

September 24, 2018 [View this email in your browser](#)



Register Today for NARC's Executive Directors Conference!

Join NARC, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Council, and your peers in Cleveland, Ohio September 30 – October 2 for a not-to-be missed opportunity to learn about ideas and best practices from your colleagues and other experts around the nation. Registration for NARC's 2018 Executive Directors Conference (EDC) is now open [here](#). See our most recent conference agenda draft [here](#). Conference sessions and the room block will be at **Metropolitan at The 9, Autograph Collection**. The hotel cut off has passed, but please contact Marcy if you need to reserve a room.

NARC Board Members (and those who manage travel for Board Members), don't forget to **RSVP here** for both the Board Retreat and Dinner. The Board Dinner will begin after 6pm on Tuesday, October 2nd and the meeting will end before 2pm on Wednesday, October 3rd. Please plan your departure flights accordingly. If you have any questions about logistics, please reach out to Marcy Fritter at marcy@narc.org.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

The Senate is in session today; the House will return tomorrow.

With only six days left until the beginning of fiscal year 2019 (FY2019), it remains unclear as to whether the president will sign into law a continuing resolution that would keep the government open through December 7. The president's recent tweets and comments suggest that he is giving some thought to vetoing any continuing resolution that does not include funding for a southern border wall or enhanced border security.

To date, Congress has passed and the president has signed into law one minibus (a combined appropriations bill). That bill includes funding for three appropriations bills: Energy and Water, the Legislative Branch, and Military Construction–Veterans Affairs.

The House is expected to pass and forward for the president's consideration a second minibus that combines two major appropriations bills: Defense and Labor/Health and Human Services/Education (Labor/H). The decision to combine the Defense and Labor/H appropriations bills is likely to make it difficult for the president to veto. He is not inclined to veto defense spending, especially a defense bill that includes funds for additional troops and a 2.6 percent pay raise for active duty military.

If the president signs the Defense and Labor/HHS/Education minibus, it would also put into place a continuing resolution that would include funding for the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, Justice, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, Homeland Security, and State, the Environmental Protection Agency, and financial services programs through December 7.

It may be the case that we will not know the answer to whether large parts of the government remain open on October 1 until later this week. If the president does not sign this latest minibus, the House, which is scheduled to recess on Friday so members can return home to campaign, may have to abruptly reconvene. The Senate may also find that it is unable to recess if they cannot move forward with a final floor vote on the president's Supreme Court nominee and if they face the prospect of a government shutdown.

Farm Bill Deadline Looms

The Farm Bill reauthorization deadline is this Sunday, yet two agriculture lobbyists familiar with the matter said that there will probably be no agreement made before then. Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) have said that legislators negotiating the bill face no firm deadline until December, throwing into question whether a short-term extension will be passed. This Farm Bill delay would put several programs on hold, including the Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program and the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Program.

Senate Passes Sweeping Substance Abuse-Related Package

By a vote of 99 to 1, the Senate overwhelmingly passed a package aimed at addressing the nation's substance abuse crisis. The package is a combination of 70 bills and would cost \$8.4 billion. It includes provisions aiming to prevent fentanyl from being shipped through the U.S. Postal Service and allowing doctors to prescribe more medication designed to wean addicts off opioids. Many public health advocates and experts are concerned that the package does not offer the massive amount of funding needed to combat the crisis. The House and Senate will now go into conference to resolve differences between their substance abuse-related packages. The biggest difference between the two measures is their approach to a decades-old rule prohibiting federal Medicaid reimbursements for inpatient substance abuse treatments in centers with more than 16 beds and whose patients are mainly struggling with mental illness.

House and Senate Committee Leaders Announce Agreement on Long-Term FAA and Disaster Program Reform Legislation

House and Senate negotiators have agreed on **legislative language** to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and improve federal disaster programs to better prepare communities for disaster. The House could vote on the bill as soon as Wednesday, leaving a good chance for this bipartisan agreement to be signed into law by the September 30 deadline. The agreement includes the *FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018*, a three-year reauthorization of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), and a four-year reauthorization of the National Transportation Safety Board. The bill also includes the *Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 (S. 3041)*, which ensures a percentage of assistance provided in the wake of disasters is invested in predisaster hazard mitigation so local governments can preempt the damage and distress that results from disasters. A summary of the agreement package can be found [here](#).

