



NACA News Update - October 2016

NACA LEADING THE WAY AT THE 2016 ICMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

A sincere thank you to all those NACA members who attended this year's ICMA Annual Conference in Kansas City! County professionals made a strong showing, contributing to the profession and communities across the country. A special thanks to those members who led sessions and contributed to panels:

- Richard Baron, Process and Project Coordinator, Coconino County, Arizona
- Carl Harness, Chief Human Services Administrator, Hillsborough County, Florida
- Tom Lundy, Retired County Manager, Catawba County, North Carolina
- Penny Postoak Ferguson, Deputy County Manager, Johnson County, Kansas
- Robert E. Reece, County Administrator, Pottawatomie County, Kansas
- Phillip Smith-Hanes, County Administrator, Ellis County, Kansas
- Kenneth Terrinoni, County Administrator, Boone County, Illinois

Check out some NACA [highlights from year's conference in pictures](#) and, for those who couldn't make it, see a summary of the [Idea Exchange conversations](#).

A LETTER from the 2016 Tom Lundy Scholarship Recipient

With generous support from [ICMA-RC](#), NACA offered the Tom Lundy Scholarship to the 2016 ICMA Annual Conference to Jason Lawrence, Management & Budget Analyst with the County of Volusia, Florida. [Click here](#) to read the inspiring letter Jason wrote about his experience.

NACA BOARD POSITIONS FILLED

Please, welcome our new and returning board members:

- [Steve Mokrohisky](#), County Administrator, Lane County, Oregon, At-Large Director for the West Coast Region, was appointed by the NACA board to fill an unexpired vacancy. Steve has been with Lane County since 2014. He served as county manager in Douglas County, Nevada, from 2011-2014, and assistant county manager there from 2009-2011. He began his county management career in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, in 1999.
- [Robert \(Bob\) Lawton](#), County Manager, Yates County, New York, At-Large Director for the Northeast Region, returns to the NACA board after serving

for a year as deputy county administrator in Sonoma County, California. Robert began his new position in Yates County, New York, this month.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: 2017 NACo Legislative and Annual Conferences

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has announced dates and locations for their 2017 events. As per usual, NACA members will be present and active. We hope to see you there!

- [2017 NACo Legislative Conference: Washington, DC – February 25 - March 1, 2017](#)
- [2017 NACo Annual Conference & Exposition: Franklin County, Ohio – July 21 - 24, 2017](#)

Proposed topics for sessions led by NACA members are as follows:

- Driverless Vehicles: what should counties prepare for?
- The FAA Rules on Drones
- How to Retain Your County Administrator

If you feel that you could contribute to these sessions, or have suggestions for sessions you would like to lead, please contact [Emilia Istrate](#), NACo Director of Research and Outreach and liaison to NACA.

JOIN THE NACA QUICK RESPONSE TEAM

NACo is looking for willing county administrators and managers to be part of a quick response team to help analyze how federal actions and decisions (both legislative and regulatory) will impact counties. Upon request, this group of administrators would provide rapid feedback (24-48 hours) on how a specific policy proposal could affect their county or counties nationwide. This direct input and valuable feedback from county administrators is extremely important and will help to inform NACo's advocacy work on behalf of counties. Please, send your name, county name, population of your county, and number of employees to [Emilia Istrate](#), NACo Director of Research and Outreach and liaison to NACA.

ARE YOU READY TO STEP UP?

Join the 300 counties that are part of NACo's [Stepping Up Initiative!](#) Stepping Up was developed to bring together local and state leaders, as well as professionals from the criminal justice, mental health, and substance use systems, to steer and support systemic, long-term efforts to foster a reduction in the number of people with mental illnesses in jails. Join the community and access the resources available through this initiative by signing up [here](#).

APPLY FOR THE 2017 NACo ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

NACo has been recognizing innovative county government programs for the past 47 years. They are now accepting applications for awards in 18 categories through Monday, March 27, 2017. Award winners will be recognized at the 2017 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition in Franklin County/Columbus, Ohio from July 21 – 24, 2017. [Learn more and apply!](#)

THE STATE OF COUNTY FINANCES: Recession Lingering on Many County Balance Sheets

NACo released [The State of County Finances](#) report for each of the 2,112 county governments reporting their financials in the same format. This analysis examines trends in annual county revenues and expenses between 2007 and 2013 and sheds light on the effect of the recession on counties and provides direction on the fiscal recovery of county governments.

The study finds that:

- General revenues did not recover to 2007 levels in 46% of counties by 2013.
- 48% of counties recorded overall 2013 expenses above their 2007 levels.
- 65% of counties witnessed increases in justice and public safety expenses above the overall rise in prices between 2007 and 2013.
- 59% of counties recorded dedicated grants covering a smaller percent of county expenses in 2013 compared to 2007.
- 40% of counties had lower ending balances six years after the start of the latest national economic downturn.

See the analysis, maps and methodology [here](#).

OCTOBER IS CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

The Department of Homeland Security has designated October as National Cyber Security Awareness Month. [Take a look](#) at this collection of articles and resources posted by ICMA to help prepare and protect your organization and community.