

Agenda: 2019 Mountain Plains Regional Conference

March 27-29, 2019 | Omaha, Nebraska | Omaha Marriott Downtown

Wednesday, March 27

12 p.m.-5 p.m. | Registration

1:30-3 p.m. | Mountain Plains Leadership Meeting

1:30-3:30 p.m. | Back to the Future: Reclaiming Central Omaha

This field demonstration will include a historical and analytical view of major development initiatives in and around Downtown and Midtown Omaha, including some neighborhoods adjacent to downtown. Focuses will include:

- *The development of the Downtown core from the 1980s to the present*, with a special focus on the relationship between public and private sectors and the use of public investments and actions to encourage private investment. Of special interest will be an aggressive long-term program to develop downtown housing, including an innovative approach to the use of tax increment financing.
- *The Old Market district, once the center of the city's wholesale food markets*, transformed largely by the private vision of a multi-generational family over nearly a half-century into an iconic arts and entertainment neighborhood that is one of Nebraska's most popular tourist destinations.
- *The Downtown Riverfront*, including two major phases of development that redeveloped a heavy industrial riverfront and will be the site of a new public space initiative. The riverfront also includes a visit to the Bob Kerrey Pedestrian Bridge, a unique span that connects two states and their developing riverfronts.
- *North Downtown*, once the site of railyards and light industrial and trades businesses, combining a private initiative to reuse largely vacant industrial buildings for new entrepreneurial space, expansion of Creighton University, a permanent home for the College World Series, the arts, urban housing, and new corporate development into a vital mixed-use district.
- *North Omaha*, highlighting neighborhood and affordable housing redevelopment on vacant infill lots and former sites of large public housing projects.
- *Adjacent neighborhoods including Midtown*, where the influences, investment, and growing urban sensitivity of a major national medical center (University of Nebraska) and a famous national corporation (Mutual of Omaha) have created one of the city's most popular urban neighborhoods and destinations. Because these areas are adjacent to each other, the tour will explore how they affect and relate to each other.

3:15-5:30 p.m. | Nominating Committee Interviews

3:45-4:45 p.m. | Connection Before Content

Human beings must improve skills of connection essential to creating community that also allow innovation, smart machines and systems to succeed. We are on the leading edge of a societal transformation as challenging as the Industrial Revolution was for our ancestors-but are we ready? There is a human side to innovation. Join your colleagues in a highly interactive session that will jump start your connection capacity and enhance your regional conference experience.

Speaker: Felicia Logan, Director of Leadership Development, ICMA, Richmond, Virginia

5:30-6:30 p.m. | Reception

Thursday, March 28

7:30-8:30 a.m. | Innovation Showcase/Breakfast

8 a.m.-12 p.m. | Registration

8:45-9:45 a.m. | Keynote: The Innovation Playbook for Local Government

Technological forces are moving at an unprecedented pace, impacting everything from healthcare to mobility. So how can local governments establish effective command and control structures to manage the onslaught in a manner that works best for their constituents?

Speaker: Xavier Hughes, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, ICMA, Washington, D.C.

10-11 a.m. | Breakout Sessions

Breakout I: From Analog to Digital – How to Emerge Victorious in the Smart City Rush

A roll-up your sleeves session that will educate, inspire, identify, and solve some of the most important factors in succeeding in the quest to become the next great smart community.

Speaker: Xavier Hughes, Chief Technology and Innovation Officer, ICMA, Washington, D.C.

Breakout II: Mountain Plains Roundtable

This session is composed of three facilitated roundtable discussions on issues of interest to local government in the Mountain Plains Region. Choose among these three roundtable topics:

1. *When Process Improvement meets Innovation - The Fort Collins Experience:* Fort Collins has demonstrated leadership in creating an organizational culture with FCLean. Learn how they are transforming their organization.
2. *Affordable Housing:* Issues with ensuring there is adequate housing for your workforce as well as innovative zoning and approaches to alternative housing
3. *Opportunity Zones:* Learn how to successfully implement an Opportunity Zone in your community.

