

CONVENTION

OCT. 5-7, 2011

Contact Information:

Municipality Name _____

Contact Name (person completing this form) _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Attendee Information (please complete another form if registering more than three attendees):

Attendee

#1. Attendee Name _____ Nickname _____

Title _____ *Email _____

#2. Attendee Name _____ Nickname _____

Title _____ *Email _____

#3. Attendee Name _____ Nickname _____

Title _____ *Email _____

*Hotel housing code will be sent here

Registration Information:

MML Liability Pool and/or Workers Comp Members

<input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird Rate, through 9/9/2011 (\$324 per person)	Attendee #(s) _____	Qty: _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Rate, after 9/9/2011 (\$374 per person)	Attendee #(s) _____	Qty: _____	\$ _____

MML Full & Associate Members/BAP Participants

<input type="checkbox"/> Early Bird Rate, through 9/9/2011 (\$399 per person)	Attendee #(s) _____	Qty: _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Rate, after 9/9/2011 (\$449 per person)	Attendee #(s) _____	Qty: _____	\$ _____

Nonmember Government Entities

<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Rate (\$549 per person)	Attendee #(s) _____	Qty: _____	\$ _____
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Guests

<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Rate (\$99 per person)	Attendee #(s) _____	Qty: _____	\$ _____
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Guest Name(s): _____

Affiliate Breakfasts – Thursday, October 6, 2011

<input type="checkbox"/> MI Association of Mayors (\$25 per person)	Attendee #(s) _____	Qty: _____	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> MI Women in Municipal Government (\$25 per person)	Attendee #(s) _____	Qty: _____	\$ _____

Donations

<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Municipal League Foundation Donation			\$ _____
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Donor Name: _____

Parade of Flags

Does your municipality wish to participate in the Parade of Flags? Yes No TOTAL \$ _____

Special Accommodations

Do any of the above listed attendees require a vegetarian/vegan meal? If so, please list name(s) below:

Do any of the above listed attendees require special assistance/accommodations? If so, please specify below:

Registration Options:

Online: To register and pay online visit www.mml.org. On the home page located on the right hand side under "My League," click on "Log On" and enter your name and password. After you are logged in, click on "Events."**Fax:** Please fax registration form to 734-669-4223, then mail with check payable to: Michigan Municipal League P.O. Box 7409 Ann Arbor, MI 48107-7409**Registration Questions?** Call 734-669-6371 or email registration@mml.org. For a full list of Convention registration policies, please visit www.mml.org, click on Training/Events, click on Convention Registration Policies.



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Money is tight and we feel your pain. We've shortened the Convention to accommodate your travel budget! Convention will kick-off with the opening general session at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, instead of the traditional general session on Tuesday afternoon, so you save on one night at the hotel!

If you would like to come in early, we have limited rooms available Tuesday, October 4. Additional rooms on this day should be available the first week in September. Please contact the Anway Grand Plaza Hotel 800-253-3590 to reserve your room

Pre-Convention Programming

Tuesday, October 4, 2011
 9:00 am-4:30 pm MAMA Municipal Law Program
 1:00-4:00 pm Pre-Convention Workshops
 4:30 pm Elected Officials Academy Board Meeting

CONVENTION AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

[\(Click here for a PDF of the complete program.\)](#)

Wednesday, October 5, 2011
 9:00-10:00 am Governance Committee Meeting
 10:00 am-5:00 pm Registration Hours
 10:00 am Board of Trustees Meeting
 1:00-2:00 pm Annual Business Meeting
 2:00-4:15 pm Welcoming General Session
 Parade of Flags
 Community Excellence Awards
 Keynote Presentation
 4:15-4:30 pm Networking Break
 4:30-5:30 pm Breakout Sessions
 6:00 pm Host City Reception

Thursday, October 6, 2011
 7:00 am-6:00 pm Registration Hours
 7:15-8:15 am MAM Breakfast (Tickets available for purchase.)
 MWIMG Breakfast (Tickets available for purchase.)
 8:30-10:15 am General Session
 10:15-10:45 am Message from the Governor
 10:45-11:15 am Networking Break/Press Conference
 10:45 am-3:00 pm Silent Auction Bidding
 11:15 am-12:30 pm Breakout Sessions
 12:30-1:45 pm Luncheon
 1:45-2:00 pm Stretching Break
 2:00-2:45 pm General Session
 2:45-3:15 pm Networking Break
 3:00 pm Silent Auction Bidding Closes
 3:15-4:30 pm Breakout Sessions
 5:30-8:00 pm Reception & Annual Awards Banquet

