



2026
ICMA

ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

#ICMA2026

LONG BEACH CONVENTION & ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
LONG BEACH | LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 17-21

CALIFORNIA

Dreamin'

Don't just dream about the
future of local government.
Come and build it.

Registration and
Housing Are Open!

Register Today!

→ conference.icma.org

Title Sponsor

MissionSquare

#ICMA2026



LONG BEACH

2026 ICMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE


The 2026 International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Annual Conference is headed to the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center in beautiful Long Beach - and it's the perfect setting for an unforgettable experience. This vibrant coastal city captures the best of Southern California living, where relaxed beach vibes meet a dynamic urban pulse. Stroll along the vibrant downtown waterfront, featuring over 120 restaurants and bars within an eight block radius., or explore iconic sights like the historic Queen Mary or Southern California's largest aquarium.

With miles of scenic shoreline, breezy bike paths, diverse neighborhoods, and a buzzing arts and dining scene, Long Beach offers plenty of options for attendees to explore. It's the kind of place where you can dive into new experiences by day and unwind by the ocean at sunset.

Local government managers are at the heart of thriving communities, leading everything from infrastructure and public safety to long-term planning and innovation. The 2026 ICMA Annual Conference is your chance to connect, collaborate, and get inspired alongside peers from around the globe - all in a setting that's as energizing as the ideas you'll share.

What's waiting for you in Long Beach.


 Professional development opportunities for every career stage.

 Diverse and dynamic keynote speakers will ignite ideas, shift perspectives, and inspire.

 New tools and techniques presented by experts in the local government management profession.

 Networking opportunities with local government professionals and service providers from around the world.

 Products and services from solution providers in the Exhibit Hall.

 A place where local government leaders and professionals from all backgrounds can stand together as a profession.

Registration Includes



150+ Education Sessions, Quick Bites, Lightning Talks, General Sessions, Skill-Building Workshops, Discussions, and Innovation Theater Sessions

An Exhibit Hall featuring more than 200 companies, showcasing the latest and greatest in local government innovations, attendee engagement opportunities, and much more!

Peer-to-Peer Networking

Exhibit Hall Grand Opening Reception

Attendee Lunches and Refreshment Breaks (*Mon/Tues*)





Education Topics

The 2026 ICMA Annual Conference education sessions are organized into topics aligning with the 14 Practices for Effective Local Government Management and Leadership. Each practice is represented in at least one topic.

Topics include:

Empowering Future Civic Leaders

Explore effective programs and initiatives designed to engage youth and cultivate the next generation of local government leaders in various cultural and political contexts

Addresses Practices: 2) Community Engagement, 6) Strategic Leadership, 13) Human Resources Management and Workforce Management, and 14) Communication and Information Sharing

Enhancing Community Engagement and Public Trust

Uncover innovative methods to strengthen resident participation and build trust through new approaches to community engagement and transparent governance, considering varied democratic traditions and community structures internationally.

Addresses Practices: 2) Community Engagement, 3) Equity & Inclusion, 9) Community and Resident Services and 14) Communication and Information Sharing

Ethics and Governance in a Complex World

Strengthen governance and uphold ethical standards in an increasingly complex and globalized world.

Addresses Practices: 1) Personal and Professional Integrity, 6) Strategic Leadership, and 14) Communication and Information Sharing

Fiscal Innovation and Sustainable Economic Development

Explore the future of local finance and economic development with innovative strategies for growth and resilience, diverse economies, and governance systems globally.

Addresses Practices: 7) Strategic Planning, 8) Policy Facilitation and Implementation, 9) Community and Resident Service, 10) Service Delivery, and 12) Financial Management and Budgeting

Future of Work in the Public Sector

Prepare for the evolving workforce by exploring trends in hybrid work, talent recruitment and retention, and employee well-being.

Addresses Practices: 4) Staff Effectiveness, 6) Strategic Leadership, 8) Policy Facilitation and Implementation, and 13) Human Resources Management and Workforce Engagement

Mindfulness and Self-Transformation in Public Leadership

Discover practical approaches to enhancing leadership skills and maintaining well-being in public service roles, considering diverse cultural perspectives on leadership and work-life balance.

Addresses Practices: 5) Personal Resiliency and Development, and 6) Strategic Leadership

Modernizing Public Infrastructure Through Technology

Modernize public infrastructure by integrating cutting-edge technology and innovative approaches to asset management. Explore how technology integration can transform public infrastructure to meet future community needs across different resource settings and urban-rural contexts.