OTHER NEWS

NC Governor Requests Additional FEMA Funds to Speed Recovery from Hurricane Florence

Last week, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper requested that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) pay 100% of the initial disaster response costs resulting from Hurricane Florence. FEMA normally pays at least 75% of these when a state's expenses overwhelm its resources – any remaining expense must be paid for by the state. Governor Cooper said “North Carolinians are a resilient people, but the recovery from this storm will take years and require continued assistance from our federal partners as we rebuild our state... The storm brought widespread rainfall amounts of 20-30”, with some areas seeing greater than 35”, which led to extensive flash flooding and record-breaking river flooding. River flooding across eastern North Carolina will continue for several weeks.”

More Americans Now Telecommute Than Take Public Transportation to Work

The U.S. Census Bureau has estimated that 8 million workers work primarily from home. That makes telecommuting the second-most popular way to get to work behind driving – exceeding the number of those who use public transportation for the first time. While the number of those telecommuting has risen substantially over the last three years, the number of American workers

that use public transportation has remained mostly flat over the last 10 years. Several factors are contributing to this telework increase, including: companies encouraging employees to telecommute, advances in technology, and costs saved by not driving or using public transit.

REGIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Regions Celebrate PARKing Day

Several of our members – including the San Joaquin Council of Governments, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, and North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority – participated in an annual PARKing Day. Following the third Friday of every September, PARKing Day participants convert parking spaces into temporary public parks. PARKing day activities help bring awareness to urban park areas and call attention to the need for more urban open space. To see pictures from events held across the nation, use the Twitter hashtag [#parkingday](#).

LVPC's Bruce Rider is a 2018 CFO of the Year

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission's (LVPC) Director of Administration Bruce Rider has been recognized as a Lehigh Valley Business' Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Year. Among the eight regional CFOs being recognized, Rider's award is for the category of Best Turn Around Specialist for his role in "working with Executive Director Becky Bradley to modernize LVPC's financial and technology systems, while quadrupling contract work being done by the organization." Bradley said of Rider, "We're a relatively small operation with big responsibilities. All of his financial management leadership is balanced with his role as Human Resources Director – a truly remarkable feat. It takes a special talent to be able to handle it all. Bruce takes it all in stride." Congratulations, Bruce!

FEATURED JOBS

[View full list of jobs!](#)

Executive Director

El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization, El Paso, TX

Transportation Planner – Transit Program Manager

River to Sea Transportation Planning Organization, Daytona Beach, FL

Transportation Engineer/Transportation Planner

Metropolitan Area Planning Agency, Omaha, NE

Assistant/Associate Planner

San Joaquin Council of Governments, Stockton, CA

Transportation Programs Manager

Benton-Franklin Council of Governments, Richland, WA

FUNDING

[View full list of grants!](#)

Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Program

Applications Due: September 25

The Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction (LHR) grant program assists states, cities, counties/parishes, Native American Tribes, or other units of local government in undertaking comprehensive programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in eligible privately-owned rental or owner-occupied housing populations. Funds will be awarded to applicants to accomplish many objectives, including: maximizing the number of children under the age of six years protected from lead poisoning and the number of housing units where lead hazards are controlled; utilizing cost-effective lead hazard control methods and approaches that ensure the long-term safety of the building occupants; building local capacity to safely and effectively address lead hazards during lead hazard control, renovation, remodeling, and maintenance activities; and developing comprehensive, community-based approaches to integrating this grant program within other local initiatives through public and private partnerships.

Increasing Social Connectedness for Older Adults

Applications Due: September 28

The AARP Foundation is seeking applicants with evidence-based, innovative solutions positioned for exponential growth to bring to scale proven approaches that increase social support and connectedness among hundreds of thousands of low-income older adults. This funding opportunity requires a 1:1 dollar match (cash or in-kind) from one or more other funding sources. If you do not have matching funding for your requested grant amount, you must detail a plan for raising the matching funds in your application.

Tackling Senior Food Insecurity

Applications Due: September 28

The AARP Foundation is seeking applicants with evidence-based, innovative solutions positioned for exponential growth to bring to scale proven approaches that increase food security among hundreds of thousands of low-income older adults. This funding opportunity requires a 1:1 dollar match (cash or in-kind) from one or more other funding sources. If you do not have matching funding for your requested grant amount, you must detail a plan for raising the matching funds in your application.