Breakout III: Artificial Intelligence and the City: How the City of Corinth, Texas, Is Integrating Big Data into Day-to-Day City Management

Is your community ready for AI? The answer is yes! In this session, we'll show you why. The city of Corinth, Texas, and ZenCity will provide a brief introduction to AI in the local government sector and discuss the power of AI in helping a city better understand resident satisfaction and communicate with residents more effectively. With real use cases from the city of Corinth, this session will explore not just how cities can leverage big data, but what kind of organizational work it takes to integrate big data and AI analytics into daily and weekly city management. This session will be practical and will illustrate the way in which AI is currently being used with real city examples. *Presented by ICMA Strategic Partner ZenCity.*

11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Envision ICMA – Expand and Diversify ICMA Membership

Join us on a journey to explore the future. How will we accomplish this strategic plan objective of expanding and diversifying the membership and the ICMA Executive Board? ICMA board members will be on hand to explore new ideas so be prepared to step outside of the box. The ultimate outcome may require changing the ICMA constitution and it's critical that all voices, including your voice, be heard.

12:30-1:45 p.m. | Innovation Showcase/Lunch

2-3 p.m. | Breakout Sessions

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3:15-4:45 p.m. | ICMA University Workshop: Five Key Questions to Answer before You Create an Innovation Incubator in Your Community

Join this hands-on workshop to have fun while experiencing iterative, flexible, and collaborative design thinking using the 5 key questions:

1. How do we get the human impact?
2. Why is "naming" key to success?
3. How are "best ideas" generated?
4. Why are prototypes so thrilling?
5. How can we make it better?

Speaker: Felicia Logan, Director of Leadership Development, ICMA, Richmond, Virginia

4:45-5:45 p.m. | Ethics Conversation on Tenets 5 and 6

The Code of Ethics turns 95 in 2019! Although the principles first outlined in the 1924 version of the Code of Ethics are timeless, the Executive Board has embarked on an effort to ensure it remains relevant to the profession today. Dialogue and feedback are critical ways for ICMA to engage with members on this important conversation on ethics. The focus in 2019 is on Tenets 5 and 6 that together provide clear guidance to members on their scope of involvement in a governing body's policy making process and setting community goals as well as addressing when a member may have conflicting roles within the organization. This session is an opportunity to be part of the conversation by providing insight into any needed revisions to Tenets 5 and 6.

6-9 p.m. | Reception-Local Beer & Patio

Friday, March 29

8-9 a.m. | Innovation Showcase/Breakfast

9-10 a.m. | Innovation in the Fire and Rescue Services

ICMA and the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) are developing a white paper on the future of local fire and rescue services. Join this session to provide your thoughts about innovation and the sustainability of this important function of local governance.

9-11 a.m. | ICMA University Workshop: Implicit Bias: A Barrier to Creativity, Innovation, & Inclusion

Innovation and creativity require the ability to work effectively in teams, in an environment that is honest and respectful. Teams are essential for generating diverse ideas that can rise above individual cognitive biases that distort thinking and constrain innovation. Cognitive biases can also distort thinking about people. Implicit biases and stereotypes can be based on race, gender, culture, and other factors. Implicit biases can be conveyed through language and other behaviors that are inconsistent with one's values. These behaviors can cause feelings in others of exclusion, hurt, anger, and resentment.

This workshop has three learning objectives:

1. *Critical Thinking* – Learn how intentional and unintentional biases effect the way one views, interprets, and acts on information. Learn how to recognize and reduce bias.
2. *Awareness* – Explore one's view of the world and how one's background and experiences lay the foundation for bias. Explore how biases and stereotypes are experienced by others whether in unintended microaggressions or intended discrimination.
3. *Action* – Learn tools and approaches people can use individually to act to promote inclusion and respect; explore how public administrators can provide leadership to make local governments more inclusive and just.

Speaker: Ron Carlee, DPA, Professor, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia