February is Black History Month, an annual commemoration and celebration of important people and events throughout the history of the African diaspora in the United States. ILG applauds all of California’s African American leaders, including the many who have served and currently serve in local government leadership roles with cities, counties and special districts.

This month, ILG attended numerous events honoring Black leaders and celebrating the wonderful diversity and opportunity of our state, including a reception hosted by the California Legislative Black Caucus, which recognized the nation’s first and longest-serving African American Legislative Clerk E. Dotson Wilson, while also welcoming the incoming Chief Clerk, Sue Parker. Caucus Chair Dr. Shirley Weber and other caucus members in attendance acknowledged this important transition in leadership and the inspiration Wilson has provided to countless African American legislators and staff.

I also attended California Women Lead’s 2020 Winter Reception, which celebrated the “Fierce and Fearless Women Chiefs of Staff in the CA Legislature.”

As civil rights activist Rosa Parks said, “each person must live their life as a model for others.” My team and I are working on that every day. I am very proud of the work we are doing to empower local government leaders and help them navigate complex issues, increase their capacity and build trust in their communities. You’ll read about some of those activities below.

There is much to come this year as ILG rounds into its 65th anniversary year and I could not be more thrilled to serve as the Executive Director during this exciting time.

With love and gratitude from all of us at ILG,

Erica L. Manuel
CEO & Executive Director
Free Webinar: Local Government Apprenticeships

Does your local agency need an innovative, cost-effective strategy for talent development? Apprenticeship -- for trades and non-trades positions -- is one solution that can meet your agency's talent development needs for new and incumbent employees. ILG is hosting a webinar on **Tuesday, March 31 at 11am** to discuss how partnerships with community colleges, cities, counties and special districts can strengthen and sustain a skilled workforce that meets evolving community needs.

This free webinar will highlight:
- The economic and social impact of apprenticeships;
- How an apprenticeship can work for your city, county or special district; and
- The City of Coalinga's experience implementing an apprenticeship for its human resource analyst position.

[Register here.](#)

Don't Miss the Next Public Engagement Training

Are you ready to think differently about public engagement? Do you have a complex issue you’d like to discuss with the residents of your community but don’t know how? Register for ILG’s next TIERS Public Engagement Training on **Monday and Tuesday, June 8-9** in Monterey. Attendees will learn a step-by-step approach to successfully plan and implement productive public engagement efforts. This interactive training program can help you maximize your community outreach efforts in a more sustainable way, while providing private, hands-on consulting to address your agency’s unique priorities – ranging from planning and climate change to budgeting and public safety.

[Register today](#) or contact Hanna Stelmakhovych at [publicengagement@ca-ilg.org](mailto:publicengagement@ca-ilg.org) or call (916) 658-8221.

[Learn more about TIERS here.](#)

Arcata: A Small City Getting a Big BOOST

*Each month, we’ll highlight one of our 12 BOOST communities, which are part of a unique pilot program coordinated by ILG and funded by the California Strategic Growth Council (SGC).*

Meet the City of Arcata! Located on the Northern California coast, 275 miles northwest of San Francisco, Arcata is a unique city because it is both rural and coastal. Residents value the natural environment and small-town vibe, but Arcata also welcomes tourists and film crews who come to visit and film the majestic redwood trees and picturesque coast. Learn more about how ILG is helping Arcata secure funding, raise visibility and address some of its unique sustainability challenges.

[Read more about our BOOST activities in Arcata here](#).

[Read more about the BOOST Program here](#).

Out and About: Housing & Homelessness

A highlight of the month was engaging with Governor Newsom at the League’s...
board meeting in Yountville. The Governor's clear focus on housing and homelessness aligns perfectly with ILG's previous work on the issue, including the 2018 Homelessness Report we produced in partnership with CSAC and the League. ILG is planning new work in this area in 2020 and the Administration's focus syncs up well with our priorities and the priorities of our association affiliates.

