



Supporting, educating and serving professional local government in Florida.

December 3, 2014 Newsletter

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Year-end Musings



As ever, I'm awed by how swiftly twelve months have passed! Because it was an election year, my cynicism surfaced earlier than usual and I've spent my 'musing hour' pondering Florida's next two years with a re-elected governor and new House and Senate leadership.

We hear it will be 'the' year for water to be discussed but the parameters are not set.

Having grown up in the driest part of California, I remember the old saying, "whiskey is for drinking, but water is fighting." It will be interesting no matter what aspect of it is heard this new year.

I also hear that we are starting to see more positive signs of recovery from the recession. Having heard from many of you that your property values rose, I consider that one important measure; but another measure would be the return of entry-level positions within city and county governments: and this I do not see. For MPA graduates across the state, there are various positions to consider; I'm contacted every week by seemingly eager young men and women desperate for the types of positions we used to see: assistant to the manager; management analyst; budget analyst; assistant to any department director. I can count on one hand the number of those I've seen advertised in the past six months. ([Read more](#))

Call for Ideas for the 2015 ICMA Conference

Have ideas for the 2015 ICMA Conference?



ICMA has opened its call for ideas for the 2015 Annual Conference in Seattle/King County, September 27-30. Ideas from members are invited that address the six (6) Theme tracks and the four (4) Career tracks of the conference. The tracks include:

THEME TRACKS

- Equity and Empowerment in Public Policy Management

Making Local Government Relevant

- Safely Steering through the Elements: Personally Surviving the Profession
- Skills and Tools for the 21st Century Manager
- The Next Generation of Infrastructure ([Read more](#))

FCCMA Webinar: Action Planning for Managing Local Government Projects



A webinar will be held on Thursday, December 4 from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm. The topic discussed will be "Action Planning for Managing Local Government Projects."

Local governments in Florida routinely adopt plans to redevelop areas, fulfill grant requirements, complete yearly capital projects and manage other large and small scale initiatives to serve their citizens. Attendees at this webinar will hear a discussion from two of Florida's experienced local government professionals who will share their experiences and offer "tips" on how to successfully navigate the many requirements and challenges that are part of planning the implementation of these projects. Attendees will learn how to manage multiple projects and will be provided an example of a specific project that has been successfully implemented. This is an important training session for local government officials at all levels, whether you are directing the work or involved in one or more aspects of the day-to-day process. Horace McHugh and Terry Stewart will share what they have learned and answer questions from attendees in this sure to be informative program on 'Action Planning.

This webinar will cover practice area 3: Functional & Operational Expertise & Planning. ([Read more](#))

"Technology for Florida's Local Governments: Who, What, Why, How and When?"



An onsite training session on technology will be held January 15, 2015 from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm at Florida Gulf Coast University, CC 214 (Cohen Center, room 214), 10501 FGCU Boulevard South in Fort Myers.

You don't want to miss this session. Mike Taylor Associate Director of Technology Planning & Development for the Florida League of Cities and Cyndy Loomis, Chief Executive Officer for ISF will be the speakers at both sessions. Ron McKenzie, Chief Information Officer for the City of Miami Gardens will speak at the training in Oakland Park and Kathi Pletzke, IT Director for the Town of Longboat Key will speak at the training at Florida Gulf Coast University. ([Read more](#))

Ethics: Today's Challenges for Local Government Officials



FCCMA will hold an onsite training session in Palm Beach Gardens on February 27, 2015 from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm. This session is entitled "Ethics: Today's Challenges for Local Government Officials." It will be held at the Palm Beach

Gardens EEOC Training Facility, 10500 N. Military Trail.

FCCMA is pleased to have ICMA's Director of Ethics, Martha Perego, to present and facilitate an interactive session on today's challenges for local government managers. This year, all FCCMA members are required to receive at least 4 hours of training to retain membership in FCCMA. This 1/2 day training opportunity in Palm Beach Gardens specifically addresses that requirement and attendees throughout the state are welcome to attend. Martha Perego provides ethics training all over the country and writes a regular column for Public Management on current ethical issues facing local government professionals. This interactive session is a wonderful opportunities for local government professionals in Florida to find solutions to "real" ethical challenges they encounter in their jobs. Don't miss this rare opportunity to engage with Martha and your colleagues on this always timely topic. ([Read more](#))

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