Friday, October 7, 2011
 9:00-11:00 am Closing Breakfast & General Session
 Community Excellence Award "Race for the Cup" Winner Announced
 11:00 am-12:00 pm MBC-LEO Meeting

Pre-Convention Sessions

Tuesday, October 4
The Michigan Medical Marihuana Act (MMMA) Two Years Later
1:00-4:00 pm
 The MMMA has been in effect for two years now, yet there are still many unanswered questions. How and where is medical marijuana dispensed? What are the implications for a municipality as an employer? On average, the state Department of Community Health is receiving 70+ medical marijuana patient applications a day. Attend this session

SHARE



and discover the likely impacts of the Act on local units of government. There will be discussion on issues surrounding the right to farm, dispensaries, ongoing ACLU cases, zoning, and more. **Cost: \$70.** [Click here](#) to register.

Meetings R' Us

1:00-4:00 pm

Do your meetings run smoothly? Is your council or board debating issues until late into the night? By using parliamentary procedure, you can gain control and have more productive meetings. This basic guide to fair and orderly meeting procedures will help keep discussions focused and allow you to accomplish the business on the agenda. This session will focus on council meetings and all of the problems and interruptions that can complicate them, including dealing with difficult people. **Cost: \$70.** [Click here](#) to register.

Festivals – Best Practices and Liability Issues

1:00-4:00 pm

Few activities define your hometown more than the festivals, parades, fireworks, and other special events that celebrate your local history, current achievements, or civic pride. By their nature, special events require that you and your citizens engage in conduct and activities that are extraordinary. Without proper planning, organization and experience, the chances increase that your special event will result in a bodily injury or property damage to your residents or visitors, and a financial loss to your municipality. Hear from risk management professionals and local communities on best practices for running a special event in your community. **Cost: \$70.** [Click here](#) to register.

Local Government Finance: Guarding the Public Checkbook

1:00-4:00 pm

NLC Competency: Competent Practitioner – 2 credits

Learn strategies and techniques to increase your proficiency and comfort in dealing with financial oversight responsibilities. Gain knowledge of budget management, financial crisis warning signs, the perils of micro-management, and establishing an adequate fund balance. Participants will also receive the book *Local Government Dollars & Sense: 225 Financial Tips for Guarding the Public Checkbook*. **Cost: \$70.** [Click here](#) to register.

Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys' (MAMA)

Municipal Law Program

9:00 am-4:30 pm

The MAMA is presenting a full-day workshop designed for attorneys to sharpen their skills in municipal law. The topics will include the Enforcing Charter Violations; Insourcing; Outsourcing; Downsizing and Elimination of Services; Collective Bargaining Issues; Current Issues in Social Media; and Survival Techniques for Local Government Attorneys. The 2011 MAMA Awards Luncheon will be held immediately following the annual meeting. Tickets to attend only the awards luncheon and annual meeting will be available [Click here](#) to register.

Vendor Presentation Sessions

Wednesday and Thursday:

Social Media Pavilion

Wednesday from 1-5:30 pm

Thursday from 8 am-4:30 pm

Tweeting, poking, posting and tagging. Someone is following you, someone checked in, someone wants to be your friend and you were just asked if you're linked in.

From desktops and smart phones people are connecting with people, sharing news and getting information. Still wondering what the hubbub is about? The experts from NuWave Solutions are on hand to help – stop by the Social Media Pavilion in the Center Concourse and get the answers. They'll walk you through the process of becoming Friends with the League. Following the League, Linking up with your peers and hash-tagging your thoughts during convention on the social media screens you're seeing around convention.

Sponsored by NuWave Solutions

4:30-5:30 pm Wednesday:

Show Me the Money

Project Funding Success Stories

Dreaming of a new library or community center but can't find a way to pay for it? See examples of creatively funded municipal projects and learn how to improve your projects' scores for grant worthiness.

