

NACo e-News



The National Association of Counties' biweekly electronic newsletter on current programs, projects and initiatives

May 17, 2011

County leaders meet with Obama, Biden and key cabinet secretaries

Large Urban Counties take rally to U.S. Senate to address a number of issues

Stay up-to-date with NACo's e-Green Government Network

Bob Woodruff, ABC News journalist, to keynote NACo Annual Conference

Dear Member,

The past few weeks have seen a flurry of activities as county leaders have clearly made their voices heard in the nation's capital on critical issues. Last week more than 90 county officials were invited by President Obama and Vice President Biden to the White House. In addition, county leaders from NACo's Large Urban County Caucus were in D.C. to rally support on Capitol Hill on Medicaid funding. See both stories below.

This week, county leaders from western states and NACo's Board of Directors will meet in Chelan County, Washington for the annual Western Interstate Region Conference.

This is a critical period for counties and your participation is appreciated and essential.

This week's poll question, "Should the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers blow up levees to save some properties from flooding at the loss of others?" Click here to [vote](#).

The last poll question, "Do you think that the death of Bin Laden will have an impact on al-Qaeda?" 43 percent said Embolden the terrorists group, 29 percent said Deter it, 22 percent said Have no effect and 6 percent said Other.

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New from NACo



County leaders meet with Obama, Biden and key cabinet secretaries

County officials from across the country, most holding leadership positions within NACo, participated in an historic five-hour NACo-White House Summit on May 3 to discuss critical issues of concern to county governments and the communities they serve. The highlight of the half-day summit was an appearance and remarks by President Obama and Vice President Biden. Click [here](#) to read exclusive *County News* coverage.

Contact: [Jim Philipps](#) • 202.942.4220

LUCC to U.S. Senate: Don't block-grant Medicaid funds for the states

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Take the e-News Poll



Standing with Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV (D-W. Va.) and a half dozen other U.S. senators, members of NACo's Large Urban County Caucus (LUCC) recently rallied on Capitol Hill for congressional support to reject "reforms" that would cut, cap or block-grant Medicaid for the states. Click [here](#) to read the news release and [here](#) to view video of the event.

Contact: [Paul Beddoe](#) • 202.942.4234



LUCC members also fight for federal funding priorities

In addition to preserving Medicaid, 13 LUCC members representing 11 counties from nine states lobbied to maintain Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships, Community Services Block Grant, Workforce Investment Act, and local justice and public safety programs during meetings with members of Congress May 3 – 5 in Washington, D.C. Click [here](#) to read the news release and [here](#) to view video

of LUCC Chair Ilene Lieberman discussing LUCC priorities.

Contact: [Dalen Harris](#) • 202.942.4236

Get voting credentials for the 2011 NACo election

Credentials and voting information for NACo's 2011 election will be mailed May 19 to the chief elected official of every member county. To vote, a county must have its 2011 dues paid, have at least one paid registration to the Annual Conference in Multnomah County, (Portland, Ore.) and have proper credentials. Click [here](#) to download the forms on or after May 19.

Contact: [Ilene Manster](#) • 202.942.4291

Community Transformation Grants Funding Opportunity Announced

On May 13 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the availability of more than \$100 million in funding for up to 75 Community Transformation Grants. The grants are authorized by the Affordable Care Act and will provide local-level funding to implement projects that prevent chronic diseases. Letters of intent are due June 6 and applications are due July 15. Please see the Funding Opportunities section on www.naco.org/healthreformimplement and www.cdc.gov/communitytransformation for more information.

Contact: [Anita Cardwell](#) • 202-942-4267



NACo and partners renew Digital Coast Project

NACo recently signed an agreement to continue work on the Digital Coast Project. This partnership brings together six organizations who work with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center to provide data and tools that inform and benefit local coastal management in counties. For more information, click [here](#).

Contact: [Carrie Clingan](#) • 202.942.4246

Stay up-to-date with NACo's e-Green Government Network

NACo's Electronic Green Government Network is your source for information about county greening efforts. This includes grant opportunities, new tools, publications, sustainability best practices, webinars, workshops and many other opportunities. Sign up today at www.naco.org/greennetwork.

Contact: [Jared Lang](#) • 202.942.4224



Time's running out to file NACo presidential appointment applications

June 2 is the deadline to submit names for NACo leadership appointments. Incoming President Lenny Eliason will appoint NACo's Leadership Team and a number of NACo committee appointments when he becomes president in July. Appointments are for one- to three-year terms, and membership on some of the committees has specific requirements. Fill out a Presidential

Appointments Application online. Please click [here](#) to access the application.

Contact: [Karen McRunnel](#) • 202.942.4238

May 31 deadline to submit application for NCGM Award

NACo is encouraging all counties that hosted events to raise public awareness about county government during National County Government Month (NCGM) in April to share your efforts with NACo. New this year: NACo will present awards to three counties (urban, rural and suburban) for their outstanding NCGM activities during April. Click [here](#) for details and the online award application.

Contact: [Tom Goodman](#) • 202.942.4222



Upcoming Events



ABC News journalist to keynote Annual Conference session; workshop schedule set

Veteran ABC News journalist Bob Woodruff, who was injured as an imbedded reporter in Iraq, will speak at the Opening General Session of NACo's 2011 Annual Conference. More than 30 workshops have been planned for the conference, July 15 – 19, in Multnomah County, (Portland) Ore. Issues include cost savings through cloud computing, fuel alternatives and public health and much more. [Register](#) before June 3 and save \$50. To learn more about

Woodruff, click [here](#).

Contact: [Kim Struble](#) • 202.942.4288

Free NACo webinars

Managing Your Message in the Digital Age of Communications (Members only)

Wednesday, May 18, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

While technologies have changed, the rules of media relations and public communications have not. Learn about basic media relations best practices and the dos and don'ts of using social media. This webinar is especially useful for newly elected officials. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jim Philipps](#) • 202.942.4220

How County Veteran Service Officers Support Transition to Civilian Life

Wednesday, May 25, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

Learn how a County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) can provide key services to veterans and their families, facilitating claims and supporting a successful transition to civilian life. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Jim Sawyer](#) • 202.661.8868

Green Infrastructure in Your Backyard: Northeast and Great Lakes Area

Thursday, May 26, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

Discover how urban metropolitan regions are planning green infrastructure to manage storm-water and environmental services. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Cindy Wasser](#) • 202.942.4274

Green Infrastructure in Your Backyard: Central Area

Thursday, June 9, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

Find out how counties in your region are using green infrastructure principles to minimize flooding along large rivers. The webinar is geared towards counties in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas and Missouri, but all are welcome and encouraged to participate. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [Cindy Wasser](#) • 202.942.4274

Helping Counties Recover from Homeowner Foreclosures: Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Thursday, June 16, 2 – 3:15 p.m. EDT

Learn how funding from the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) is helping counties recover from the impacts of home foreclosures. To register, click [here](#).

Contact: [James Davenport](#) • 202.661.8807

About NACo – The Voice of America's Counties

National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the U.S. NACo provides essential services to the nation's 3,068 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public's

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understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money.

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