commonalities of recruitment and housing shortages
- Themes of communication and collaboration were appreciated
- Surprised legal services weren’t scored higher

In planning for the next three years, what are important considerations?

- Need for education about what the League does x2
- Protecting home rule x2
- Need for communication about the value of the tax dollars
- Help discuss budget and tax dollars to constituents
- Encouraging League staff to get out and make direct connections with cities/orgs due to turnover
- Building on strengths of League – esp the recurring calls during COVID
- How to thread needle when cities’ positions differ across the state – a challenge in submitting neutral testimony
- Increase League staff to increase power with legislature
- Federal grants take too long – can additional staffing with the League help reduce
- Ambassador program to establish relationships with different size cities?
- Increasing individual member activities, e.g. getting more council members to come out – perhaps more outreach via casual phone calls to congratulate them on various achievements
- Labor, housing, homelessness – League policy address approaches to these challenges
- Retain quality staff at the League
- Tailoring messages about services that are available based off city size

When you think of the future of legislative and intergovernmental relations, what issues should be considered?

- Legislative Dinner Events
  - Dinners are not effective, lacking value x2
  - Value in networking benefits
  - Perhaps educating elected officials about what the League is doing
  - Waste of time to spend so much time on introductions – get to discussion of the needs. More small discussions
  - Get more legislators there.
  - Follow up here about the dinners being about building casual relationships with legislators, not having any specific asks

- Help Engaging with Legislators More Effectively
  - Help get in touch with all legislators, not just the local ones*, so ramifications about tax policies/government competition bills in last five years are way out of step with local legislators – the League has been great in advocating and educating about those potential devastating effects
  - Legislative Day of Action – this is great for optics, but not enough actual time with legislators. The people who make time for you are the ones you already have access to
  - Cities need to reach out to elected officials about housing/childcare/mental health etc
  - Create consensus about what the wicked problems are
  - Zoom facilitated sit-downs with legislators
  - Creating talking points and white papers – although cities need to take ownership, but League could help train more effectively here

- What Do Cities Need the League to Lead On
  - Pinpoint legislative contacts across the state that aren’t necessarily in your district*
  - Neutral testimony at times, but also addressing “bad” bills etc. Want a bit of specific support and advocacy
  - Build consensus among cities
  - Sell the positives of cities to legislators around the state (so dinners could be a product of a strategy, rather than a set annual event.)
  - Advocacy

*Bolded because these points were emphasized through additional conversation during report-outs.
What would you say should be the top three priorities? (As shared by each table.)

1. Advocacy
2. Engagement and connectivity
3. League reaching out to cities

1. Communication (even direct communication to staff/electeds)
2. Protecting home rule
3. Sell the value of the League and participation

1. Advocacy
2. Education
3. Relationship building/collab

1. Communication
2. Educating electeds on how local govt works
3. Selling city govt to the public
4. Listen to what the people are telling you
5. Transparency
6. Leave egos at the door

1. Build collab and consensus, internally in the League and externally
2. Sell public on value of the League
3. Better engage city staff/elected to participate in league events

1. Services
2. Lobbying
3. collaboration
The League Strategic Planning Regional Meeting

Pittsburg Meeting 7/27/2023

Notes from verbal reports and table sheets

What motivated you to attend today?

- Listen and learn - x4
- Ensuring the representation at the state level
- Share ideas/the League’s strategic plan is critical
- Gain the experience to do better in roles – mayor, council president
- Provide information for the league to better represent us; help the League help us
- Shout out to the Legal team – “they respond really quickly”
- Learn from this process to take back for strategic planning at city
- Daron called me
- We like hosting!

What did you learn from seeing the survey results? Any Surprises?

- Everyone at our table filled out the survey – glad to see that others were aligned with the thinking.
- That so many people did not know in lots of areas, including legislative dinners x 3
- Not a surprise, but confirmed/encouraged by focus on keeping state out of our revenue/business
- Surprised that there was so much focus on local government improvements.
- That childcare was low.
- Seems the trends are consistent in the problem areas.
- The workforce is difficult to find and maintain.
- Importance of the legal services as a double check.
- No surprises - legal services and the contact with the league is great!
- Didn’t know about the legislative dinners—now I do

In Planning for the next 3 years, what are the important considerations?

