LAST CHANCE for Mayor of the Year and KMA Board Nominations

The chance to submit a nomination for a deserving mayor for the Mayor of the Year will come to a close Friday, March 17, 2023. Get all the information on how to submit on our website. The winner will be announced at Leadership Summit & Mayors Conference, April 14 & 15 in Hays. This will be a great networking opportunity for all. Contact Tami Martin with any questions concerning the Mayor of the Year Nomination.

Kansas Mayors Association will be having its annual membership meeting at the Leadership Summit. KMA invites you to submit nominations to serve on the KMA Board of Directors. You may nominate yourself or another KMA member to any eligible seat (eligibility rules are listed for each Board position on the form). Voting will take place at the annual business meeting, in Hays on Friday, April 14th. Each position serves a term of one year. For more information, please click here.

IMMEDIATE NEED for VOLUNTEERS: League Strategic Plan Focus Groups

As we hope you are aware, the League is embarking on a new strategic plan to guide its path forward. The process is being facilitated by the Public Policy & Management Center (PPMC) at Wichita State University with the support of the Public Management Center at the University of Kansas and the Docking Institute at Fort Hays State University.

The planning process includes a series of focus groups this month, a member survey in May/June, regional meetings in July/August, and a status report at the Annual Conference in October.

One virtual focus group remains:
- Elected Officials: March 29, at 1:30 p.m.

Please reach out to Corinthian Kelly as soon as possible if you would like to volunteer for a focus group. Feedback from municipal staff and elected officials is absolutely integral to this process and developing an informed and well-rounded strategic plan.

CALLING ALL LOCAL OFFICIALS! | REGISTER TODAY for Leadership Summit

Kansas knows Jackie Stiles from her historical roots in Claflin, KS where she led the country in women’s basketball scoring, then rewrote the NCAA women’s basketball record at Southwest Missouri State, and onto her professional career in the WNBA! The League is pleased to welcome Jackie as our keynote speaker on Friday, April 14 at the Kansas Mayors Association Conference & Leadership Summit, this event is open to all municipal staff and elected officials. Jackie will share Leadership stories about her journey through professional basketball, and a message about becoming the best version of yourself. The 4 p.m. General Session on Friday is open to all conference attendees, and Saturday’s keynote will be a follow-up Q&A with Jackie at 9 a.m.

Following Jackie’s morning Q&A session, we will have three stellar breakout sessions. Two of the sessions will run concurrently from 10:15 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.:
- Conflict Management - University of Kansas Public Management Center

After lunch, the Kansas Department of Commerce, Broadband Division will close out Leadership Summit by providing an update on the Kansas broadband landscape.

You can find more information about the conference, including a schedule of events and hotel information here. Watch the movie trailer that recently came out about Jackie’s life here.
KCCM 2023 - Lights, Action, Kansas!

The featured projects (and behind the scenes work) building Kansas communities of the future. Recently recognized as #1 for the Most Business Investment Per Capita by Site Selection Magazine, the state of Kansas and the Kansas City region is taking center stage around the country. Kansas is indeed headed "to the stars," begging our theatrically themed Kansas City/County Manager's Conference (KCCM) conference - Lights, Action, Kansas! Participants will hear an overview of the economic developments taking shape in the Sunflower state from Deputy Secretary of Commerce, Paul Hughes, along with an update on the preparations for the World Cup 2026 in Kansas City. While these developments are dazzling, there is a lot of work required backstage to pull it all off. For example,

- How can we build a workforce if there is a shortage of affordable childcare?
- How will local communities be impacted by an influx of residents, how are they preparing?
- What will these new employers do to make themselves attractive to new talent, and how will organizations retain the talent they have?
- Can the design/build process mitigate community problems before they start?

Conference attendees will also receive a legislative update from the League about issues expected to work their way through the process this spring. KCCM 2023 will use large group presentations, small breakout sessions, and, as always, lots of time for networking and team building.

The KU Public Management Center (PMC) is happy to announce the KACM membership meeting and luncheon on Thursday at the Oread (extra ticket price $35), the second annual Kansas Association of City/County Management Association Foundation fundraising dinner (extra ticket price of $35), featuring the live music of One Blue Light, featuring, SPAA's own Professor of Practice, Hannes Zacharias, and a luncheon hosted by the Kansas Chapter of Women Leading Government immediately following the conference conclusion on Friday.

Registration is open and the extra ticketed events can all be purchased in one easy spot. KU PMC looks forward to seeing you at the Oread Hotel March 30 & 31. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact Ruth DeWitt or Alex Terwilliger for more information.

WEBINAR 3/16: THE CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANTS PROGRAM: HOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CAN WORK TOGETHER

Join the National Association of Counties (NAC), National League of Cities (NLC), and the National Association of Regional Councils on March 16 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Eastern for a deep dive into the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) new $5 billion Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program. Established in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the CPRG Program will award funds to state and local governments to develop and implement climate action plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The CPRG Program is split into two phases:

- Phase I: Planning Grants
- Phase II: Implementation Grants

The webinar will focus on Phase I Planning Grants. Under this phase, EPA will directly award $1 million to each of the 67 most populous metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) in the country. Local governments within these MSAs will need to work together to develop an implementation plan for their region and designate an entity to serve as the lead. The lead organization for an MSA must submit a Notice of Intent to Participate (NOIP) in the program by April 28, 2023. The webinar will discuss strategies and best practices local governments can leverage to execute their planning grants successfully and best position themselves to apply for the competitive Phase II Implementation Grants. Register here.
NLC Rail Safety Sign-On Letter

The tragic events in East Palestine, OH, have resulted in a bipartisan push to pass needed rail safety legislation in the Senate, and the National League of Cities (NLC) knows this is an issue close to home for so many that have rail assets in their communities.

NLC sent this detailed rail safety letter to Congress, and NLC has also stood up a simple city sign-on letter to ask Congress to act on rail safety so that city leaders can show their individual support. NLC would like to ask for cities help to amplify the letter. They would like to get as many cities as possible to sign-on as the Senate holds a hearing with Norfolk Southern’s CEO this week.

- Cities Ask Congress to Act on Rail Safety
- Letter sign-on link

NLC’s Rail Roundtable will return at CCC on Sunday, March 26, along with an Aviation Roundtable (with a special focus on airport noise) as we continue the process of FAA reauthorization this Congress.

Online Directory

Did You Know You can Search City Info Online?

Use the League's Online Directory Any Time to Search for City Contact Information, Form of Government, City Population and More!

Visit www.lkm.org/DirectorySearch

Register today at: www.lkm.org/events

TOPIC
Resilience & Mitigation Grant Opportunities from FEMA

March 29
Virtual

SAVE THE DATE!

October 7-9
More Info Coming Soon...

Grant Writing Basics

Online Workshop
Grants are a vital piece in your community’s funding, and you can do it.

Join Us March 28 & 30, 2023
1:30 - 4:30pm
Cost: $60

Register Today
https://ksre-learn.com/grant-writing-basics

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