ILG continues to help local governments address housing needs in their communities. Earlier this month, ILG's Karalee Browne spoke on a panel at the League's City Managers Conference where she shared community engagement best practices and what we have learned and heard from local governments including:

- Most every city in the state is grappling with issues related to a lack of housing and homelessness.
- Local governments generally support measures to streamline the housing approval process and increase funds for affordable housing.
- Local governments agree that housing solutions should recognize the market realities that dictate housing construction.
- Local governments know that housing solutions need to respect the diversity and values of each unique community.

For more tips on how to engage your community about housing, check out our Public Engagement and Housing Toolkit at [www.ILGHousingToolkit.org](http://www.ILGHousingToolkit.org).

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**Scrap Your Fears About Looming Food Waste Regulations**  
**ILG Can Help Local Governments Prepare for SB 1383**

California cities and counties are preparing to comply with SB 1383 (Chapter 395, Statutes of 2016), which sets new targets to reduce statewide emissions of short-lived climate pollutants and reduce organic waste in landfills. This is a daunting task, but don't worry – ILG can help! We've teamed up with CalRecycle to raise awareness of reduction targets and connect local governments to the resources and expertise necessary to deploy effective programming.

This article showcases how two cities - Colton and Bakersfield - are making tremendous strides to proactively manage organic waste. ILG will also be speaking on this topic at the League's Public Works Conference on **Thursday, March 19**.

Read more.

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**In the News: San Joaquin Valley Air District Tackles Air Pollution with Community-Centric Approach**

For the last seven months, ILG has worked closely with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) in the cities of Shafter and Fresno to help achieve the goals of AB 617, which will help reduce regional and community exposure to air pollutants. This month, the California Air Resource Board approved plans for both communities that outline ways to reduce emissions, including working with local industries.

Read more from Capitol Public Radio of the [Fresno Bee](https://www.fresnobee.com).

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**Funding Available: Zero-Emission Transportation Projects**

The Clean Mobility Options Voucher Pilot Program (CMO) provides voucher-based funding for zero-emission carsharing, carpooling/vanpooling, bikesharing/scooter-sharing, innovative transit services, and ride-on-demand services in California's historically underserved communities. The program aims to promote mobility equity, improve local air quality, increase zero-emission vehicle adoption, reduce vehicle miles traveled and advance workforce development in underserved communities.

Read more.
In the News: Collaboration is Key to Improving Communities

Great things happen when local agencies collaborate to improve their communities. Read about how the City of San Juan Capistrano and the Santa Margarita Water District are working together to streamline services and upgrade infrastructure [here](#).

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Thank You to Our Partners

We are grateful for the support of our partners and love finding opportunities to work with them throughout the year. This month, we were excited to team up with [Richards Watson & Gershon](#) for a harassment prevention webinar. And in the coming month we are looking forward to working with [Burke Williams & Sorensen](#) and [Best Best & Krieger](#) for sessions at the [League's Planning Commissioners Academy](#) March 4-6.

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News from Our Partners

**MMASC Winter Forum**

On March 5, MMASC will host its Winter Forum in Torrance. Attendees will hear about hot topics like negotiation, strategic planning and legislative updates.

[Read more](#)

[www.mmasc.org](http://www.mmasc.org)

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**MMANC Winter Forum**

On March 5, MMANC will host its Winter Forum "Intentionally Growing Our Communities." Attendees will hear how the City of Vallejo used an intentional growth mindset to plan and finance development and adopt housing and transportation solutions.

[Read more](#)

[www.mmanc.org](http://www.mmanc.org)
Rose Institute Redistricting Conference

On April 15, the Rose Institute is hosting a Redistricting Conference. The one-day conference will feature experts on the redistricting process at the local level, applicable law and best practices for local government agencies.

Read more
roseinstitute.org

2020 NACo WIR Conference

On May 13-15, NACo will hold its Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference in Mariposa County. This conference brings together county officials from across the nation to focus on pressing issues facing counties and our residents.

Read more
www.naco.org

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