- Following state and federal elections – know what is changing and be proactive
- General info on legislature activities
- Promotion of League Services
- Member outreach
- Centralize grant information and coordinate/support for grant writing
- Home rule is the thing to keep an eye on, esp. property tax issues and income to the cities x 3
• Find additional ways to maintain city revenue
• Water resources are a crucial issue
• Training for the elected officials, and legislative activities.
• Additional educational meetings in person, people get more from face-to-face.
• More leverage of cities’ position to the state. Funnel taxes back to the cities. Home rule and online classes.
• Additional surveys with results shared online - help everyone know what is going on
• Education opportunities closer to/in Southeast Kansas.
• Table 4 – Legislative activities and advocacy. Keeping them out of the day-to-day activities. The sessions will keep getting rougher. Member outreach and more face-to-face instruction.

When you think of the future of legislative and intergovernmental relations, what issues should be considered?

• How could the Legislative Dinner events be improved? Or should they be replaced with something else?
  o At one table no one had attended.
  o Questioning the effectiveness of putting folks in the room that are anticity with the city folks, but we have no good ideas on how to replace them. Elected officials do not change that often. Anti-tax.
  o Awkward at best; some legislators are weird
  o Better promotion would be needed
  o Continue them but increase attendance of legislators and local government officials
  o Reconsider the agenda to include more planning on city issues.
  o Don’t make it a legislature top-down approach – make it a dialogue.
  o Have League staff come with the legislature/city partnerships – Make the meeting more useful.

• How can the League help your city engage with your legislators more effectively?
  o Knowledge of understanding of how to make contact to the legislators
  o Visits from legislators to our area (meet and greet)
  o Co
  o Being an intermediary between the city and the legislatures.
  o Continue the legislative newsletter, issues and info.
  o Continue the weekly online legislative calls; send the link afterward for the Zoom information (recording?)

• What might cities need the League to lead on?
  o Grants, what is available, and how to administer that process.
  o Ways to foster relationships with other cities.
  o Policies on housing and the trades and the career/training pipelines for the developers and contractors.
  o Social services, mental health, and ways to increase revenues without raising taxes.
  o Make sure everyone is aware of the legislative updates that the League sends out and when responses are needed; how to get on the list.
Push out how legislators have voted on an issue.

**What would you say should be the top 3 priorities? (By table)**

1. Legislation (proposed) and getting in front of the legislators with our concerns.
2. Infrastructure – Housing, electrical, water usage & sewer.
3. How cities can share resources across small and larger areas (story shared about one small community borrowing Pittsburg’s street sweeper before annual festival)

1. Childcare (support to families, staffing and salary issues)
2. Housing, and social services (mental health).
3. Create a less adversarial position between the state and the cities – the league is in a good position for that.

1. Legislative advocacy
2. Smaller city legal advice
3. Educational programs (city clerk)

1. Additional funding – grant opportunities and city revenues
2. Additional education for new city managers, staff, commissioners
3. Higher connections with government for housing, hospital funding, infrastructure
League Strategic Planning Regional Meeting Notes – Location: Virtual

1. *What motivated you to attend today? N/A*

2. *What did you learn from seeing the survey results? Any surprises?*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results were as expected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our city uses the services, attorney, information seeking “The more information and direction I can get the better for the meetings. Difficult to get council members to attend League events.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal staff really useful; Clerks use League services and see the benefit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We lost a lot of experience, gaining ground, confident in the meeting we get.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advantage of being retired…unpaid job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The League attends and provide good information to the Clerks, Council supports staff going.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourage to share back the information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helpful information for elected officials, and supporting staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting revenue is critical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey provides opportunities for improvement. Example the Legislative Dinner. Surprised it was rated lower.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Really enjoy League Policy Committee meetings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. *In planning for the next 3 years, what are the important considerations?*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Many things in common; League a connection point</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assist cities who need to research new issues/trends (example: scooters); who is doing what; who adamantly opposes and why; how to connect with early adopters and best inform policy makers; we’re calling other cities now but could be more connected and get more comprehensive/accurate/objective information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listserv; no way to link back to League website for content; better systems have more options for user; technology improvements needed; archive data and make more accessible to members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Education in Communications/Engagement – Many cities don’t have PIOs. The need for professional communicators is growing. Ways to connect with other information; KAPIO