Prain & Newhof Grants Specialist Jim Hegarty and Senior Project Manager Jason Washier will show you how to find grants that match your projects—and once you find them, how to write winning grant proposals that will put your project at the top of the stack!

This high-energy session is a "must" for any community that wants to find creative ways to improve itself—even on a limited budget!

Sponsored by Prain & Newhof

Confronting the Foreclosure Crisis

The Benefits of Partnership with the Mortgage Service Industry

Are foreclosures hurting your neighborhoods? Learn how code enforcement professionals and the mortgage service industry can work together to preserve vacant properties in your community.

Safeguard Properties professionals will share best practices in use across the nation to prevent foreclosures from becoming blight. Get the inside scoop on the timelines and processes of the foreclosure process, and learn about the role of property preservation companies in resolving such issues as debris removal and occupancy verification.

You'll also learn about a free, web-based platform that allows you to identify a property's direct point of contact, communicate with the servicer, and monitor and expedite resolution.

Sponsored by Safeguard Properties

When Construction Projects Go Bad

How to Manage and Win Lawsuits

Every community has at least one horror story involving a sewer overflow project, road improvement or municipal construction that looked great on paper but later went bad. Some of the state's top commercial and construction litigators will explain how municipalities can best manage and win lawsuits involving construction projects.

Attorneys from Zausmer, Kaufman, August, Caldwell & Tayler, PC will start with the pre-contract process. You'll learn how certain contractual terms like claim notice provisions, site condition clauses, arbitration provisions, and limitation of liability clauses can impact future litigation.

Sponsored by Zausmer, Kaufman, August, Caldwell & Tayler, PC

Top Ten Open Meetings Act Mistakes – And How to Avoid Them

How well do municipal officials *really* need to know the Open Meetings Act (OMA)? Like the back of their hand, of course. In fact, the OMA is filled with nuances that can easily lead to innocent missteps – which can then result in time-consuming headaches and even costly and potentially damaging litigation. Join attorneys from Foster Swift's municipal team for an explanation of the most common OMA pitfalls, and ways to avoid them.

Sponsored by Foster Swift

Playing for Keeps

Concepts Behind Universally Accessible Playgrounds

Can a playground become a vibrant, inclusive center for community activity and pride? A universally designed play environment can engage children and families of all abilities. Learn how new research in Sensory Processing Disorder is transforming traditional universal access into sensory-rich playgrounds for children with autism as well as children in the general population. Professional landscape structure specialists from Superior Play will also show you how to identify potential funding sources and programs which satisfy bid requirements.

Sponsored by Superior Play

Weathering the Health Care Reform Storm

Need a road map for all the health care reform changes? Find out how to organize the rules into categories, and learn the key provisions affecting plan sponsors to prepare for the immediate future and long-term action plans.

Sponsored by American Fidelity

11:15 am -12:30 pm Thursday:

Planning for Place**20/20 Vision for 2020**

Today's economic woes have discouraged many communities from planning for the future. But successful revitalization requires a clear vision and focused plan built on the assets of 21st century communities. OHMI Architects, Engineers and Planners will show you how to create your own Year 2020 Vision Plan, engage citizen and business support, tap into community-based funding resources, create public/private partnerships, and leverage infrastructure grants. It's a common-sense guide to setting visionary yet realistic goals that can be converted into action plans.

Sponsored by OHMI Architects, Engineers, Planners

3:15-4:30 pm Thursday:

Making Main Street Work With Less

Everyone's talking about the importance of placemaking in downtown revitalization projects. But with dwindling resources and more daunting tasks, how can today's communities rise to the challenge? Whether or not your community has a traditional downtown, you can turn customers into engaged citizens who volunteer their time to get things done. MSHDA Downtown & Community Services Division Director Joe Borgstrom will share success stories from the Michigan Main Street program to show you how to make your own Main Street vision come true.

Sponsored by MSHDA

League Annual Convention

October 5-7, 2011

Grand Rapids

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Michigan Municipal League
1675 Green Road, Ann Arbor MI. 48105
734.662.3246 | 800.653.2483



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Vendor Opportunities

Sponsoring the Annual Convention provides you with a unique opportunity for communicating with professionals from local government. Event attendees are typically high-level decision makers representing Michigan municipalities, and many participants are repeat attendees who know each other. This creates a relaxed and informal atmosphere with the right settings for meeting new people.

