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**Subject:** League Letter: Final Stop on the ARP Expert Tour, Municipal Goals, Communication and Member Engagement Survey, Events and Funding Opportunities  
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**To:** [prockenbach@northwestpd.com](mailto:prockenbach@northwestpd.com)



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## The American Rescue Plan Expert Tour: Final Stop Ahead

October 26, 2022 | Wallace, N.C.



Have a question concerning the American Rescue Plan? Want to sit 1-on-1 with an expert to discuss reporting, spending compliance or strategy? **Then this event is for you.**

**Just one final date remains** on NCLM's American Rescue Plan Expert Tour. This is a traveling one-stop ARP shop. With representatives from state, local and academic organizations all in the same room, we are ready to provide information, share case studies, and answer any ARP questions you have.

Your questions – no matter how specific or unique to your town – will be addressed.

**Registration is required.** This event is free, and lunch will be provided.

- **Wednesday, October 26 | Wallace - [Register Here](#)**

[More Information](#)

(You can view a gallery of photos from the tour's recent stop in Rocky Mount [here](#).)

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# Submit Thoughts on Municipal Goals

## Gathering Your Ideas Until November 4

Ever wonder about how the League determines its legislative goals? Want to take part in making those decisions? **This is your chance.** Share your thoughts on what you think the League's 2023-2024 legislative policy goals should be! Ideas may be [submitted in writing via our online form.](#)

When brainstorming appropriate goals, consider ideas that will affect municipalities broadly and have statewide impact. Ideas should also be “actionable,” meaning there is a reasonable path for action in the state legislative or regulatory process.

[Submit Your Ideas](#)

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## League Publications

### Municipal Calendar



#### 2022-2023 Municipal Calendar

Each year, NCLM provides members with a handy reference guide to important dates and deadlines that municipal members are often required to follow based on state laws and other policies. This new, electronic version of the NCLM Municipal Calendar re-establishes a go-to guide of where to find all of those dates in one place. We hope that you find it useful.

### The Podcast



#### Ep 74: Preparing for the Future of Work

Municipal Equation is the League's own podcast about cities and towns adapting to change. On our newest episode, we chat with Lena Geraghty of the National League of Cities about a new report looking at the future of work in our cities and towns, and how municipal leaders can play a role in making it as good and inclusive as possible. What are the drivers that will shape

[View Calendar](#)

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the next 10 years?

Be sure to search & follow Municipal Equation on iTunes, Spotify, or your favorite podcast streaming service to always have the [latest episode](#).

[Listen Here](#)

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## The Stories



### Telling the Story of ARP

All across North Carolina, cities and towns are turning American Rescue Plan dollars into transformational investments. There are stories to take pride in. And towards your citizens, local news outlets and more, it's up to you to spread the word. This was the topic under discussion this year at NCLM's CityVision conference, where a panel of state and local experts made one point abundantly clear: if you don't tell your ARP story, someone else will -- make sure that story is told well.

Read the full article at [Southern City Magazine](#).

[Read More](#)

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## NCLM Communication and Member Engagement Survey

The League is always working to improve our member communication and services. Our goal is to anticipate your needs and provide information, programs and services that support cities and towns. The Strategic Communications and Member Engagement department at NCLM has compiled a survey to gain insight into your communication preferences, our large and small events, and our annual CityVision Conference. We need your feedback in order to make informed decisions about your member needs. Please take 5 minutes to fill out the survey linked below.

[Complete Survey](#)

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## Census Challenges

The demographic team at the N.C. Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) has been fielding calls from many N.C. towns and counties that are not happy with their 2020 Census counts. While they have provided a lot of information for filing challenges to the Census counts, the US Census Bureau has only received one challenge from North Carolina at this time.

The Count Question Resolution (CQR) program is a free challenge to 2020 Census counts based on limited criteria. We encourage any and all NC local governments to take advantage of this **free challenge before the submission deadline of June 30, 2023**.

The State of North Carolina is allowed to file Census challenges for local areas as well. OSBM will file CQR challenges for North Carolina, will notify the appropriate local governments, and will post the list of challenges on the [NC Census Data website](#).