RESTORE Act Direct Component - Construction and Real Property Acquisition Activities

Applications Due: September 28

Under the *Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act)*, the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund) was established in the Treasury of the United States. Eighty percent of the civil penalties paid after July 6, 2012, under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill will be deposited into the Trust Fund, invested, and dispersed. This notice is only for applications for eligible construction and real property acquisition activities, including projects with or without a non-federal share for another federally-funded project. Trust Fund amounts are available to carry out the following eligible activities described in the *RESTORE Act* (activities 1-7 must be carried out in the Gulf Coast region):

1. Restoration and protection of the natural resources, ecosystems, fisheries, marine and wildlife habitats, beaches, and coastal wetlands of the Gulf Coast region.
2. Mitigation of damage to fish, wildlife, and natural resources.
3. Implementation of a federally-approved marine, coastal, or comprehensive conservation management plan, including fisheries monitoring.
4. Workforce development and job creation.
5. Improvements to or on state parks located in coastal areas affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.
6. Infrastructure projects benefitting the economy or ecological resources, including port infrastructure.
7. Coastal flood protection and related infrastructure.
8. Planning assistance.
9. Administrative costs.
10. Promotion of tourism in the Gulf Coast region, including recreational fishing.
11. Promotion of the consumption of seafood harvested from the Gulf Coast region.

Strategic Economic and Community Development

Applications Due: September 30

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA)-Rural Development Strategic Economic and Community Development (SECD) is a Farm Bill provision that allows USDA to give priority for projects that support the implementation of regional economic development plans through the following four USDA Rural Development programs: Community Facilities Loans, Grants, and Loan Guarantees; Water and Waste Disposal Program Loans, Grants, and Loan Guarantees; Business & Industry Program Loan Guarantees; and Rural Business Development Grants. To be eligible for SECD, a project must: be eligible for the underlying program; be carried out solely in a rural area; and support a multi-jurisdictional strategic economic community development plan. To apply for SECD priority points, applicants must submit **Form RD 1980-88** by the application deadline of the program(s) you are applying for or September 30, 2018, whichever comes first.

Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program

Applications Due: October 1

The Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program (HTPCP) improves access to quality health care and services, builds healthy communities, and improves health equity. Community-based programs and evidence-based models of care that build on existing community resources will be implemented and evaluated to demonstrate program impact. This program supports collaboration between local pediatric providers and community leaders to provide quality health care and preventive health services to children, adolescents, and families in rural and other underserved communities. HTPCP funding supports projects that provide clinical or public health services and does not support research projects. HTPCP applications MUST represent either a new initiative (i.e., project that was not previously in existence) within the community or an innovative new component that builds upon an existing community-based program or initiative.

Fiscal Year 2018 Gang Suppression Planning Grants Program

Applications Due: October 4

The Gang Suppression Planning Grants Program is designed to reduce violent crime, gangs, and victimization and promote public safety in communities through planning support to eligible localities to build capacity for a multilateral data-driven strategy. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is seeking proposals from applicant jurisdictions that have high levels of youth perpetrated gun crime and gang violence and that can demonstrate a willingness and readiness to develop fully comprehensive, community- and data-driven responses. Funding will support selected jurisdictions to undertake strategic planning and capacity-building work through multidisciplinary and community partnerships.

Forest Service - Landscape Scale Restoration Grants

Applications Due: October 12

The U.S. Forest Service will support competitive projects that shape and influence forest land use on a scale and in a way that optimizes public benefits from trees and forests for both current and future generations. Organizations interested in helping states and the U.S. Forest Service attain mutual goals can familiarize themselves with their State Forest Action Plan(s) and discuss project ideas with their state forestry agency. Coordination with State Foresters is the essential step that ensures projects will make an important local difference. Partners and collaborators must submit an initial draft of their Grants.gov application to involved State Foresters by September 14.

Historic Preservation Fund Grants to Underrepresented Communities

Applications Due: November 1

This National Park Service grant program supports the survey, inventory, and designation of historic properties that are associated with communities currently underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places and among National Historic Landmarks. Within one year of the completion of the grant, all projects must result in: the submission of a new nomination to the National Register of Historic Places or National Historic Landmark program OR an amendment to an existing National Register or National Historic Landmark nomination to include underrepresented communities.

