



LEAGUE OF
**CALIFORNIA
CITIES**

MAYORS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS ACADEMY

GARDEN GROVE, CA

January 29-31, 2025



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration Open Santa Rosa Prefunction
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Harassment Prevention Training for Supervisors and Officials (AB 1661) Santa Rosa Ballroom <i>Sign-in will begin 45 minutes prior to the session and you must be present for the full two hours to receive the certification of attendance. Entry will be prohibited once the session begins.</i> This informational and interactive workplace harassment prevention training will focus on current and emerging issues and teach officials and supervisors how to identify, prevent, and properly respond to workplace harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and abusive conduct in order to avoid personal and agency liability in compliance with AB 1825, AB 2053, AB 1661 and SB 396. <i>The Institute for Local Government is a State Bar of California minimum continuing legal education (MCLE) approved provider and certifies this activity meets the standards for MCLE credit by the State Bar of California in the total amount of 2 hours (general credits). Provider #13881</i> Speaker: Katherine Read, Associate, Richards, Watson, Gershon
11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Your Cal Cities and How to Use It Santa Rosa Ballroom As a city official, you are the League of California Cities. Meet the Cal Cities leadership team and learn about the organization's mission and structure, the advocacy and educational tools Cal Cities provides, and how you can get the most out of your membership. Opening Remarks: Debbie Baker, President, Mayors and Council Members Department and Council Member, La Palma Moderator: Jennifer Whiting, Deputy Executive Director, League of California Cities Speakers: Carolyn Coleman, Executive Director and CEO, League of California Cities Lynne Kennedy, President, League of California Cities and Mayor Pro Tem, Rancho Cucamonga
12:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Networking Luncheon with your Division Catalina Ballroom Take this opportunity to sit with members of your regional division and meet your Cal Cities Regional Public Affairs Manager. Tables will be labeled by division.
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Social Media / Digital Communications and Civic Engagement Santa Rosa Ballroom With constant advancements in social media over the last several years, it can be hard to keep up with the "do's and don'ts" of every platform. Moreover, as misinformation increases, elected officials need to be quick on their feet and have the necessary skills to proactively manage public perceptions about local governmental affairs. Discover what cities should be doing to communicate with their constituents in the 21st century, and the rules that elected officials must follow. Moderator: Debbie Baker, President, Mayors and Council Members Department and Council Member, La Palma Speakers: Gena Burns, Partner, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP Brandon Castillo, Partner, Bicker, Castillo, Fairbanks & Spitz
3:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Dessert Break Santa Rosa Prefunction

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Your Legal Powers and Obligations; Open Government and Conflicts of Interest Santa Rosa Ballroom

You were elected to make things happen in your city. Learn the breadth and limitations of your powers as a city official. Then, acquire a basic understanding of the legal authorities and restrictions under which cities and city officials operate, with a focus on open government laws, such as the Brown Act and the Public Records Act, and laws pertaining to conflicts of interest.

Moderator: Kuldip Thusu, First Vice President, Mayors and Council Members Department and Council Member, Dinuba

Speaker: Roxanne Diaz, City Attorney, Richards, Watson & Gershon

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Networking Reception

Santa Rosa Patio Planned with  CAL CITIES PARTNER

Take this opportunity to network with your peers from throughout the state after a full day of educational sessions.

Find session materials, including presentation slides, online at www.calcities.org/MCMA

WiFi Network: Delta Conference

Passcode: Mcma25

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration Open Santa Rosa Prefunction
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast Catalina Ballroom
9:00 - 10:15 a.m.	Policy Role in Land Use Planning Santa Rosa Ballroom Land use planning is one of the most important parts of a city official's responsibilities due to the long-term impacts it can have on a community's environment, economic vitality, and the physical health of its residents. Learn about tools and processes in land use planning, such as the general plan, zoning, and the California Environmental Quality Act, as well as the role of regional agencies and the state. This knowledge will help you foster a solid working relationship with your city's planning commission and planning staff. Moderator: Jorgel Chavez, Second Vice President, Mayors and Council Members Department and Mayor, Bell Gardens Speakers: Eric Nelson, Vice Chair - Planning Commission, Dana Point Mark Teague, Managing Principal, PlaceWorks
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Effective Advocacy and Key City Issues Santa Rosa Ballroom Meet the League of California Cities' legislative team and learn about the 2025 Cal Cities Action Agenda, legislative calendar, and trending issues in the Legislature. The Cal Cities team will also share ideas for establishing practical skills to develop persuasive arguments and testimony that will serve your city's interests. Moderator: Jason Rhine, Director of Legislative Affairs, League of California Cities Speakers: Kristine Guerrero, Director of Public Affairs, League of California Cities Damon Conklin, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities Caroline Grinder, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities Brady Guertin, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities Johnnie Piña, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities Melissa Sparks-Kranz, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities Ben Triffo, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities Jolena Voorhis, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities
12:00 - 1:15 p.m.	Networking Lunch Catalina Ballroom Take this opportunity to network with members from cities of similar sizes. Tables will be labeled by city population.
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.	Developing an Effective City Council and City Manager Team: The Key to Good Governance and City Success Santa Rosa Ballroom Successful communities require highly effective governance and management, key to which is a positive city council/city manager working relationship guided by good, open communication. This session will help you to better appreciate the roles that the city council governing body, individual council members, and the city manager fulfill in a successful working relationship based on effective communication and sound governance practices. Moderator: Patricia Martel, West Coast Regional Director, ICMA Speakers: Karen Pinkos, City Manager, El Cerrito Gabe Quinto, First Vice President, League of California Cities and Mayor Pro Tem, El Cerrito

