



Every quarter we feature a photo from one of our member governments. This quarter: Blue Ash

Highlights of this Issue:

- Solid Waste Bid Underway
- CLG Working with University of Dayton Students
- CLG Leadership Academy Class Graduates



Regular Features:

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The Center for Local Government 3rd Quarter Newsletter

New CLG Website and Annual Survey Data Coming This Month

Major changes are coming to the Center for Local Government's website and Datacenter. Our new website will launch sometime this month. This is the first major update to our website since 2012, and will offer users a clean modern user experience. All of the information from our current site will still be available, including the info currently stored in our member log-in.

CLG Assistant Director Cody Smith, Director of Operations Lori Stuckey, and Tom Schuetz, our contracted IT professional, have been at work building this site since late Spring. We are excited to roll it out in the next couple of weeks!

We will be conducting our annual CLG Datacenter Update at around the same time that the new website is launched. The Datacenter is updated every Fall at the close of the CLG Annual Survey. We will have up to date budgets, pay policies, leave policies, pay practices, insurance rates, employee counts, and a variety of other data available. The current information in the Datacenter will be archived, and that archived data is available in the member log-in section of the CLG website.

If you are a CLG member, stay tuned for e-mails from us announcing when these updates have launched. The new Datacenter updates will be available by selecting the link called "Current Pay Data and Annual Survey Data." You will need your Datacenter password to access that information. These passwords are the same as current— they will not be changing due to the new website or the new Datacenter.

Sneak Peak of the new CLG Website



The Center for Local GOVERNMENT

Effective Governance Through Collaboration

4015 Executive Park Dr. Suite 216
Sharonville, OH 45241



ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION:

The Center for Local Government (CLG) located in Cincinnati, OHIO is a unique non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, created in 1990 as a clearing-house for inter-governmental collaboration, training and information sharing. CLG membership consists of 58 local government in 6 counties.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Kristen Bitonte, Liberty Township
Michael Rahall, Village of Cleves
Jack Cameron, Delhi Township
Vicky Earhart, Anderson Township
Jim Lukas, City of Sharonville

STAFF:

T.J. White, Executive Director, twhite@C4LG.org
Lori Stuckey, Director of Operations, lstuckey@C4LG.org
Cody Smith, Assistant Director, csmith@c4lg.org

CLG SOLID WASTE CONSORTIUM GETS READY TO BID

The Southwest Ohio Regional Refuse Consortium (SWORRE) is preparing to publish a bid for its "Cincinnati Group A," which consists of Fairfax, Springdale, Mt. Healthy, Greenhills and Loveland. This is the original SWORRE group from 2010, and this is their third joint bid through the program.

Through the SWORRE bid, local governments are able to jointly bid the curbside collection of residential solid waste and recycling, as well as any other service that is common to all governments. These governments receive common pricing. Once the bid process is complete, each government signs a separate contract. These contracts reflect the joint pricing, but also provide a section where governments can identify individualized services or conditions that may be different from the rest of the group. The original advantage of this arrangement was that it was designed to spur competition. As the program has evolved, other advantages have become evident, such as the ability for governments to band together around issues such as better customer service.

Cincinnati Group A will be going out to bid later this Fall. This provides enough time for any issues to be resolved prior to their contract start date on March 1, 2021. Cincinnati Group B and Dayton Group A are next on the list— with bids in 2022. We will keep the membership apprised of our progress and our pricing.

If you are interested in more information about how this program operates, please reach out to CLG at TWhite@C4LG.org



Interesting Fact: Over 36,750 Residential Units in the Cincinnati and Dayton areas get their waste picked up through a SWORRE contract.



