**League Annual Conference - Registration Open!**

Have you registered for the League Annual Conference yet? The regular city official rate of $250 for full conference will end on August 26 – so save $25 now by registering early! After this date, the registration will increase to $275. The full schedule of events, including workshops and other sessions can be found [here](#). Here are some highlights of a couple of our concurrent workshops:

- **Grant Writing: An Important Tool in your City’s Toolbox.** This workshop will help grant writers know where to start and how to get help with their grant writing efforts.
- **Generational Differences and Similarities in the Workplace.** Explore the generational cycle, culture changes, and how that impacts work expectations. You will learn more about identifying who the next leaders will be.
- **Building Social Infrastructure in Public Library Spaces.** Hear Director Eric Norris of Manhattan Public Library and North Central Kansas Library System speak about the important role libraries play in fostering social interactions and connectivity.

Plus: our keynote speaker this year is Jan Hargrave, the nation’s leading behavioral authority, body language expert and trial consultant. She will be providing us the skills needed to “read” ourselves and everyone around us.

The League Annual Conference is the largest municipal gathering of the year in Kansas, and the one event city officials cannot afford to miss! Registration and other information available [here](#).
E.A. MOSHER EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD

The Excellence in Local Government Award is presented annually to an elected city official who has demonstrated outstanding service to not only his or her own city, but has also shown an active commitment to strong local government and service to the League of Kansas Municipalities. Named in honor of E.A. Mosher, League Director from 1960 to 1991, this award is designed to honor excellence in leadership at the highest level. Submit your nomination here!

2022-23 MY CITY MY HOME ESSAY CONTEST IS OPEN!

The League of Kansas Municipalities invites 7th grade students to participate in the “My City, My Home” essay contest!

CONTEST RULES:

Who: All Kansas students enrolled in the 7th grade during the 2022-23 school year.

What: Each student may submit one essay not to exceed 500 words. Essays must be typed.

When: Essays accepted until November 23, 2022.

Where: Essays may be submitted either via upload OR google form submission.

How: Essays will be evaluated based on: Understanding of city services, creativity, clarity, sincerity of thought, and proper grammar.

Why: Five regional winners receive a cash prize of $125. The sixth regional winner will represent the state of Kansas and receive a $250 cash prize. Winning memos will be published in the Kansas Government Journal. Winners and their teacher are invited to attend a special ceremony with local leaders and state legislators in January 2023.

Visit https://www.lkm.org/page/essaycontest to learn more, view templates, and access social media posts and graphics.

LOCALSMART AWARDS 2022

Nominations are now open for the 2022 LocalSmart Awards. Now in its fourth year, the LocalSmart Awards honor the visionaries who transform local government to change citizens’ lives. These awards celebrate the achievements of those who work to make a lasting impact in the government IT community.

The award categories are:

• City Executive of the Year
• County Executive of the Year
• Local IT Leader of the Year
• Local IT Innovation of the Year

If you choose to nominate someone from your community, please let Sydney Bannister know so we can vote for you! Nominate here.

AUGUST 25TH, MIDWEST DATA CONFERENCE

Do you crunch numbers for your organization? Do you support the number crunchers in your organization? Do you make important policy decisions based on the crunching of numbers? If you answered yes to any of these questions, this conference is for you. The 2022 Midwest Data Conference is set to take place August 25, 2022 from 8 am to 5 pm in Wichita. Register here!
2023 Qualified Allocation Plan: Draft Plan & Public Meeting

The 2023 draft Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) is now available. The QAP governs how Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) are awarded across the state and is reviewed and revised on an annual basis. KHRC invites stakeholders to review the draft 2023 QAP and provide comments on the proposed changes.

Join KHRC staff for a review of the proposed 2023 QAP by attending our Overview of the 2023 Draft QAP Public Meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 9th at 10:30 am. Register here.

Public comments will be accepted until Monday, Sept. 19th. Submit your comments by email to housingdevelopment@kshousingcorp.org.

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Program

The US Department of Transportation (DOT) released a technical amendment to SS4A’s Notice of Funding Opportunity that can be found here. The main changes are:

- Applicants should use total population based on the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) instead of the 2020 U.S. Census data. The updated application information for Kansas cities and counties can be found here.
- The SS4A Underserved Communities Census Tracts tool has been updated to include new query features.

KDOT Local Bridge Programs Reshaped to take Advantage of Federal Funds

KDOT has reshaped two local bridge improvement programs which focus on city and county bridges to include approximately $137.5 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds over the next five years. The increase will more than double and triple local bridge improvement funds currently available in these programs under the existing Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program (IKE).

- KDOT’s Off-System Bridge Program (OSB) will be expanded from $8 million in annual funding to $20.5 million. (Starting Federal Fiscal Year 2024)
- The Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program (KLBIP) will increase from $5 million annually to $20 million. (Starting State Fiscal Year 2023)

The application process for both programs is now underway. Awarded funds will be directed to rebuild and rehabilitate bridges located on roads both on and off the federal-aid system. Both the OSB and KLBIP have similar-yet-different bridge eligibility requirements targeted for city and county bridges not on the state highway system and in need of replacement or repair.

Applications for both programs must be received by Friday, Sept. 2. Additional information is available by contacting either:

- Donna Schmit at (785) 213-7034 or Donna.Schmit@ks.gov.
- Kent Anschutz at (785) 296-0263 or Kent.Anschutz@ks.gov.