[More Information](#)

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## Upcoming Events from NCLM and Partners

Webinars, courses and on-demand educational opportunities designed to support your communities and advance municipal leadership.

Keep up to date on the League's entire event calendar [here](#).

## What Happened and Where are We Going? FY22 in Review

**Webinar by NCLGBA and NCLM | October 19 at 1 p.m.**

The NC Local Government Budget Association (NCLGBA) is excited to partner with the NC League of Municipalities (NCLM) to host a FREE webinar and continuing education opportunity on **Wednesday, October 19 at 1 p.m.** If you enjoyed our sales tax webinar last spring, this will provide another opportunity to engage with your peers and stay up to date with recent revenue trends.

Led by **Keith Lane** (Durham County Budget Director), **Michael B. Simmons** (Mecklenburg County Economist), and **Pat Madej** (NCLM Research Program Manager), this presentation's topics and round-table discussion will include:

- Updated analysis of state-distributed revenues, including sales tax, featuring Keith Lane's [acclaimed Power BI dashboard](#) and NCLM's [Q4 revenue memo](#) and [dashboard](#)
- An economic overview including insights on FY22 actuals and indicators to watch for FY23 and beyond
- A first look at NCLM survey data on what municipalities passed in their FY23 budgets

[Register Here](#)

## N.C. Local Government Debt Setoff Workshops

### October Trainings from NCACC and NCLM

The N.C. Local Government Debt Setoff Clearinghouse assists North Carolina local governments with the recovery of any delinquent debts by offsetting debtors' North Carolina state tax refunds and Education lottery winnings. The N.C. Association of County Commissioners and the N.C. League of Municipalities are sponsoring six free workshops throughout the month of October. These workshops will give you a better understanding of the program, security, how to enroll, and will provide an opportunity to ask questions.

[Click here](#) for a list of dates, locations, and more information.

[Register Here](#)

## Master Planning on a Budget

### Webinar from Leverage NC | November 2 at 10 a.m.

Every community is unique, requiring a specific planning process to ensure the community gets a valuable and implementable plan document to follow and utilize. In this webinar, you will obtain information on identifying your downtown planning needs, highlighting, or prioritizing necessary plan elements, and associating applicable costs or budgets to each task. Additionally, this webinar will discuss





preparing Request for Proposal documents, soliciting proposals, and conducting a fair or equitable solicitation and review.

The information learned will help streamline the planning process and ensure that each community has a plan that meets their individual needs, not just a copy of what the neighboring community received.

[Register Here](#)

## FRA Grade Crossing Safety and Railroad Trespass Prevention Workshop

### Workshop from NCDOT and the FRA | November 1 - 3

NCDOT and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) are hosting the [FRA Grade Crossing Safety and Railroad Trespass Prevention Workshop](#) in-person **November 1-3, 2022** at the Hunt Library at NCSU in Raleigh.

Featuring several NCDOT funded research projects, the workshop's goals are three-fold: (1) to identify existing and emerging technologies to mitigate, reduce, and ultimately eliminate highway-rail grade crossing and trespasser incidents; (2) to raise awareness of the dangers and effects of grade crossing and trespasser incidents, to seek out, and to discuss practicable ideas for technological improvements, community outreach and education focused on vehicular and pedestrian safety (including low-cost solutions); and (3) provide information on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding opportunities related to law enforcement grants, community safety grants, research funding opportunities and improving safety along the railroad right-of-way and at grade crossings

**Attendees can earn PDH credits for participating, up to 12 PDH if you attend all three days.**

[Register Here](#)

## The Power of Partnership: Sharing Resources with Neighboring Systems

### Training by the Environmental Finance Center | November 15 at 9:30 a.m.

Running a small utility system can be challenging. Along with meeting regulatory obligations and satisfying customer expectations, you may have issues with aging infrastructure, lack of personnel, and limited financial resources. Furthermore, small systems often cost more to operate per capita than large systems because of economy of scale. This can further complicate operations. One strategy to address these challenges is to work with other utilities

complicate operations. One strategy to address these challenges is to work with other utilities. In this workshop, we will discuss various approaches to collaboration.