CONGRATULATIONS TO 2020 CLG LEADERSHIP ACADEMY GRADUATES

The CLG Leadership Academy is a 6 class program that covers “Local Government 101,” “Managing Different Leadership Styles,” “Leadership Strengths,” “Human Resources,” “Public Finance and Budgeting,” “Effective Communication Styles,” and “Economic Development and Land Use.” It is designed for local government employees who are looking to move into leadership or management positions in their communities. We would like to congratulate this year’s class! With their graduation, we can boast that the region has **135 Leadership Academy graduates representing over 44 governments.** This year’s Leadership Academy Graduates are:

Trent	Chenoweth	Hamilton	Jessica	Hunt	Miami Township
Ashley	Combs	Middletown	Elizabeth	Johnson	Springdale
Renetta	Edwards	Colerain Township	Nathaniel	Kaelin	Fairfield
Elizabeth	Fingerle	Lebanon	Paul	Kleier	Blue Ash
Anna	Gedeon	Golf Manor	Michael	Norton-Smith	Centerville
Jon	Gelhausen	Delhi Township	Joshua	Santos	Sharonville
Christy	Gloyd	Liberty Township	Ken	Smith	Indian Hill
Cameron	Haller	Tipp City	Mike	Stine	Springfield Township
Mike	Hauck	Evendale	Kate	Trangenstein	Washington Township
Shellie	Hobbs	Anderson Township	Monica	Tuck	Wyoming

This year’s Leadership Academy was one to remember. Our graduates were exceptional in their patience adapting on the fly as we adjusted our course schedule due to Covid-19. We would especially like to thank everyone for their schedule flexibility over the course of the year. The participants and instructors did not miss a beat when it came to adjusting to virtual classes.

CLG would like to thank our longstanding Leadership Academy Partners: Miami Valley Risk Management Association, Xavier University, Ohio Plan, i-Cue Consulting, Spirit Seminars, and Duckett Law Firm. We would also like to thank our peer instructors, including Michelle Greis (Liberty Township), Kelly Flanigan (Miami Township), Caroline McKinney (Liberty Township), and Jennifer Patterson (Monroe).

CLG will again offer the Leadership Academy in 2021. Stay tuned this winter for details. Thank you to everyone for a successful year!

NEW FACES / NEW PLACES: WELCOME TO NEW MIDDLETOWN CITY MANAGER JIM PALENICK

Please send a warm welcome to new Middletown City Manager Jim Palenick, who began his tenure on July 13, 2020. In a local government management career that spans over three decades, he has held the positions of Village Manager of Dexter, MI, City manager of Dowagiac and Bay City, MI, City Manager of Rio Rancho, NM, and Gastonia and Dallas, N.C. He also served as the Economic and Business Development Director for Fayetteville, NC. Most recently, he served as City Administrator of Racine, Wisconsin, an urban core community of 78,000, midway between Milwaukee and Chicago.

If you have not done so already, we encourage you to reach out to welcome Mr. Palenick. He can be reached at JimP@cityofmiddletown.org.



New Middletown City Manager Jim Palenick



The Center for Local GOVERNMENT

CLG AND CAMA HOST JOINT VIRTUAL MEETING: FINANCE IN THE AGE OF COVID

State and Local Government finance in the age of Covid was the main focus of discussion during the September CAMA / CLG Virtual Joint Meeting. Ohio Office of Management and Budget Director Kimberly Murnieks joined CAMA and CLG members to talk about issues such as the economic contraction and projected recovery in Ohio due to Covid, unemployment, the effect that Covid has had on state tax revenue, and state grant resources that are available to local governments.

Needless to say, Covid had a significant and negative impact on Ohio's GDP, which contracted by more than 31% in the second quarter. While the presentation during the meeting stated that analysts expect the economy to grow between 20% and 30% during the third quarter, there is still a significant impact on both state and local tax revenues— especially considering the reliance on income tax and sales tax, which combined account for 76% of state tax revenue. While some of this revenue may be made up as consumer spending grows and as unemployment stabilizes, it is likely that Covid will have continued impacts on Ohio's economy and tax base.