Kansas Government Journal – Well done but costly; produce quarterly and make feature-oriented; reduce duplication with newsletters

Civic education – need more/better; for adults too; more servant leadership; education a big piece

4. *When you think of the future of legislative and intergovernmental relations, what issues should be considered?*
   - *How could the Legislative Dinner events be improved? Or should they be replaced with something else?*
   - *How can the League help your city engage with your legislators more effectively?*
   - *What might cities need the League to lead on?*

Dinner – People have other commitments (family, jobs—makes for a full day); getting them off homebase is really hard; evening meetings are difficult; don’t like driving home in the dark

Dinner—Seems to be more social; hard to find issues in common with various size communities; policy issues seem to be more productive; our city manager takes care of management issues, which lets elected officials focus on policy conversations;

Legislative Engagement – common talking points would be helpful; include the hot topics

Develop personal relationships; convene discussions

Encourage local government officials to move into state office; elect public servants

Lead - After attending League meetings, I don’t feel fulfilled. How do we convene discussions that are relevant to different cities (size, area, issues in common, etc.)? Make sure we are most effective in the work. Pick issues to lead on (example: water policy last year).

Intergovernmental – Encourage/assist governments to work with each other (example: cooperative purchasing agreements); make it easy for small groups/interest groups to get together before or after League events

Focus on broad topics that affect most cities, such as KOMA/KORA

5. *Cities have lots of needs. The list of things the League could do is long. What would you say should be the top 3 priorities?* N/A
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Getting elected officials more plugged in, trained, engaged
- City staff tends to do the most w/ League
- We need more support from our elected officials
  
How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities
   
   infographics!! we need ways to educate (demonstrate value & many communities don’t have graphic designers

2. Protect local revenue sources
   
   protect electric utility - esp re: solar legislation
   
   help small colleges

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments
   
   regional approach to grant collaboration rather than small cities competing against each other - spread & further

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   
   younger, better education, how to increase salaries (+ importance of that)
   
   salary studies, size of staff studies

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations
   
   resources - contacts, templates, talking points, deadlines for written testimony & verbally testify

6. Improve civility in local government
   
   training for electeds - but how to get them to do it?

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

keep a robust staff of highly professional & communicative people — you’re doing a great job.
We appreciate being asked for our feedback!

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

KACM — connecting cities & countries

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

I just want to say thank you — I am so impressed by the work of the League & just Kansas in general. I grew up here & came back after 10 yrs in Arizona, and believe me when I tell you that Kansas sets a high bar. We do so much right & well, and midwest work ethic is so rock solid. I feel so positive about being at the helm of a city because of how this state works.

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

Prioritize big issues. Shotgun approach to touch everything & make everyone happy has not been effective. The past 2 yrs. Make a big quality impact over quantity. Teach us how to build relationships with legs in the 21st century.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities. For $1.37/day, your city receives...
   
   Did you know? Cities provide...

2. Protect local revenue sources
   
   Home rule is critical. Find 2nd strong argument to protect local revenue sources.

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments
   
   Local/Regional "leadership coffee" discussions. Inter-governmental mtgs - if tricky issue, maybe 2EM offers to facilitate.

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   
   Add to 7th-grade essay contest. Add some youth engagement. Add or 2 in high school. We do a 4th-grade Constitution Day at City Mtg.

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations
   
   Flip the script on legislative dinners and allow legs to talk about how upcoming bills may impact our SMM issues.

6. Improve civility in local government
   
   Continue to educate the public and elected officials on roles & benefits of local govt.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

- Retain great staff @ the LKM to gain confidence + efficiency in response to city questions.
- Build alliances w/ other lobbying + state orgs to ensure we are ready for big issues that hit more then citizen on/medical equity / water equity / transportation / sales tax revenue (domino effect)

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

- Form Bureau (water, extraterritorial) finding
- KS Assoc of Counties (professional member) advocacy
- KDHE/KSF - red tape (daycare, school nutrition)

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

- Printing & mailing KCJ. Online version only. Consider quarterly publication.

