



THE LEAGUE News

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BROADBAND GRANTS

The Department of Commerce's Broadband Acceleration Grant Program announced 14 broadband improvement projects were awarded in Kansas. These grants totaled more than \$5 million for infrastructure development which will improve access to high-speed internet for homes and businesses in 18 communities statewide.

Read [more online](#).



We are beginning our preparations for the **2021 League Annual Conference**, scheduled for October 9 through 11 in Topeka.

At this time, it is our intent to hold an in-person conference with possible modifications. Visit our [event web page](#) for updates on the Annual Conference.

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AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

This week, the Kansas Office of Recovery offered two webinars for cities and counties to discuss the American Rescue Plan and the resulting funding for Kansas local governments. The League has created a web page where we will collect resources for cities regarding the ARP. The webinars are also linked at the web page, www.lkm.org/ARP2021.



The American Rescue Plan was signed into law last week. Among other provisions, it provides funding to all states with Kansas receiving approximately \$1.568 billion. Cities are set to receive \$424 million and counties will receive \$565 million. Cities over 50,000 population and counties will receive funds directly from the U.S. Treasury within 60 days. For cities under 50,000 population, the funds will go to the state and be distributed within 60 days. The state has 30 days to distribute the funds. Funding is probably 90 days +/- from arriving. Total for cities and counties are still being tweaked, as several states (including Kansas) have some local governments that weren't on the list created by Congress. Keep in mind that whatever that total is, it will be sent in two tranches – one in the ballpark of 90 days and the other half a year later.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Emergency Management - This week the Kansas Legislature passed [SB 40](#) dealing with the Kansas Emergency Management Act (KEMA). Importantly the bill extends the current COVID-19 disaster until May 28, 2021 but sunsets all current executive orders on March 31, 2021. While the Governor may issue new orders relating to COVID-19, all new Executive Orders would be subject to review by the Legislating Coordinating Council (LCC). The bill makes several other long term changes to KEMA including changes to the closure of schools, adding a new permanent member to the LCC, creating due process procedures for those aggrieved by school closure orders, executive orders, and orders issued under KEMA by Counties or Cities with a designated emergency disaster plan, modifying the civil penalties for violations of KEMA to add criminal penalties if the executive order mandates a curfew or prohibits public entry into an area affected by a disaster, and modifies certain powers of the County Health officer. The Conference Committee Report passed the House 118-5 and the Senate 31-8. Contact General Counsel [Amanda Stanley](#) with questions on this legislation.

Special District Consolidation - House Local Government Committee passed [SB 118](#) allowing a special district to voluntarily consolidate into a city favorably out of Committee. It is scheduled for General Orders in the House on Monday. Contact General Counsel Amanda Stanley with questions on this legislation. Contact General Counsel [Amanda Stanley](#) with questions on this legislation.

CMB Legislation - Two bills that would alter the statutes regarding the sale of liquor and CMB on Sundays had hearings this week and were passed out of committee. Pursuant to both of these bills, cities would be able to pass an ordinance that would allow for Sunday sales to start at an earlier time. Similar to current law, the bills would still require cities to submit the question to the electorate if a valid petition is filed. The House version of the bill, [HB 2406](#), would enable cities to

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allow sales to start not earlier than 9:00 a.m. on Sundays, and the Senate version of the bill (originally *SB 256*, now *HB 2138*) would enable cities to allow sales starting not earlier than 10:00 a.m.

Both versions of the bill will modify the holidays where sales of liquor are allowed as well. Currently, state law allows for CMB to be sold on Memorial Day, the 4th of July, and Labor Day but prohibits the sale of alcoholic liquor on those same days if the city has not yet expanded to allow Sunday sales. These bills would do away with this distinction, allowing for the sales of alcoholic liquor on the summer holidays, treating it the same as CMB for those days. Please contact Staff Attorney [John Goodyear](#) with questions on this legislation.

A *weekly legislative calendar* is available for review.

KDHE SOLID WASTE GRANTS OPEN

KDHE's Solid Waste Grants are now open. To find out more information about the grant program, visit [KDHE's website](#) or contact Candy Williamson at (785) 296-1540. Grant applications for the 2021 Solid Waste Grant Program will be due May 15.

2021

MTI

MUNICIPAL
TRAINING
INSTITUTE

A Program of The League

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www.lkm.org/events

April 16

Municipal
Finance

Virtual

LAWRENCE

June 18-19

SAVE THE DATE!

**LEADERSHIP
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&
KANSAS MAYORS
CONFERENCE**

2021

More information
about the Leadership Summit
and Kansas Mayors Conference
is available at:
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Sponsored by: League of Kansas Municipalities & Kansas Mayors Association



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Check out the League's **NEWLY REVISED 7th Grade Essay Contest!** Open to All 7th Graders in Kansas!

THE LEAGUE INVITES ALL KANSAS 7TH
GRADERS TO JOIN OUR ESSAY CONTEST!

TELL US WHAT MAKES
YOUR CITY YOUR 'HOME.'



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS
APRIL 30, 2021.

CONTEST RULES & INSTRUCTIONS:
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MAYOR OF THE YEAR

Nominations are now being accepted for the Mayor of the Year Award! The Mayor of the Year award was first established in 2001 and serves to honor mayors who have served their communities and contributed to the well-being of cities. It is now time to nominate a deserving mayor for this award. If your community has a mayor that has done selfless hours of community service. If your mayor has showed countless constituents how dedicated they are to their community, then please take the time to complete the nomination form and write a short one-page letter listing their accomplishments.

Nominations will be accepted until May 4, 2021. Get all the information on how to submit on our website. The winner will be announced at Leadership Summit & Mayors Conference June 18-19 in Lawrence. Contact Tami Martin with any questions concerning the Mayor of the Year Nomination.

Also, the Kansas Mayors Association (KMA) is seeking nominations for their Board of Directors. Current mayors can self-nominate or be nominated by another KMA member to any eligible seat. Voting will take place at the Leadership Summit & Kansas Mayors Conference on Friday, June 18th, in Lawrence. Each position serves a term of one year. For more information please visit www.lkm.org/ksmayors.

