LEAGUE REQUESTS PROPOSALS FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING CONSULTANT

The League is soliciting proposals for a consultant to assist with all or parts of the upcoming strategic planning process. The League Governing Body has established a strategic planning process for the organization that includes a survey of the League membership, regional meetings and focus groups, and a presentation at the League Annual Conference. It is the intention of the League to engage a consultant for part or all the steps in the strategic planning process.

After a review of the proposals that are submitted, the League Governing Body will select a consultant. The final budget, which will be approved by the League Governing Body will determine whether to proceed with a consultant for all steps in the planning process or select individual portions of the process wherein a facilitator will be used. To see the full RFP, click here.

KU CERTIFIED PUBLIC MANAGER (CPM) PROGRAM IS NOW ENROLLING!

In the CPM Program, participants strengthen their leadership and management skills through a competency-based curriculum. Coming together in cohorts for two days each month, those enrolled in CPM develop a stronger understanding of themselves; learn how to bring out the best in others; explore topics such as measuring outcomes, decision-making, and difficult conversations; and strengthen the ability to lead during tumultuous times. The year-long course has about 25 students in each cohort for a small-group approach to learning. For 2023 CPM kicks off in January and will be offered in Overland Park, Newton, and online. Don’t miss your spot in this once-a-year opportunity: Explore CPM Options.

SUBMIT FOR THRIVING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM BY 12/6

Need transportation help? Submit your interest for new Thriving Communities Program.
1. Thriving Communities will select 30+ lucky cities who submit a simple “letter of interest” by 12/6 to receive technical assistance and support from local and national entities that can expedite their transportation visions into reality.
2. Access to qualified staff and support is coming up consistently as a challenge for mid and small communities, and so we’re excited to make sure those great cities with big transportation goals get a chance to supercharge their efforts with this program.
3. All cities have to do is submit a letter stating their vision and goals by 12/6 to be considered.

Local Infrastructure Hub Safe Streets and Roads for All free bootcamps on both planning and implementation starting in January will open very soon, and we anticipate the notice of funding to be available around March of 2023. Additionally, the first round of recipients will likely be announced in January.

DISCUSSION ON HOUSING STABILITY

The U.S. Treasury and National League of Cities are hosting a virtual discussion on how cities can use their State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for investments in affordable housing production, preservation, and to promote housing stability.

During the discussion you will learn more about the SLFRF program, its eligible uses, and about recent updates to the program guidance enhancing flexibility, including for long-term loans such as LIHTC programs.

What: U.S. Treasury Briefing: How Cities Can Use SLFR Funds for Housing Production & Preservation
When: December 8th, 2022 at 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Where: Webinar - RSVP here
Who: U.S. Treasury officials and National League of Cities representatives

The session will be followed by a brief Q&A.
2023 Tax Rate Survey is Response Deadline is This Week!

The League’s 2023 Tax Rate Survey needs your response by this **Wednesday, November 30th**!

The Tax Rate Book is published annually in the March *Kansas Government Journal*. The book is structured to illustrate tax rates and fiscal data from each of the three classes of cities and then moves on to highlight tax rates from counties, unified school districts and community colleges. The data collected includes, but is not limited to: assessed valuation, bonds, temporary notes, no-fund warrants, and mills levied by each taxing subdivision. The criteria for the data collected provides a well-rounded perspective as to how individual cities, counties, and unified school districts are assessing taxes. Contact **Brady Fisher**, Management Intern, if you have questions. You should have an email with instructions.

League Looks to Hire Executive Director

Are you interested in becoming the League’s next Executive Director? The Search has been underway for a few weeks, and applications for the position are still being accepted until December 14, 2022. Specifics on the position posting are available [here](#) and below:

The League of Kansas Municipalities seeks a personable, innovative, and strong leader to serve as its next Executive Director. The ideal candidate should be experienced in lobbying and using a non-partisan approach to bring people together on issues. A bachelor’s degree in public administration, business administration, political science, or a related field, and at least five years’ experience in public policy administration and/or a combination of business and public administration, is required. A demonstrated ability to lead an organization in similar size and nature and firsthand senior management experience in local government, or a very strong understanding of municipal government, is required. Knowledge of the legislative process is a must, and a legal background or knowledge of governmental law would be helpful. A master’s degree is preferred. A connection to Kansas would be a plus. Must be willing to travel around the state to engage with all members. An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered. Residency within Kansas is required. For more information on this position contact: **Mark McDaniel, Sr. Vice President**, Strategic Government Resources, 817-773-6558.

To receive League News directly, sign up on-line at [www.lkm.org/page/leaguenews](http://www.lkm.org/page/leaguenews)
**Final Rule. Resumption of the Population Estimates Challenge Program.**

SUMMARY: The Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) is resuming the Population Estimates Challenge Program to provide eligible governmental units the opportunity to file requests for the review of population estimates for 2021 and subsequent years in forthcoming estimates series, beginning with the Vintage 2022 series that is scheduled to be published in 2023. This document lifts the stay of the Population Estimates Challenge Program regulations. This document does not implement revisions to the program or its requirements. The Census Bureau has published a proposed rule elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register announcing the program’s current requirements and soliciting comments about how the program might be improved.

DATES: **Effective on November 22, 2022.**

[...]The Census Bureau will resume accepting challenges to the population estimates as of November 22, 2022. At that time, states, counties, and other units of general-purpose government may initiate challenges to population estimates under the procedures set forth in 15 CFR part 90. The Census Bureau will accept challenges to the estimates for 2021 and subsequent years in forthcoming estimates series, beginning with the Vintage 2022 series that is scheduled to be published in March and May of 2023. Challenges to previous estimates series will not be accepted. See 15 CFR 90.6(a) (``A request for a challenge to a population estimate may be filed any time up to 90 days after the release of the estimate by the Census Bureau.’’). Although the Census Bureau has the discretion to accept untimely requests in certain circumstances, see id. Sec. 90.6(b), this is not an appropriate circumstance to exercise such discretion, given the need to prioritize the agency’s limited resources to prepare the forthcoming 2022 estimates, and to ensure that sufficient resources and program materials are available to support the operation of the Challenge Program and the evaluation of future challenges received.

**ACTION: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Request For Comments.**

SUMMARY: The Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) is proposing to amend the regulations for the Population Estimates Challenge Program which provides eligible general-purpose governmental entities (units) with the opportunity to file requests for the review of their population estimates for 2021 and subsequent years in forthcoming estimates series, beginning with the Vintage 2022 series that is scheduled to be published in 2023. Under this program, a governmental unit may file a challenge to its official population estimate by submitting additional data to the Census Bureau for evaluation, or by identifying a technical error in processing input data or producing the estimates. Specifically, the Census Bureau is proposing to amend its regulations to: update references to the input data used to produce the official population estimates and revise the evidence required to support a challenge.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before **December 22, 2022.**