Addresses Practices: 7) Strategic Planning, 9) Community and Resident Service, 10) Service Delivery, 11) Technological Literacy, and 12) Financial Management and Budgeting

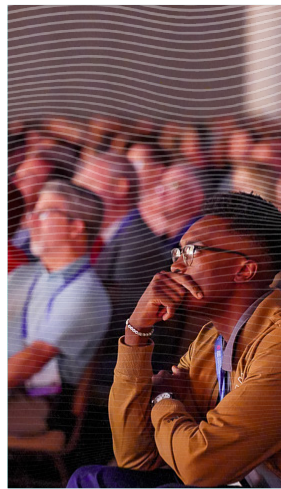


↘ TOP 5 REASONS TO ATTEND



01

The ICMA Conference is the foremost professional development opportunity for local government managers.



02

Top rated educational sessions.



03

A curated lineup of distinguished and influential speakers.



04

Meet and mingle with the people who “speak your language” and face the same day to day challenges that you face.



05

World-class Exhibit Hall with innovative products and service providers to make your job easier.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All times are listed in Pacific Time and are subject to change. For schedule updates, please visit conference.icma.org

AGENDA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Registration Open
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	The LBC Attendee Lounge Open
8:00 am - 5:00 pm	ICMA Micro-Certification Sessions*
10:00 am - 4:30 pm	Head-shot Lounge Open
10:00 am - 4:00 pm	Mobile Workshops*
10:00 am - 4:30 pm	Collaboration Zone
11:00 am - 4:00 pm	Education Sessions
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Lunch on Own
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Sporting Events*
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	ICMA Opening Party: LBC After Dark (Ticketed Event)
9:30 pm	Open Evening for Exhibitor/Sponsor/Affiliate Events

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

6:45 am - 5:30 pm	Registration Open
6:45 am - 5:30 pm	The LBC Attendee Lounge Open
7:30 am - 11:30 am	Sporting Events*
8:00 am - 12:00 pm	ICMA Micro-Certification Sessions*
8:00 am - 1:30 pm	Head-shot Lounge Open
8:00 am - 1:30 pm	Collaboration Zone
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Region Meetings
9:00 am - 12:30 pm	Mobile Workshops*
10:15 am - 12:45 pm	Education Sessions

1:30 pm

SIMON SINEK

LEADING WITH PURPOSE:

Creating an Inspirational Culture in City and County Government

General Session Sponsor:

MissionSquare



12:15 pm - 1:00 pm	First-Time Attendee Meet and Greet
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch on Own
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Opening General Session
3:00 pm - 5:30 pm	Exhibit Hall Grand Opening Reception
3:30 pm - 4:45 pm	Innovation Theater Sessions <i>Located in Exhibit Hall</i>
5:30 pm	Opening Evening for Exhibitor/Sponsor/Affiliate Events

*Additional fee applies





AGENDA

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

7:00 am - 9:30 am
 7:15 am - 5:00 pm
 7:15 am - 5:00 pm
 7:45 am - 9:45 am
 8:00 am - 10:00 am
 8:30 am - 9:30 am
 10:00 am - 11:15 pm

Sporting Events
 Registration Open
 The LBC Attendee Lounge Open
 Skill-Building Workshops
 Collaboration Zone
 Education Sessions & Discussions
 General Session

10:00 am

JON MEACHAM

HOPE THROUGH HISTORY:
How to Survive Turbulent Times

General Session Sponsor:



11:15 am - 4:30 pm
 11:15 am - 4:30 pm
 11:15 am - 4:30 pm
 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
 11:45 am - 4:45 pm
 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
 12:00 pm - 4:15pm

Collaboration Zone
 Exhibit Hall Open
 Head-shot Lounge Open
 Exhibit Hall Lunch
 Mobile Workshops*
 SheLeads Gov Luncheon
 Innovation Theater Sessions
Located in Exhibit Hall
 Education Sessions, Skill-building Workshops,
 Discussions, Quick Bites & Lightning Talks
 ICMA Local Government Awards & Recognition Ceremony
 Passport to Prizes
Live Drawing in Exhibit Hall
 ICMA Local Government Awards & Recognition Reception
 Open Evening for Exhibitor/Sponsor/Affiliate Events

12:45 pm - 5:00 pm
 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
 4:20 pm
 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
 5:15 pm