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Dessert Break
Santa Rosa Prefunction

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Financial Responsibilities, City Revenues Workshop *(Part 1)*
Santa Rosa Ballroom

Learn about your responsibilities as an elected official when exercising fiduciary accountability and transparency in open government. In this enlightening conversation, discuss the local government financial cycle, elected official financial oversight duties, and state and local funding relationships, and the four stages of fiscal meltdown. Plus, learn how to be a better leader by discovering how to avoid micromanagement and manage complacency. The importance of structurally balanced budget tips for setting city council goals and the need for financial policies will be stressed during this session.

Speakers: Michael Coleman, Fiscal Policy Advisor, CaliforniaCityFinance.com
Christina Turner, City Manager, Morgan Hill

League of California Cities Executive Committee

President, Lynne Kennedy, Mayor Pro Tem, Rancho Cucamonga

First Vice President, Gabe Quinto, Council Member, El Cerrito

Second Vice President, Teresa Acosta, Council Member, Carlsbad

Immediate Past President, Daniel Parra, Mayor, Fowler

Executive Director and CEO, Carolyn Coleman, League of California Cities

2024 – 2025 Mayors and Council Members Department Officers

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First Vice President, Kuldip Thusu, Council Member, Dinuba

Second Vice President, Jorgel Chavez, Mayor, Bell Gardens

Department Director, Jan Arbuckle, Council Member, Grass Valley

Immediate Past President, Susannah Meyer, Mayor, Brentwood

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

7:15 - 11:00 a.m.	Registration Open Santa Rosa Prefunction
7:15 - 8:15 a.m.	Networking Breakfast Catalina Ballroom
8:15 - 9:45 a.m.	Financial Responsibilities, City Revenues Workshop (Part 2) Santa Rosa Ballroom Learn about your responsibilities as an elected official when exercising fiduciary accountability and transparency in open government. In this enlightening conversation, discuss the local government financial cycle, elected official financial oversight duties, and state and local funding relationships, and the four stages of fiscal meltdown. Plus, learn how to be a better leader by discovering how to avoid micromanagement and manage complacency. The importance of structurally balanced budget tips for setting city council goals and the need for financial policies will be stressed during this session. Closing Remarks: Kuldip Thusu, First Vice President, Mayors and Council Members Department and Council Member, Dinuba Speakers: Michael Coleman, Fiscal Policy Advisor, CaliforniaCityFinance.com Christina Turner, City Manager, Morgan Hill
10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Understanding Public Service Ethics Laws and Principles (AB 1234) Santa Rosa Ballroom Sign-in will begin 45 minutes prior to the session and you must be present for the full two hours to receive the certification of attendance. Entry will be prohibited once the session begins. State law requires elected and appointed officials to receive two hours of training in specified ethics laws and principles every two years. Newly elected and appointed officials must receive this training within one year of becoming a public servant. Join a panel of experts as they help navigate the ethics laws and principles. The Institute for Local Government is a State Bar of California minimum continuing legal education (MCLE) approved provider and certifies this activity meets the standards for MCLE credit by the State Bar of California in the total amount of 2 hours (general credits). Provider #13881 Speaker: HongDao Nguyen, Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

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on the academy by
scanning this QR code.



FLOOR PLAN

GROUND LEVEL



SAVE THE DATES:

2025 CITY LEADERS SUMMIT
APRIL 23-25 | SACRAMENTO

2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO
OCTOBER 8-10 | LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER

**2026 MAYORS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
ACADEMY**
JANUARY 21-23 | SACRAMENTO



LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES

1400 K Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814
www.calcities.org