2019 RWJF Culture of Health Prize

Applications Due: November 1

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Culture of Health Prize (the Prize) recognizes communities that have come together around a commitment to health, opportunity, and equity through collaboration and inclusion, especially those with historically marginalized populations and those facing the greatest barriers to good health. The Prize honors those communities that are working to give everyone the opportunity to live well, including residents that are often left behind. A Culture of Health recognizes that where we live—our access to affordable and stable homes, quality schools, reliable transportation—make a difference in our opportunities to thrive, and ultimately all of this profoundly affects our health and well-being. Ten communities will be chosen and will:

- Receive a \$25,000 cash prize;
- Receive customized communications materials about their community including videos, photos, and stories captured by journalists and other communications professionals;
- Receive strategic communications counsel leading up to, during, and in follow-up to the Prize winner announcement;

- Receive national and local promotion of their stories and successes to inspire others' efforts, including outreach to media, policy stakeholders, and organizational networks; and
- Engage in opportunities to build knowledge with other national and community leaders working to build a Culture of Health, including past Prize winners through the Prize Alumni Network.

Access & Mobility Partnership Grants

Applications Due: November 13

The Access and Mobility Partnership Grants are two separate and distinct funding opportunities that seek to improve access to public transportation through building partnerships among health, transportation, and other service providers. Further, these funding opportunities seek to fund projects that enhance mobility options through increased coordination efforts. The **Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Pilot Program** finances innovative capital projects for the transportation disadvantaged that will improve the coordination of transportation services and non-emergency medical transportation services. The **Human Services Coordination Research (HSCR) Program** supports the implementation of innovative strategies in the coordination of human services transportation to provide more effective and efficient public transportation services to seniors, individuals with disabilities, and low-income individuals.

EVENTS

[View full list of events!](#)

Local Efforts Supporting Innovation in Early Childhood Development

The National Association of Counties (NACo) invites you to participate in a webinar highlighting local innovations and best practice models in early childhood development. Counties play a critical role in shaping early childhood systems and are instrumental in investing in core services supporting young children and families. To ensure that children are developmentally on track at age three and to improve kindergarten school readiness, communities must drive increased attention on prenatal-to-three initiatives and the critical need for early investments around programs and services that ensure a healthy start at birth, provide support to families of infants and toddlers, and provide high-quality child care and early learning opportunities.

Solving Social Issues with Integrated Data Systems

September 25, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

States cannot overcome the most important challenges their communities face – problems like drug addiction, school violence, and barriers to good-paying work – without good information and coordinated action. Integrated Data Systems (IDSs) are a new tool that can drive that coordinated action across otherwise “siloed” agencies. But building that tool requires both legal acumen and leadership. *Governing* is hosting an hour-long, informative webcast on effective strategies governments can adopt to create consistent legal “rules of the road” that promote collaboration across government, help to solve difficult problems, and protect residents and communities.

National League of Cities & SmartWorks Partners to Hold FCC Streamlining Small Cells Proposal Webinar

September 25, 6:00-7:00 PM ET

This joint National League of Cities and SmartWorks Partners webinar was created specifically for municipalities throughout the country to discuss the upcoming FCC Streamlining Small Cells vote on September 26. Speakers will discuss what to expect if it passes and what cities and municipal associations are doing to combat this measure. They will also open the floor for Q&A.

Tackling the Opioid Epidemic at the Federal and State Levels

September 26, 10:00-11:30 AM ET

Join members of Bipartisan Policy Center's Governors' Council as they talk with the Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Health about the administration's response to the opioid overdose epidemic. They will also provide an update on the latest from the states as they battle this public health crisis.

Opioids: Recovery, Prevention, & Hope: National Experts Equip Faith and Community Leaders

September 27, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Live from Washington D.C., the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will

convene national leaders and experts to talk about the opioid epidemic and other addictions to raise awareness, encourage compassion, reinforce the role of community and families in long-term recovery and prevention, and make a call to action. HHS encourages you to host a post-broadcast conversation in your community with local experts and discuss approaches that will foster healing for individuals and families and align regional efforts to renew wholeness in your community. This event will be livestreamed at [HHS.gov/live](https://www.hhs.gov/live).