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

- Retain/recruit great staff
- Ensure financial stability long range because the work done by the LKM is good + needs to continue
- Take time to get to know the ppl of the communities you serve + what they offer.

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

What is the message to the public about the RNR? about sales tax proposals? about highway funding?

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities
   
   "And it does cost something to run a city"

2. Protect local revenue sources
   
   "Plan ahead of the legislative session. The response to the sales tax issue in the last session was more reactive than proactive. Good response once it got started—but timing was late & because a dangerous issue. Start preparing for a new battle over the RNR requirements."

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   
   "Students attend a city commission meeting. Local gov't academy"

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government
   
   "Hold example training—both good and bad."

   Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Increased Communication between city, state officials on financial issues.
- Drive home "Home Rule" (stop thievery, trust)
- Ad valorem Tax - back to City, Towns.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities. "Why-Oh, what "Home Rule" - perhaps legislators don't understand it?"

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

Stop complaining about the "time firm" to meet out ad Communities - "but west"

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Consider the use of outside lobbying firms to augment league staff to assist in getting our messages across.

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Stop the loss of revenue and restore what is taken.
- Connect those who are facing the big issues.
- Develop/promote best practices.
- Legal advice on those issues requiring it.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities.
   - Features (articles, videos, social media posts) created and/or shared through a coordinated network (WKM, KAC, cities, counties, KU, WSU, KSU, etc.).
2. Protect local revenue sources.
   - Show the impact of legislative actions to cities over time in terms of property tax.
3. Encourage cooperation among local governments.
   - Summits or provide support to cities & counties & non-profits & foundations willing to host summits.
4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice.
   - Partner with schools (undergrad & grad).
5. Become more effective in state legislative relations.
   - Talking points for local leaders to use when meeting w/lawmakers on Home Rule + revenues.
6. Improve civility in local government.
   - Staff - elected relationships: training, summits, goal setting sessions and can promote.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Be driven to be "great."

While achieving a high rate of satisfaction is admirable, is it good if a large portion of the membership is apathetic or doesn't know.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

KAC, Cities

17 members
6 non-members

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

grant writing (?) ... I didn't know the league did that

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

LKM advocate for D-E-I principles at the local level and also with State programs and distribution of funds (State funding is H-E-I: homogeny, exclusionary, inequitable).

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

Protect Home Rules — Many legislators don’t have local government experience and don’t understand the impact of their decisions at the local level.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey: Protect Home Rule needs to be #1.

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan? *Make sure cities and all voices are represented.*

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work? 
*Legislative leadership, (Committee Chairs, Speaker of House, Senate Pres. etc.)*

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Help communities especially those who have high potential for needed housing. Connect to state and federal resources for development and planning, specifically partnering for infrastructure, water, sewer, utilities.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

   Attend local forums - provide community training to those who are emerging leaders - a diverse group.

2. Protect local revenue sources

   Help communities maintain sales tax - effectively explain how and why it is only a small, but important part of the overall budget.

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

   That they can really work together to buy large quantities of goods and services.

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

   Publish and share knowledge about careers in local government - partner with community college, post-secondary training.

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

   Encourage legislators to attend city county commission meetings. They can also reach out pre-meetings.

6. Improve civility in local government

   This comes from helping others value others.

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

- Keep it simple – reach out to make it personal.
- Present at City Commission meetings during public comment.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?
- Kansas Leadership Center, Local Community Colleges – political science, business, re: public relations department.

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

- The dinners are not effective – present interest in learning opportunities – STRAND – tour, maybe in small groups. Maybe focus more on energetic meetings. 
- Moon Marble – run for Big Well.

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

Protect revenue sources from political ideas.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities
   1. List statutory municipal responsibilities vs. optional
   2. List of taxing entity overlap in responsibilities and each individual statutory responsibility.
2. Protect local revenue sources
   Legislative understanding that one size fits all does not affect all equally.
3. Encourage cooperation among local governments
   Small, very informal meetings work great.
4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   Emphasize success stories to students.
5. Become more effective in state legislative relations
   Q/A publications on specific issues that impact vs. most
   Sent to legislators.
6. Improve civility in local government
   Broadcast meetings.
   Council work sessions.

