

**From:** North Carolina League of Municipalities [ncm@mail.ncm.org](mailto:ncm@mail.ncm.org)  
**Subject:** League Letter: Legislative Goals, Upcoming Webinar, Census Challenges, Events and Funding Opportunities  
**Date:** October 25, 2022 at 12:51 PM  
**To:** [prockenbach@northwestpd.com](mailto:prockenbach@northwestpd.com)



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**October 25, 2022 | Volume 68 | Issue 43**

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**Submit Your Feedback and Ideas for NCLM's**

## Submit Your Feedback and Ideas for 2023-2024 Legislative 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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## Webinar: What Water Systems Need to Know About the EPA Copper & Lead Rule Revision

**November 16, 2022 | 10 a.m.**

With very high-profile national drinking water issues in Flint, MI, and Jackson, MS, the public is concerned about the safety of drinking water—especially regarding lead. The EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions require that water systems prepare and maintain an inventory of service line materials by the October 16, 2024 deadline.



**PREFERRED PARTNER WEBINAR**

[Craig Silvanic](#), Vice President and Practice Leader of the Geomatics Group with Stewart, will provide a high-level overview to help you and your staff learn about these requirements, ask questions, connect to resources, and consider the importance of communication with customers.

The webinar is free, but pre-registration is required by Nov. 15.

[Register Here](#)

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## League Publications

[Municipal Calendar](#)



[The Podcast](#)





## 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.

[View Calendar](#)

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## 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 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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## 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](#).

# 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. 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

**Accessibility for Parks Grant Program | Application Period Now Open**

**The program is administered through the N.C. Division of Parks and Recreation and the N.C. Parks and Recreation Trust Fund.**



The Accessibility for Parks grant program provides \$10 million for parks and recreation grants to benefit children and/or veterans with disabilities in North Carolina. Municipalities and counties are eligible to apply for the matching grants. **The application period closes November 1.**

The matching grants can be used to build special facilities or adapt existing facilities that meet the unique needs of children and/or veterans with physical and developmental disabilities.

[More Information](#)

## Application Period Now Open for State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced a first-of-its-kind cybersecurity grant program specifically for state, local, and territorial (SLT) governments across the country. This State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program, made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, provides \$1 billion in funding to SLT partners over four years, with \$185 million available for FY22, to support SLT efforts to address cyber risk to their information systems. With this funding, SLT governments will be better equipped to address cybersecurity risks, strengthen the cybersecurity of their critical infrastructure, and ensure resilience against persistent cyber threats for the services SLT governments provide their communities.

**The application process for the grant program closes on November 15.**

[More Information](#)

## 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. 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.





[More Information](#)

## 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](#)

## N.C. Leadership Reception at NLC's City Summit Conference | Register Today

[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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**Winston-Salem Fire  
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