Director Murnieks also discussed available grant programs. www.grants.ohio.gov contains resources to manage grant funds and Covid relief funds, including Ohio OBM guidance, US Department of Treasury guidance, a guide to sub-granting funds, and guidance on eligible uses of grant money. We encourage you to check out this site. Director Murnieks's presentation is also available. It was distributed to meeting attendees virtually, and is available at CLG for anyone else who wants it. If you would like a copy, contact CLG at TWhite@C4LG.org or by calling 513-741-7999



Ohio OBM Director Kimberly Murnieks

CLG AND CAMA HOST JOINT VIRTUAL MEETING: CLG BOARD MEMBER VOTE

Local government finance was not the only discussion at the joint CLG / CAMA meeting. Due to COVID, we at CLG had to cancel our 2020 Annual Meeting. Thankfully, CAMA agreed to a joint meeting to allow us to conduct our annual CLG business— specifically the election of CLG Board members. While no new Board members were elected this year, we did see Kristen Bitonte of Liberty Township and Mike Rahall of Cleves re-elected to new 3 year terms. We also saw Kristen Bitonte elected as Board President, Mike Rahall as Vice President and Jack Cameron of Delhi elected as Secretary Treasurer. Congratulations to everyone on their elections. Thank you again to CAMA for co-hosting. We hope to see everyone in person in the future!

UPCOMING CAO COFFEE ROUNDTABLE: CARES ACT FUNDING

CLG hosts two "CAO Coffee Roundtables" each year. These events are designed for Chief Administrative Officers from our member governments to have a forum to ask each other questions about pressing issues. It has become evident recently that there is much to discuss around CARES Act funding— so CLG is hosting a CARES Act specific CAO Coffee Roundtable. This event will take place on October 14th from 8am until 9:30am on Zoom. If you are a Chief Administrative Officer (City Manager, Township Administrator, Safety/Service Director, City Administrator, etc.) and are interested in attending, please contact the Center at TWhite@C4LG.org or 513-741-7999. In addition to your RSVP, we request that you have a question for your peers prepared for the day of the event. CAO Coffee Roundtables never feature a keynote speaker or presentation from the host. These are purely peer led Q & A sessions.



Managers participate in CLG's Summer CAO Coffee Roundtable



INVESTMENT INSIGHTS: CLG TREASURY ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

In 2010, the Center for Local Government (CLG) created the **Treasury Asset Management Collaboration (TAMC)**. This initiative was developed to identify registered investment advisory firms who understand the needs and nuances of managing public fund assets and are willing to work with the members of the CLG independently on a pre-negotiated fee schedule. This process included the following:

- Identify firms with a proven track record of advising Ohio public entities.
- Conduct the due diligence on potential candidates through an extensive “Request for Proposal” process and interviews with leading candidates.
- Manage ongoing due diligence reviews of selected firms.
- Allow participating members to tailor the investment services of their particular needs and resources.

Following the rigorous RFP process, two firms were selected to provide treasury management services: **SJS Investment Services** and **RedTree Investment Group**. To date, they collectively advise 18 members of CLG. Given the challenging environment, we thought it would be timely to remind the membership of this opportunity to engage these firms in assisting your entity with important investment decisions. Each firm has its own investment approach, but both will provide the following services:

- Review investment policy statement
- Analyze cash flow history/projected income
- Portfolio Risk Analysis
- Assess current investment strategy
- Performance review
- Provide portfolio observations and recommendations

About SJS Investment Services

In an industry where most companies’ services begin and end with managing your money, it’s nice to know you have an alternative that offers all that – plus. Our years of working with cities, villages, municipal districts, townships, school districts and other entities make us experienced in the nuances of public sector investing. And it means we understand the challenges you face and the objectives you demand. If you come to know anything about us, know that when you work with SJS, you work with an experienced team that is right by your side – teaching, guiding, and looking out for you and your public funds, no matter what.

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About RedTree Investment Group

Our primary focus at RedTree is working with public entities on their investment related needs. These entities can include but are not limited to cities, counties, townships, villages, and school districts. We have been partnering with entities like you for over 20 years and are well-versed in the nuances that public entities can face. This is why today we are very fortunate to work with over 250 clients that combined, total nearly \$5 billion in public dollars. No matter the size of your entity we remain committed to serve our clients at the highest degree. We go the extra mile for our clients, we are available, and we listen. From operating funds to construction projects, Red-Tree is experienced in managing investment dollars of public entities. **(Continued on Next Page)**



INVESTMENT INSIGHTS (CONTINUED)

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SJS Investment Services (SJS) and RedTree Investment Group (RedTree) are federally registered investment advisers under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Registration as an investment adviser does not imply a certain level of skill or training. Neither the information nor any opinion expressed constitutes an offer, or an invitation to make an offer, to buy or sell any securities.