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Annual highlight list to show elected councils how they have benefited.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Training for newly elected public officials
- Mayor, council members:
  - Examples of open meeting violations
  - Limitations in executive sessions

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

   Help small governing boards go paperless

2. Protect local revenue sources

   Color code legislative update - red, yellow, green
   Action items

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
Your Thoughts  Ideas  Questions  Doodles  Wisdom

Redo pie charts. Largest to smallest, starting at 12 o'clock, then clockwise. Separate the charts to dif slides.

In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?
* Facilitate city workshops to train on interacting appropriately with legislators.
* Central database of various things for all cities: salaries, ordinances, etc. Truj is working on it.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

(Proactive)

Develop an "offensive" legislative strategy that proposes legislation to help cities instead of always playing "defence" and protecting or seeking reinstatement of programs.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities
   - Infographics that explain basic services
   - Videos that can be edited to include local component
   - Guidebooks explaining how to interact with local govt.

2. Protect local revenue sources
   - Advocate for cities to have flexibility to create revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments
   - Purchasing agreements or cooperative purchasing opportunities

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   - Promotional "commercials" that showcase local govt roles with customizable
     capability. Promote statewide local govt career day/week.

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations
   - Bullet point summaries of proposed legislation
   - Proactive legislative policy development

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Try to take a proactive approach, especially as it relates to legislative policy.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

Whoever operates HREpartners now. This should be a state-wide tool to help cities recruit talent.

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn't been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Legislation to change publication requirements to allow legal publication on City websites.

One-stop data clearinghouse.

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

*Increase effectiveness with the legislature as a whole and with legislative leadership.*

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities. *Push for curriculum changes in K-12 education to make education of local government standard/mandatory. We have this for Kansas history and US Gov't, why not local which will impact all students throughout their lives?*

2. Protect local revenue sources. *Fight for changes on franchise fees. Not being able to collect for streaming services or internet sales by Cox or other ISPs is antiquated as these are the users of Reis now.*

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice *See answer to #1, also protect and enhance things like KPRS, KPRS 3 is a joke compared to KPERS 1 or 2.*

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

*Turn over to see page two.*
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

- Increase available resources for LKM from staff to meeting of legislators or members in the field.
- Local government education in K-12 schools, not voluntary but mandatory.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

- KAC, KS Chamber, KS Realtors, Energy
- AFP & ALEC (seem to have the ear of legislators)

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

- Legislative dinners

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

*Continue helping us combat regulations of higher units of govt that harm rural communities. An example, KDOT building a highway that bypasses a community; not allowing cities to put community signage on the highway to note the city’s existence.*

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities
   *Remind them at every opportunity that cities are on the front lines, while legislators are in the ivory tower.*

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments
   *Champion multi-jurisdictional efforts. Make it known they are occurring. Help develop connections.*

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   *Bolster partnerships w/ MLA programs. Offer internships, small scholarships, bring students to Capitol.*

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations
   *This seems effective currently, but maybe add another staff member to increase lobbying efforts.*

6. Improve civility in local government
   *Assist communities that are navigating divisive issues. Be a third party bridging the community & local govt.*

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

1) Invest in the "local govt leaders of tomorrow"
2) More hands on with first time Managers
3) Increase investment in League staff, Wages

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Increase the dues to improve the services

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Relationship of Groundwater Management Districts with water infrastructure in general
- Protecting local revenue streams
- Education - Civility, attractiveness of career in public services, one-on-one counseling, budget/finance

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities 
   - Campaign for attractiveness of service & services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources
   - YES. however, possible assistance on property taxes as perceived by public?

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   - Yes - a professional effort?

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations
   - Training in etiquette

6. Improve civility in local government
   - Elected, public, officials & staff - elected officials etiquette to seek others

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

Collaborative partnerships w/ IAFC & other institutions show cross-sector public benefit.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Focus on 3-4 key items w/ subs, rather than trying to list all feedback into plan. Bulk them together.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

KAC
Kansas Press Association.

KAB
Farm Bureau/Ag
Real Estate Pros

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

曾a recent point in time, I received many different League communications w/similar overlapping content. Narrow comm channels & enhance content value to members turning in to focused content.

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

- Property rights considerations & impact of current laws & perspectives on affordable housing crisis & ability for cities to address blight.