Municipal Approaches to Solar Energy (Part II)

Part II: September 27, 12:00-1:00 PM CT

University of Illinois Extension Community and Economic Development will air two live webinars on municipal approaches to solar energy. The first webinar on cost control will share strategies to make your municipality an easy, fast, and cheap place for solar energy installations on both public and private sector properties. Speakers will also discuss the SolSmart best practices and recognition program, municipal solar procurement, public bulk purchase programming, and leasing underutilized property for solar. The second webinar will cover municipal experiences with solar farm implementation and efforts in leading a community-supported solar panel installation.

County-State Collaboration in Criminal Justice Planning

September 27, 2:00-3:15 PM ET

As counties and states across the country work to make their justice systems run more fairly and effectively, many jurisdictions are realizing that intergovernmental coordination is essential. County and state justice systems are run separately in most states, but they are very intertwined and changes at the state level can have major impacts at the local level and vice versa. Join the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Criminal Justice Association for this webinar to learn how states and counties can work together to identify issues and opportunities and develop solutions that improve criminal justice at both levels of government.

Races to Watch, Part I: A Look Ahead to November 6

October 4, 2:00-2:30 PM ET

The 2018 midterms are fast approaching, with many analysts forecasting a Democratic tidal wave. Midterm elections are often a referendum on the president, and this year will be no exception. But with President Trump's approval rating sagging even with economic indicators at record highs, a record number of women running for Congress, and many Democratic candidates pushing for changes within their party leadership, this election is anything but typical. Join *Bloomberg Government's* resident election guru, Greg Giroux, and editorial director, Loren Duggan, for the first installment of this two-part series looking ahead to November 6 and the implications for 2019 and the president's agenda.

What Do Citizens Want from Digital Government Services?

October 11, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

From shopping to learning to connecting with friends and more, a big part of citizens' lives is now conducted online. In this environment, state and local governments are challenged to deliver digital experiences that meet sky-high citizen expectations. According to new research conducted by the Center for Digital Government (CDG) and sponsored by Conduent, 62 percent of citizens think governments should experiment with new technology offerings. *Government Technology* and the Center for Digital Government will be unpacking these research findings to better understand citizens' preferences and priorities and discussing how government organizations can best tailor their digital interactions.

Creating a Talent Development Culture in State and Local Government

October 17, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Talent managers in the public sector face unique and urgent workforce challenges. Between demographic shifts, hiring freezes, the attrition of eligible retirees, and bureaucratic structures that fail to attract younger or more specialized workers, government agencies struggle to recruit and retain top talent. In the competition for talent, a talent development culture has emerged as a key differentiator. Join *Governing* for a one-hour webinar as they focus on states' efforts to create more-skilled, engaged, high-performing, and resilient workforces.

Increasing the Number of People with Mental Illnesses Connected to Treatment

October 25, 2:00-3:15 PM ET

Part of the Stepping Up framework encourages counties to focus their efforts on impacting one or

more of “Four Key Measures” for people with mental illnesses: jail bookings, jail length of stay, connections to treatment, and recidivism. Join Stepping Up for the third webinar in the Four Key Measures series, which will provide strategies for increasing the number of people with mental illnesses connected to treatment in jails and in the community and describe key data points to collect and analyze to track this measure of success. Previous webinars in this series are available in the **Stepping Up toolkit**.

Community Resilience Workshop: Data Needs for Resilience Planning and Decision-Making

October 25-26, Rockville, MD

NARC has been working with the National Institute of Standards and Technology to organize a workshop on resilience planning and decision making. The workshop is organized around three main topics:

- How communities characterize themselves, set goals, and make decisions;
- The gap between current and desired performance of a community's built environment;
- and community resilience priorities and solutions.

The workshop will include speakers and participants who represent cities, counties, regional bodies, and states, as well as Federal agencies, universities, non-profits, and the private sector.

Gaining Project Support from Your Team, Elected Officials, and the Public

November 14, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

This International City/County Management Association (ICMA) webinar will cover the following topics:

1. What's key to presenting your idea or project effectively?
2. How can everyone play a role in leading and supporting productive change?
3. What can we learn from case studies about how to navigate and serve successfully?

CONTACT US

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