CLG WORKING WITH UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON STUDENTS

Each year, the University of Dayton works with organizations around the region to provide capstone project opportunities for Operations Management (OPS) and Management Information Systems (MIS) senior students. The benefit to students is they can apply the theories they learn in the classroom to the real world. This year, we are taking part in this program by asking students to work on improving the CLG Datacenter on our website.

Although we updated our Annual Survey and reformatted how our data was displayed in 2019, we are still looking for ways to make the CLG Datacenter more user friendly. It is our hope that through this partnership, governments will potentially get more value out of the Datacenter. Further, we may benefit by obtaining new software to power the datacenter, which may be more intuitive than the current platform. (Although it should be noted that the project is in the early stages, and the students may still recommend using our current software).

In addition to the benefit of having these students provide us consultation on the Datacenter, this project also helps us accomplish our strategic plan goals to establish strategic partnerships with organizations throughout the region and to continue to find opportunities for collaboration between local governments and schools.

The project started in September and will continue throughout the University of Dayton academic year, ending in May. We will continue to update the members on our progress.

DATA BACKUP PROJECT CONTINUES

CLG's Data Backup Task Force has been hard at work identifying benchmark RFPs and authoring our own that will be sent out the regional Information Technology Centers (ICTs). The task force is focusing specifically on the regional ICTs as the task force believes that they will be best equipped to handle the needs of the local government entities in this region.

The latest meeting of the task force convened to identify common goals and ensure that the RFP was authored to include the needs of all of the task force members. In addition, all of the assets that are to be included in the RFP were documented in a manner that will allow the potential vendor to develop a solution tailored to the member's needs and assets.

The next step to publication will be to mark up the draft RFP that has been written with the task force members to verify that all needs are being met and that all members feel that the RFP will solicit the best solutions possible from potential vendors. If you would like to be made aware of when the next meeting will take place, please contact Cody Smith at 513-741-7999 or CSmith@C4LG.org.



NEWS BITS

CAO PAY DATA

CLG requests pay data from half of our Chief Administrative Officers in March, and half of our Chief Administrative Officers in October. Thank you to everyone who submitted pay data per the October request so far. If you received the October request and did not submit pay data, there is still time. Please contact Lori Stuckey at LStuckey@C4LG.org, and she will be able to provide you with the pay data template. We can even send you your previous template for updating if that is easier. If you have any questions, please contact us at 513-741-7999. Thank you.

CAMA DUES INVOICES

For those of you who are CAMA members, 2020/2021 CAMA dues invoices will be distributed in October. CAMA dues are \$75 per person per year. Please keep an eye out for an e-mail from CAMA@C4LG.org, which will come out some time this month. Speaking of CAMA, congratulations to Bill Brock on becoming CAMA President, Tom Smith of Loveland on being elected to Vice President, and Lynn Tetley of Wyoming on being elected Secretary-Treasurer.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Center for Local Government has entered the world of social media with a Twitter presence. We can now be found at [@C4LG2018](https://twitter.com/C4LG2018). We joined Twitter because we thought that was the best platform to provide information to our audience of local governments and local government staff members / officials. This will supplement our normal communications tools, and will be a good way to get insights from our trainings, meetings, and other initiatives as they happen. We will also use this platform to help inform you about interesting news from our member governments.

CLG CALENDAR

Ohio Ethics Law - Webinars, presented by Ohio Ethics Commission: August 18, 2020, 10:00am-11:00am; September 18, 2020, 10:00am-11:00am; **October 14, 2020**, 2:00pm-3:00pm; November 19, 2020, 10:00am-11:00am; December 15, 2020, 10:00am-11:00am. [Click here to register](#) for a webinar

Bargaining During Covid - Achieving Needed Changes to Union Contracts, October 8, 2020, 8:30-10:30 AM, presented by MVRMA, Cost is \$40, upon registration you will receive a link to the webinar. Please [click here to register](#).

CAO Coffee Roundtable, October 14, 2020, 8:30-9:30 AM; Topic will be the CARES Act funding; please RSVP to TWhite@C4LG.org and outlook scheduling invite and zoom link will be sent to you.