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

   - 2. Protect local revenue sources — Key

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

   - Evaluate if our current lobbyists are gaining ground, staying same or losing ground.
   - Change attitude of LCM lobbyists

6. Improve civility in local government

   - Start with our own lobbyists
   - LCM could promote education in area of how to run a civil meeting.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?  

Be honest in self evaluation - lobbyists cynical and egotistical.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

County School district & Recreation Districts

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

Does the league still sell services such as writing municipal codes?

Does LEM sell other consulting services.

These could be separated from LEM.

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Protect home rule.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
Comments

- Person going over survey should be in person. We came, they should be here.
- Graphs were too small. 3rd slide should be 1 per slide.

- LRM Annual Costume Session - Finding your local fortune:Toby
  How to lobby?
  Who is the best person to help?

- LRM Annual Costume Session - Role of City Manager, city council staff.
- LRM Annual Costume Session - Job market: hiring staff, benefits, retiring staff.
- LRM Annual Costume Session - 6 generations living today. Managing a
  multigenerational workforce of citizens.

Stop Regional League Legislative Session - New cities within legislative districts meet with their legislators.
Tony Gillette, Shawnee City Council

In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Legal resources, for ordinance writing and help.
- Help with K-DoT funding needs locally, (do + to growth)

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources — Protect (“Home Rule”) for cities.

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments
   - Work will develop small out of Multi-Family back into smaller first-time single family homes

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   - Low pay at local government keeps people away.

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government
   - Joint infrastructure improvements in 5000
   - with grant funding options.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
Your Thoughts       Ideas        Questions       Doodles       Wisdom

In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

Communication:
Listening to understand.

Work for all sizes + classes of cities

What is the policy when the goals are in conflict?
Be clear about this policy.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities:
   - A Local Gov't 101 facts + resources.
   - Promote use of civic academies that fits all levels of cities.
   - Also consider a simple local gov't orientation for legislators.

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments:
   - Information exchange + examples.

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice:
   - Engage with MARC + the Government to University movement where we are part of a regional + national topic + grant recipient.

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

- Set a strong foundation & build upon it.
- Membership
- Relationships
- Financial

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

- MARC
- Counties
- Other Council of Gov't

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Have you ever brought together all lobbyists so that when they are needed they are informed. Also use relationships that lobbyist have to benefit all - if possible.

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

   Help connect cities going through the same issues across the state.

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Look to the future & be sure you have diverse representation on your board. Maybe find a way to get student/young professional input?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

Our individual city lobbyists.

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Continue to protect home rule & local revenue sources.

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

KACM, MARC, KAC, city (Clacko Finance Officers organization and other similar organizations)

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

not sweat about effectiveness of league dinners.

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

Collaboration & Consensus.
Sell the public & lawmakers on the value of cities & the value they produce for STATE.
Restore the partnership between city & STATE.
Take steps to engage individual members more...attending conferences, etc.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities. Years ago I produced a video for LKJM about Local Government which was shown to several legislative committees. I also produced a series of PSAs about local govs which aired on TV & radio across Kansas.

2. Protect local revenue sources
   Restore LAUTR & other legally owed revenues.
   KAC, Kansas County Commissions Assoc. are launching a campaign.

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments
   Career fairs for middle & high school students.

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
   Hold regional "summits" to bring nearby city elected staff together to discuss possible cooperative & shared interests (KCK/KCMO)

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations
   Educate lawmakers -- especially new ones -- about cities & counties.
   Launch more proactive campaigns instead of always playing defense.

6. Improve civility in local government
   Conduct Citizen/Civics Academies.
   Educate residents about what city government does.

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Don’t be afraid to take difficult positions on hard issues.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

Building collaborations is critical. It depends on the specific legislative issue which organizations KLM needs to work with.

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

Convert Kansas Government Journal into an Electronic Publication.
Still sell ads - but save cost of printing & postage.
Stop Legislative Regional Suppers. The lawmakers who need to attend don’t.
But there is value in city officials getting together.