When becoming our sponsor, we will do our utmost to satisfy your needs for involvement and exposure. Are you looking for networking and relationship building? Presentation opportunities? Company branding? Our sponsor packages offer pre-defined exposure opportunities, but don't hesitate to bring us your personal requests. Contact Terri Murphy at 734-669-6342 or tmurphy@mml.org for more information.

Please note, the League does not host an exhibit hall at our Annual Convention.

- [Complete Details](#) (PDF)
- [Vendor Registration Form](#) (PDF)

Convention General Information

HOW CAN I REGISTER?

Online
In order to reduce the amount of printed paper and increase member privacy, the League will no longer accept credit card payments on printable registration forms for League events. All credit card payments are to be completed online via My League (www.mml.org). My League is your secure, interactive online League account. It's available to all members and nonmembers, with a quick and easy sign-up process.

Via Printable Form
Visit tour.mml.org to download and print a faxable registration form. Complete and fax to 734-669-4223, then mail with check payable to: Michigan Municipal League PO Box 7409 Ann Arbor, MI 48107-7409.

HOUSING

Money is tight and we feel your pain. We've shortened the Convention to accommodate your travel budget! Convention will kick-off with the opening general session at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, instead of the traditional general session on Tuesday afternoon, so you save on one night at the hotel!

If you would like to come in early, we have limited rooms available Tuesday, October 4. Additional rooms on this day should be available the first week in September. Please contact the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel 800-253-3590 to reserve your room.

Host Hotel - Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids
Phone: 800-253-3590 or 616-774-2000

Housing Reservation Process

Housing reservations will only be accepted for those who have registered for Convention. After registering for Convention, a confirmation email will be sent to you within 48 hours. The confirmation email will contain your registration information and your personalized housing registration code. The hotel requires that you provide this code in order to make reservations during the League's Annual Convention.

Housing Rates
\$124 (plus an 8% occupancy tax and 6% state tax)

Parking
\$10 self-parking per day/night
\$20 valet per day/night

COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE AWARD

**Excellence Award
YOU BE THE JUDGE
Wednesday, October 5, 2:00 pm**
Join us in this good-natured competition and cheer for Michigan's best. See the Community Excellence Award regional finalists unveil their winning presentations.

SHARE



You are the official judges. Your votes will alone decide which community takes home the Cup. After the general session, cast your vote at the official Community Excellence Award Voting Booth.

Don't miss the Cup Presentation Breakfast on Friday, October 7, where you can enjoy breakfast with new friends and be part of the fifth annual Community Excellence Award Cup Presentation.

[Click here](#) to read more about the CEA Region Finalists.

LEAGUE FOUNDATION & SILENT AUCTION

Contribute to the silent auction by bidding or donating an item. This annual event presents a great opportunity to bring home unique gifts representing communities across Michigan, or you can highlight your community, local businesses, and local talent by donating an item. We will again offer the online feature to our auction process. You will have the option to contribute and bid for donated items online prior to the live actual silent auction event. For more information on donating an item, call Deborah Watton-Medley at 734-662-3246.

Funds raised through the League Foundation's auctions help support the League's mission to enhance and develop leadership in local government.

SUPPORT THE ARTS & DONATE SUPPLIES

In support of art education, the League has partnered with the Grand Rapids Student Advancement Foundation (GRSAF) to donate art supplies to students in the Grand Rapids district. Due to recent budget cuts, the GRSAF has taken over the responsibility for raising 100% of the funds for art and music supplies for the school district and the 19,000 youth that it serves. We see this as a great opportunity to support budding artists and to express the importance of the arts to community.

We would like you to partner with us and show your support for the arts by bringing your donation of art supplies to Convention. A donation box will be available near registration. You may even want to do an art drive at city hall so that others can contribute as well.

Art supply examples include, but aren't limited to:

- Paints (watercolor, acrylic, poster, oil, etc.)
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Pastels
- Drawing paper
- Sculpting clay
- Glue (sticks, Elmer's, etc.)
- Scissors
- Tape
- Easels
- Brushes
- Canvas
- Markers

To learn more about the GRSAF visit www.grsaf.org.

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