**Additional fee applies*



AGENDA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

7:00 am - 10:00 am	Sporting Events
7:45 am - 5:00 pm	Registration Open
7:45 am - 5:00 pm	The LBC Attendee Lounge Open
8:15 am - 10:15 am	Skill-Building Workshops
8:30 am - 10:30 am	Collaboration Zone
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Education Sessions, Discussions, and Quick Bites
10:30 am - 11:45 am	General Session
11:45 am - 4:00 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
11:45 am - 1:15 pm	Exhibit Hall Lunch
11:45 am - 5:00 pm	Collaboration Zone
11:45 am - 5:00 pm	Head-shot Lounge Open
12:15 pm - 1:45 pm	Assistant Chief Administrative Officers (ACAO) Luncheon*
12:15 pm - 3:00 pm	Innovation Theater Sessions <i>Located in Exhibit Hall</i>
12:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Mobile Workshops*
12:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Education Sessions, Discussions, Quick Bites, Lightning Talks, and Skill Building Workshops
3:45 pm	Passport to Prizes <i>Live Drawing in the Exhibit Hall</i>
5:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Open Evening for Exhibitor/Sponsor/Affiliate Events
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm	ICMA Networking Reception on the Queen Mary <i>Ticketed Event</i>

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

7:00 am - 10:00 am	Sporting Events
8:00 am - 11:00 am	Collaboration Zone
8:00 am - 11:00 am	Registration Open
8:00 am - 11:00 am	The LBC Attendee Lounge Open
8:30 am - 10:45 am	Education Sessions, Discussions, and Quick Bites
8:30 am - 10:30 am	Skill-Building Workshops
11:00 am - 12:15 pm	Closing General Session

**Additional fee applies*



ICMA exhibitors will be eagerly awaiting your arrival in Long Beach, ready to share the latest products and services that will help you solve organizational challenges, develop leadership skills, advance your career, and find inspiration to create a lasting impact in your community.

When planning your schedule, be sure to allow for time in the Exhibit Hall to experience the following:

EXHIBIT HALL

- Meet with over 200 exhibiting companies!
- Sunday Evening Exhibit Hall Grand Opening Reception
- Lunch on Monday and Tuesday
- Refreshment Breaks on Monday and Tuesday afternoon
- Innovation Theater Presentations
- Attendee Relaxation Lounge
- Pawsitivity Park
- And More!

To view a current list of exhibitors, please visit conference.icma.org.



REGISTRATION

Please Note!

All attendees must first register for the conference before being able to book and reserve an ICMA Annual Conference hotel room. After registering, attendees will have access to securing a hotel room with discounted rates in the ICMA room block. Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please do NOT contact the hotels directly.

Registration Rates: *In-Person*

	Best Value Rate <i>(by August 26)</i>	Regular Rate <i>(beginning August 27)</i>
Member	\$915	\$999
Non-Member	\$1,845	\$2,015

Group Registration

Team registrations are available for groups of four or more attendees. Each participant will receive 15% off their applicable registration rate.

For more information, please visit:



conference.icma.org/registration





CONFERENCE HOTELS

You must first register for the 2026 ICMA Annual Conference **before** you secure a hotel reservation.

Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Please do **NOT** contact the hotels directly.

For a detailed listing and descriptions of all ICMA conference hotels and a map of the hotels, please visit:



conference.icma.org/hotel-and-travel

Hotel	Room Rate	Distance from Convention Center
Best Western Plus at the Convention Center	\$232 King/\$245 Double	2 blocks
**Courtyard by Marriott Long Beach Airport	\$249 Single/Double	6 miles
Courtyard by Marriott Long Beach Downtown	\$245 Standard/\$279 Premium	2 blocks
Fairmont Breakers Long Beach	\$399 Single/Double	1 block
**Hampton Inn Long Beach Airport	\$219 Single/ Double	7 miles
*Hilton Long Beach	\$310 Single/Double	4 blocks
**Holiday Inn Long Beach Airport	\$217 Single/Double	5 miles
Homewood Suites Long Beach Airport	\$239 Single/Double	7 miles
*Hotel Maya	\$300 Single/Double	2 miles
Hyatt Centric The Pike Long Beach	\$339 Single/Double	1 block
Hyatt Regency Long Beach	\$305 Single/Double	Adjacent
**Long Beach Marriott Airport	\$289 Single/Double	6 miles
Marriott Long Beach Downtown	\$269 Standard/ \$344 Club	2 blocks
*Residence Inn Long Beach Downtown	\$245 Single/Double	2 miles
**Residence Inn Long Beach Airport	\$210 Single/Double	5 miles
**Staybridge Suites Long Beach Airport	\$247 Single/Double	5 miles
*The Queen Mary	\$229 Single/Double	1.9 miles
The Westin Long Beach	\$277 Single/\$309 Double	2 blocks

*ICMA will provide complimentary shuttle service between these hotels and the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center (LBCEC)

**Complimentary Uber Vouchers for transportation to and from the LBCEC and the evening events on October 17 and 20 will be provided for guests

conference.icma.org

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Sponsorship & Partnership Opportunities

Megan Sherman

Senior Manager, Conferences and Sponsorships
msherman@icma.org

Interested in Exhibiting?

Contact:

ICMA@corcexpo.com
312-265-9648

General Conference Inquiries

conferenceteam@icma.org



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