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Additional educational meetings (in person)
- How to more effectively leverage our cities' position with legislative support of home rule & finding additional ways to maintain city revenue
- Educational opportunities closer to SEK

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities
2. Protect local revenue sources
3. Encourage cooperation among local governments
4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice
5. Become more effective in state legislative relations
6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

Legislature steering its nose into city business more and more. HM doing a good job advocating. Keep it up.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn't been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Training not only in person, but also for those who work at a distance; being able to review and be able to ask questions.
- Teach how to share resources
- Infrastructure and grant help
- How do we get businesses to community

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities. Keep reminding us how to sign up.

2. Protect local revenue sources. Keep reaching out to use, keep educating us and provide the means for us to make contact.

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments. Help educate how to share resources with surveys if you see that one area has issues that other areas have overcome (like maybe competition).

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice.

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations. By letting us know what legislators viewpoints are so we know who to connect with.

6. Improve civility in local government. I think our council right now is very civil; rapid fire at last year's conference.

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Educa
t
smaller breakdowns are great in rural areas

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

Business looking for rural areas

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn't been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
Your Thoughts | Ideas | Questions | Doodles | Wisdom

In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations, have a key person for each legislator/city for contact

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

"Doing the research and planning as it relates to WATER — All communities are faced with this —"

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Involve the cities in your role out.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

City Councils

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

Keep doing what you are doing

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Excellent meeting
Thank you

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

**KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK ON:**
- Home Rule
- Legislative Issues & Advocacy Training
- Better Relationships Between Cities & State Legislators
- Keep Local Non-Partisan

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities
   - Offer columns to local newspapers on topics of interest to the general public (or for cities to post online)

2. Protect local revenue sources
   - Home Rule - State stay out of local budget & taxing authority

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government — We’re Good

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

"Don't lose sight of the fact that the League is already very effective and valued. Thanks for asking how to be better, but please keep doing what you already excel at."

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn't been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

"It's really scary that legislation that's died for good reason pop back up in conference committee. Bad legislation is paired with critical issues. Is it possible to initiate legislation to prevent this from occurring?"

On the city administration listserve - there is an apparent rule to reply rather than 'Reply All'. I prefer 'Reply All' because I get to see answers without contacting the first person to say: 'Can you copy me on your replies?'

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities."
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

- Finish ways to promote cities more effectively.
- Help cities promote themselves more effectively, we do great things but lack promoting ourselves.

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?
- Kansas Water Assn / Chambers / Utility Companies

After hearing today's discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

- Legislative promotion of cities + Infrastructural, helping find resources to improve. Infrastructural, water resources sharing resources.

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

- Prefer legislative dinners to be about communicating to legislators, not reviewing legislative agenda; focus on needs of cities and making it clear to legislators; legislative agenda can be done electronically; show them what cities are facing

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

Turn over to see page two.
What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?

Aspiration: The League Governing Body & staff intend to develop a plan with specific actions to meet the current and emerging needs of its members, thus strengthening Kansas communities.
Virtual Meeting 7/31/23

In what ways could the League help address big issues facing cities and communities in the next three years?

Simply put, if we don’t have sustainable revenues through traditional sources (property tax, sales tax, etc.), then facing all the big issues will be more complicated. League efforts to educate the public, elected officials at various levels, and support cities will be helpful if not crucial.

How might the League address these six current or emerging issues facing cities, as revealed in the recent focus groups and survey:

1. Educate the public (and legislators) about the role of and critical services provided by cities

   Good question... in our small rural (elderly) community, people don't have cable tv available and use streaming so don't get much local news; the local newspaper is weekly, and most residents don’t use Facebook or other internet media. The City can't afford (time, paper, ink and postage) to send out mass mailings every month in addition to regular bills, though we do send an electronic monthly newsletter to people who choose email billing (75 out of 400+ customers) and hand-deliver flyers to the post-office, grocery store, senior center, and bank to be posted. I don't have an answer, but it is an issue here.

2. Protect local revenue sources

3. Encourage cooperation among local governments

Turn over to see page two.
4. Promote local government services as a desirable career choice

5. Become more effective in state legislative relations

6. Improve civility in local government

What is your best advice for the League Governing Body as it develops the new three-year plan?

Who might the League seek to partner with to explore future work?

After hearing today’s discussion, what is something the League could STOP DOING to free up time and resources to accomplish the priorities suggested today?

And what else? What hasn’t been said that you think is important for the League to accomplish in the next three years?