



**GCCMA 2021 FALL CONFERENCE
October 24-27, 2021
Columbus-Muscogee County, Georgia
AGENDA**

Monday, October 25, 2021

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast
Foundry

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. General Session: *Cybersecurity from the Local Government Perspective: The Rest of the Story!*
Ballroom BC

Presenter: Cheri-Hobson Mathews, Henry County Manager

In this session, a real-life scenario will be presented about July 17, 2019, the day the Henry County Government was brought to a standstill by a cyberattack. An overview of the county's response (the good, bad, and the ugly), recovery, and lessons learned will be discussed.

Moderator: Adam Mestres, GCCMA Secretary-Treasurer and Morgan County Manager

ICMA Competencies: (4) Staff Effectiveness, (6) Strategic Leadership, (7) Strategic Planning, (11) Technological Literacy, (14) Communication and Information Sharing

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Rapid Fire Session: *Innovations in Local Government*
Ballroom BC

Presenters:

- Mandi Cody, Winder City Administrator
- Brad Johnson, Butts County Manager
- Tammi Saddler Jones, South Fulton City Manager, and Warren Henry, South Fulton Chaplain
- Jason Rubenbauer, Pierce County Manager

During this fast-paced array of presentations, you will have the opportunity to learn what's working in four Georgia cities and counties. Each presenter will have five minutes to present an idea, an innovative project, or a successful program.

Moderator: Eric Zeemering, MPA Director, University of Georgia

ICMA Competencies: (9) Community and Resident Service and (10) Service Delivery

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Board Room

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Networking Lunch with Exhibitors

Foundry

1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Keynote Session: *Redefine Possible: Lesson for Tackling Mountains in Life*

Ballroom BC

Keynote Speaker: Spencer West

Spencer West invites audiences to experience the transformation that can occur when we “redefine possible”. With his trademark humor and humility, Spencer spins a spellbinding story of the challenges he faced after losing his legs from the pelvis down at age five, and the journey of discovery that ultimately enabled him to summit Mount Kilimanjaro using his hands and wheelchair. Spencer applies the insights gleaned from a lifetime of overcoming obstacles to help leaders and employees identify their own roadblocks and push past them. His inspiring message and tangible life lessons motivate audiences to believe they can tackle any goal, whether personal or professional.

Moderator: Chris Hobby, GCCMA Vice-president and Bainbridge City Manager

ICMA Competency: (5) Personal Resiliency and Development

2:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Break with Exhibitors

Prefunction Hall

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Association and Legislative Updates from ACCG and GMA

Ballroom BC

Presenters:

- Larry Hanson, GMA Executive Director
- Dave Wills, ACCG Executive Director

This session will provide an important update to members on the work of ACCG and the Georgia Municipal Association on behalf of Georgia's counties and cities. This is an opportunity for the Georgia City-County Management Association members to connect with these two state association partners about important legislative issues at the state and federal level, as well as important issues pertaining to the American Rescue Plan (ARP) and other issues facing local governments in Georgia.

Moderator: Marcia Hampton, GCCMA President and Douglasville City Manager

ICMA Competency: (8) Policy Facilitation and Implementation

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Business Meeting
Ballroom BC

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Opening Reception with Exhibitors
Prefunction Hall

Dinner on Your Own

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and Visit with Exhibitors
Foundry

Sponsored by: Charles Abbott Associates

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Keynote Session: *Mental Health Issues Impacting the Work Place*
Ballroom BC

Presenter: Mazi Robinson, Licensed Counselor and Speaker

For the past 18 months, our lives have been impacted in ways we never thought possible by COVID. We see that impact most clearly in the workplace and day to day functioning of our work environments. The pandemic, coupled with the current social and political climate, have placed unprecedented challenges on government offices as they face issues regarding retention, personal safety, and changes in morale and connection. As a result, mental health and wellbeing have become significant issues facing leaders and team members. How can we start protecting and optimizing our mental health in the workplace? What are the changes we need to make in this new professional landscape? Licensed Counselor and Speaker Mazi Robinson will discuss how to lead others during this challenging season and provide strategies for creating environments that guard against burnout and encourage mental wellbeing.

Moderator: Sonja Fillingame, GCCMA Board Member and Union City City Manager

ICMA Competency: (5) Personal Resiliency and Development

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Break with Exhibitors
Prefunction Hall

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session #1: *Code Enforcement Transparency and Accountability*
Ballroom A

Presenter: Chuck Warbington, Lawrenceville City Manager

One of the biggest issues facing our community is neighborhood stabilization. The City of Lawrenceville is the 2nd oldest municipality in metro Atlanta and most of the neighborhoods and subdivisions do not have a Home Owners Association to help with maintaining property maintenance standards. Over the last decade or two, the housing in a large part of the City has declined an dis substandard in comparison to most new housing being built throughout the metro Atlanta rea. The Mayor and Council have spent considerable time developing property standards and providing resources for a substantial code enforcement division. The City has created a Dash board that is housed on the City website that tracks violations that is accessible to the public.

Moderator: Keith Moffett, Macon-Bibb County Manager*

ICMA Competencies: (2) Community Engagement, (4) Staff Effectiveness, (9) Community and Resident Service, (10) Service Delivery, and (14) Communication and Information Sharing

Concurrent Session #2: Gap Analysis: How to Bridge the Gap Between Performance and Potential!
Ballroom BC

Presenter: Dennis Stroud, Wilkinson County Manager

During the session we will look at three elements, the current state, the future state, and the process that must happen to change the trajectory and get the organization where it wants to be.

