

News from the Institute for Local Government

March 2020

A Message From ILG's Executive Director

March has been a whirlwind with the COVID-19 pandemic shutting down most of home and work life. We've now introduced a new normal of social distancing and remote working. While it's been a scary and confusing time for many, the Coronavirus response efforts have also given way to appreciation, inspiration and a sense of solidarity. So many public agencies, businesses, non-profits, educators and residents have stepped up to flatten the curve so we can bring society (physically) back together again.

I have personally been in awe of how city, county and special district leaders have all risen to the challenge; continuing to work and serve their communities from a safe distance, while providing essential services in new and responsive ways. We're seeing examples of virtual town halls, senior meal delivery programs, free childcare services for essential workers, volunteer-run homeless support services, garbage and utility assistance, price gouging prevention, temporary eviction bans and so much more.



The ILG team has also answered the call by focusing on our mission of helping local government leaders navigate complexity and effectively implement policies on the ground. Two weeks ago, we launched a [COVID-19 section of our website](#) with a comprehensive list of resources and information for local agency leaders. This week, we begin our free COVID-19 webinar series to ensure you have the information and guidance you need to keep your agency open and responsive. Details about the first three webinars are listed below.

Now, more than ever, it is important for local government leaders to demonstrate authenticity, honesty and integrity to maintain the public's trust and confidence. The ILG team is committed to helping you do that by providing timely education and training in our four core program areas: Leadership & Governance, Public Engagement, Civics Education & Workforce and Sustainable Communities.

In the month ahead, stay tuned for more frequent newsletter and social media updates ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#)) from ILG with timely information related to COVID-19 and solutions you may be able to implement in your jurisdictions. We'll also be issuing a local agency survey to ensure we continue to meet your evolving needs.

We remain grateful for the support and cooperation of our three affiliate associations (the League, CSAC and CSDA) as well as our growing list of business partners.

I am confident that our state and our nation will come out of this pandemic stronger and more resilient. We are all in this together.

On behalf of the entire ILG team, I hope you, your colleagues and your families remain healthy and safe,

Erica L. Manuel
CEO & Executive Director

Transparency, Public Access & Trust: Keeping Local Government Open Through Social Distancing

Wednesday, April 1st
9am-10am

Many local governments across the state have issued shelter-in-place orders and closed their doors to the public. In doing so, they are also grappling with the implications that social distancing and teleworking has on open meetings, public records requests and other operations.

Join ILG for a webinar about new COVID-related legal guidelines. Hear tips on how to navigate and comply with the current requirements while adjusting to an ever-changing environment and maintaining public access and trust.

Panelists include experts from Best Best & Krieger and the City of Temecula.



[REGISTER HERE](#)

Managing Human Resources During a Public Health Crisis

Thursday, April 2nd
10am-11am



Local agencies are working hard to balance the physical and emotional well-being of their employees while still delivering essential services to their communities.

Join ILG and partner Liebert Cassidy Whitmore for a webinar to help local governments navigate new employee protocols during a time of uncertainty and adjustment.

Sign up to hear recent updates issued by the state around retired annuitants, paid sick leave, layoff notifications and more related to

COVID-19 and workforce impacts.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Staying Connected; Tips and Tactics for Effective External Communication Despite Social Distance

Tuesday, April 7th
2pm-3pm

As local officials and staff work through this evolving public health crisis, it remains critical to share important updates, guidance and mandates with your communities.

Join ILG and our partners to learn strategies for consistently and authentically communicating with your community as we adapt to the “new normal,” prepare for the return to standard operations, and anticipate any future crisis events.

Panelists include experts from Tripepi Smith, the California State Association of Counties and El Dorado Irrigation District.



Tell Us Something Good!



Is your community doing a good job navigating through COVID-19? Tell us how!

We want to hear what your local government and community are doing to respond to the pandemic. Please share stories of successful and inspirational efforts to rise to this global challenge.

In the coming weeks, we will profile communities of all sizes that are leading the way. Email info@ca-ilg.org with your stories!

SUBMIT FEEDBACK HERE

EXTRA! EXTRA! Relevant Articles and Updates about COVID

Here are some of our favorite recent COVID-19 news articles and updates related to local government.

- "COVID-19 and California's housing crisis," *CaMatters*, 3/19/20
- "What a coronavirus recovery could look like," *CityLab*, 3/23/20
- "How will the coronavirus affect state and local government budgets?" *Brookings Institution*, 3/27/20
- *CalPERS continues service amidst COVID-19 impact*," *RCRC's Barbed Wire*, 3/30/20



Thank You to Our Partners

We are grateful for the continued support of our partners through this rapidly evolving public health crisis. Special thanks to:

- The [City of Coalinga](#), [State of California's Division of Apprenticeship Standards](#) and [West Hills Community College District](#) for participating in our webinar on **Local Government Apprenticeship & Workforce Strategies**.
- [Best Best & Krieger](#) and the [City of Temecula](#) for partnering on the webinar on **Transparency, Public Access & Trust: Keeping Local Government Open Through Social Distancing**.
- [Liebert Cassidy Whitmore](#) for teaming up with ILG on the **Managing Human Resources During a Public Health Crisis** webinar.
- [Tripepi Smith](#), the [California State Association of Counties](#) and the [El Dorado Irrigation District](#) for being experts on the **Staying Connected; Tips and Tactics for Effective External Communication Despite Social Distance** webinar next week.
- Special thanks to our three affiliates [The League of California Cities](#), [California Special Districts Association](#) and the [California State Association of Counties](#) for partnering on our entire COVID-19 webinar series.





California Special Districts Association
Districts Stronger Together



Important Updates from Our Affiliates



CSAC's New #California Strong Video:

Californians have overcome a lot over the years and now we face a new challenge. By working together we will overcome the COVID-19 pandemic because we are #CaliforniaStrong



CSDA's Special District Legislative Days

May 18-22 – Now a Virtual Event!