The Environmental Finance Center will provide a free, virtual or in-person training that is approved for 6 CEUs for both water and wastewater operators.

[Register Here](#)

## Use of Force Risk Assessment for Supervisors

**Jamestown, N.C. | November 15 at 8 a.m.**

Use of Force Assessment and Risk Management requires an understanding of many factors. Training for supervisors in the skill of assessing and evaluating use of force is not provided in management training because this is a profession specific function. With the use of force, risk cannot be eliminated. It can only be minimized and managed.



The ability to make quick, life-and-death decisions is a critical skill—one that must be honed to prevent unnecessary use of force. The Use of Force and Risk Management for Supervisors course is designed for supervisors and others who are responsible for risk management.

[Register Here](#)

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## Grant and Assistance Opportunities

### USDOT Thriving Communities Program

Thriving Communities is a \$30 million collaboration between the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to help communities access once-in-a-generation levels of federal infrastructure funding under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and deliver transformative projects. The program will pair a cohort of applicants with organizations who will provide technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support to grow community capacity to take projects from conception through to delivery. The program is focused on supporting under-resourced and disadvantaged urban, rural and Tribal communities. DOT will be hosting a series of webinars for both those interested in receiving support through the program, and for capacity builders interested in applying for funding under the Notice of Funding Opportunity. Interested communities are encouraged to submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) prior to December 6, with the NOFO for capacity builders open until November 22.





## Recreational Trails Program Grant Cycle Now Open

North Carolina's Recreational Trails Program is now accepting grant applications for the 2023 cycle. The program values trail projects that are legal, safe, managed, and provide connectivity, public access, and reasonable parking. Grant candidates should be shovel-ready trail projects that enhance sustainability and provide low-infrastructure economic development opportunities through natural resource tourism. Please visit the program's website [here](#) for more information. **Final applications are due February 17, 2023.** We strongly encourage prospective applicants to reach out to their [Regional Trail Specialist](#) to discuss their projects before applying.

[More Information](#)

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## Western North Carolina Safety and Health Conference

**October 31 - November 2 | Asheville, N.C.**

The Western North Carolina Safety and Health Conference is a nonprofit organization developed in conjunction with the North Carolina Department of Labor, with the purpose of furthering safety and health education for members of business and industry. This year's conference, Workplace Safety: Make it a Priority, **offers MESH credits** and an opportunity to network with human resources managers, safety managers, environmental managers, medical professionals, government sector employees, industry owners and workers.

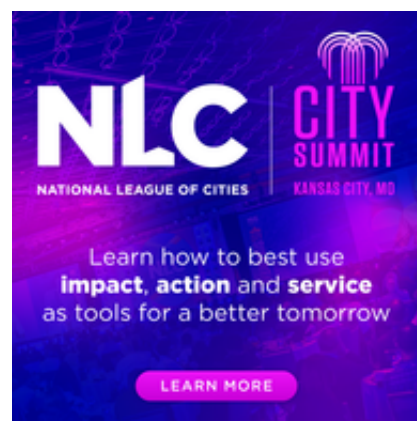
[Learn More](#)

## NLC City Summit 2022

**November 17 - 19 | Kansas City, Mo.**

National League of Cities' (NLC) annual City Summit conference is an event for local officials—elected and staff—to learn about the issues affecting local governments and expand their professional network.

Cities, towns and villages across the country have received historic federal investment and demonstrated the power of local leaders during a crisis. Join NLC in Kansas City for City Summit 2022 where it will showcase the impact of local leadership, share best practices and demonstrate the bold actions that these leaders are taking on behalf of their residents.



[Learn More](#)

## N.C. Leadership Reception | Registration is Open!

City Summit attendees are invited to the N.C. Leadership Reception in Kansas City, Mo., Thursday, November 17, from 5:30 – 7 p.m. The League is thrilled to celebrate our members and your outstanding leadership at the Loews Kansas City Hotel.

This event is FREE for municipal officials, spouses and guests.

[Register Now](#)

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### Thank You NCLM 2022 Annual Sponsors!



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Have more to add? Write to us at [communications@nclm.org](mailto:communications@nclm.org).

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