Moderator: Robbie Rokovitz, Chattahoochee Hills City Manager*

ICMA Competencies: (6) Strategic Planning and (7) Strategic Leadership

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Break with Exhibitors
Prefunction Hall

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Concurrent Sessions

Concurrent Session #3: Retention and Community Programming in Public Safety
Ballroom BC

Presenter: Chief Gary Sparks, City of Douglasville

Retention is a constant topic in law enforcement. The City of Douglasville has adopted innovative retention efforts for its public safety employees. Alongside retention efforts, Chief Sparks will share community programs and outreach efforts involving partnerships, projects and education awareness aiding in building public trust and crime reduction.

Moderator: Cory Thomas, Colquitt City Manager*

ICMA Competencies: (2) Community Engagement, (3) Equity and Inclusion, (6) Strategic Leadership, ((7) Strategic Planning, (13) Human Resources Management and Workforce Engagement, and (14) Communication and Information Sharing

Concurrent Session #4: Functional (Dysfunctional) Consolidation

Ballroom A

Presenters: Jason Tinsley, Upson County Manager
Russell Thompson, Thomaston City Manager

“Functional consolidation” is the provision of specific governmental services via intergovernmental agreements which include agreed upon funding mechanisms and methods of delivery. These agreements provide a means for the consolidation of certain governmental services while allowing local governments to maintain autonomous enabling powers and elective representatives. Upson County Manager Jason Tinsley and Thomaston City Manager Russell Thompson will provide Thomaston/Upson County’s relevant history, pros and cons of this type of service delivery, as well as lessons learned.

Moderator: Autron Hayes, Sylvester City Manager*

ICMA Competencies: (6) Strategic Leadership, (8) Policy Facilitation and Implementation, (9) Community and Resident Service, and (10) Service Delivery

12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. Lunch with Exhibitors
Foundry

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Assistant and Deputy Manager/Administrator Lunch
Ballroom BC

Facilitators:

- Kimberly Greer, Johns Creek Assistant City Manager
- Shawn Boatright, Camden County Deputy Manager
- Robert Smith, Perry Assistant City Manager

2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. General Session: *Encouraging and Mentoring the Next Generation*
Ballroom BC

Presenters: Sharon Subadan, Douglas County Manager
Frederick Perry, Douglas County Deputy County Administrator

This session will provide the opportunity for a robust, insightful, and engaging conversation centered on the necessity and benefits of encouraging and mentoring the next generation of leaders within your organization. Both encouraging and mentoring play a critical role in fostering the next generation in public sector leadership, helping them to develop personally and professionally, and ensuring future health of the organization.

Moderator: Jon Walker, Chamblee City Manager*

ICMA Competencies: (6) Strategic Leadership and (13) Human Resources Management and Workforce Development

Afternoon Activities

1:45 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Tour #1: Riverwalk Tour

Come and experience the shores of the river on the Chattahoochee Riverwalk. Participants will travel by golf carts to see the new hotel and retail developments, examine adaptive use of historic structures, while taking in the wild beauty of the rolling river and native wildlife. This tour will leave from the hotel and travel north to the former site of Bibb Mill for approximately 2.5 miles.

Tour #2: Infantry Museum Tour

The museum chronicles the history of the United States Army infantryman from the American Revolution to Afghanistan. It exhibits artifacts from all eras of American history and contains interactive multimedia exhibits. The National Infantry Museum emphasizes the values that are meant to define the infantryman, as well as the nation: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. The 190,000-square-foot museum opened in June 2009.

Afternoon Activity: Golf Outing

Special Thanks to Goodwyn | Mills | Cawood for sponsoring the Golf outing.

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Break with Exhibitors

**6:30 p.m. Reception and Dinner
North Hall**

Dinner is exclusive to local government attendees and the five dinner sponsors.

Special Thanks to our Dinner Sponsors:

- ❖ **ABM Building Solutions**
- ❖ **Carter & Sloope, Inc.**
- ❖ **Charter Communications**
- ❖ **Davenport Public Finance**
- ❖ **Schneider Electric**

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and Visit with Exhibitors

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. General Session: *Crisis Management: Facing the Ethical Challenge*

Ballroom BC

Presenter: Randy Reid, ICMA Southeast Regional Director

At some point all local officials will be faced with a personal or community crisis when effective leadership requires being prepared for rapid action and decision making. This session deals with how to effectively recognize the ethical issues that arise during a crisis and the techniques to build ethical awareness and organizational capacity to navigate successfully through periods of recognition, response, and recovery.

Moderator: Chris Hobby, GCCMA Vice-President and Bainbridge City Manager

ICMA Competency: (1) Personal and Professional Integrity

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Break

**10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Vendor Door Prizes
Ballroom BC**

**11:00 a.m. – 12:15 pm General Session: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA): Local
Government Creative Strategies Panel and Roundtable
Discussion Session
Ballroom BC**

Presenters: Marcia Hampton, GCCMA President and Douglasville City Manager
Adam Mestres, GCCMA Secretary/Treasurer and Morgan County Manager

The American Rescue Plan Act opens up tremendous opportunities for local governments. The Plan distributes federal funds to local governments in historic proportions. Governments are able to dream and think big. This session helps to promote strategic thinking around project ideas, planning, and life changing initiatives for Georgia communities.

Moderator: Ted Baggett, Associate Director, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, UGA

ICMA Competencies: (6) Strategic Leadership, (7) Strategic Planning, (8) Policy Facilitation and Implementation, (10) Service Delivery, and (14) Communication and Information Sharing

12:15 pm Closing and Adjournment

**12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Program Planning Committee Meeting and Lunch
Board Room**

***Denotes Program Planning Committee Member**