

League Link

A Newsletter of [The Pennsylvania Municipal League](#)



February 2022



Advocacy Action

Governor Wolf's 2022/2023 Budget Address

On February 8, Governor Wolf gave his eighth and final budget address proposing a \$43.7 billion budget before a joint session of the House and Senate. The 2022/2023 budget plan is 16.6 percent higher than the previously enacted budget of \$37.4 billion and does not include any tax increases.

Overall, the budget prioritizes education, health and human services and improving the state's recovery from the pandemic. The budget proposes a \$1.55 billion increase for basic education funding, including \$125 billion distributed through the fair funding formula and \$300 million to the 100 most underfunded school districts. Additionally, the budget proposal requests funds for several health-related items, including medical assistance for seniors, mental health and funding for assisted living and nursing homes. County and municipal health departments received an additional \$7.2 million under the proposal.

While some budget requests are reiterations from years before, such as increasing the minimum wage and reducing the corporate net income tax, there are new proposals as well. Governor Wolf announced a plan to utilize a one-time \$1.7 billion allocation of the state's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to fast track the Commonwealth's recovery from the pandemic by providing funds, grants and property tax relief to support Pennsylvania's workers, businesses and healthcare providers.

Lastly, the budget contains several public safety measures of significance, including: \$35 million in grants to support community-led gun violence prevention; \$141 million increase for the State Police through the

General Fund along with \$500 million from the Motor License Fund; and \$7.7 million to fund necessary technology to keep law enforcement officers safe.

The League encourages our members to visit the [Governor's Budget Webpage](#) for more information on these proposals.

ARPA Final Rule Webinar Recording

Last month, Dave Mitchell, Esq., Campbell Durrant P.C. presented an informative webinar on the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Final Rule issued by the U.S. Department of the Treasury on January 6.

Overall, the webinar addressed the changes brought by the Final Rule, which is generally more flexible and permits a wider variety of uses than the prior Treasury guidance. A [recording of the webinar](#) and the [slide presentation](#) are now available and can be found on our [website](#) along with other pertinent ARPA information and resources.

Please reach out to [Amy Sturges](#), Deputy Executive Director – Advocacy, or [Kaitlin Errickson](#), Governmental Affairs Representative, with any questions.

Executive Director's Report



Check out the section on our website dedicated to member [Community Response During Coronavirus](#).



League's Latest

[The League would like to welcome Paul Cornell as The League's Interim Director of PennPRIME Insurance Services](#) – League Executive Director John Brenner said “We are delighted that Paul Cornell has assumed the Interim Director of Insurance Services post here at The League. His professionalism, solid local government experience and management skills will help guide the PennPRIME Trusts over the next several months.”

We are also pleased to announce **Abe Amoros will join our League team as new Deputy Executive Director - Operations on February 21**. Abe has extensive experience in local government and his unique skillset will be invaluable as we continue to build our capacity to serve our members and operate effectively. He has more than 30 years of governmental experience at the local and state levels. He earned a Master's in Governmental Administration from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in Journalism from Penn State. He was appointed to the Penn State Board of Trustees as its first Latino member in 2018 and reappointed in 2021 for another three-year term. Abe is also a Board Member of 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania. Please join us in welcoming Abe!

Would you like to better understand fair and affordable housing definitions and concepts? **The “Fair and Affordable Housing – How to Identify and Eliminate Barriers to Support Your Community's Growth”** course discusses how improper land use planning may contribute to fair and affordable housing issues. [Register here today!](#)

PELRAS 40th Annual Training Conference – March 16-18, live and in-person at the Penn Stater Hotel & Conference Center in State College! [Click to register](#). [Click for program details and agenda](#).

Register now for the Envision 2032 Regional Forums – Please join us for our [Regional Envision Forums](#) on the following dates:

March 31 - Northcentral - Hyatt Place, State College

April 1 - Northeast - Hilton Scranton & Conference Center

April 20 - Northwest - Wanango Country Club, Reno

April 21 - Southwest - RLA Regional Learning & Conference Center, Cranberry Township

April 22 - Southwest - Upper St. Clair Township Community and Recreation Center, Upper St. Clair

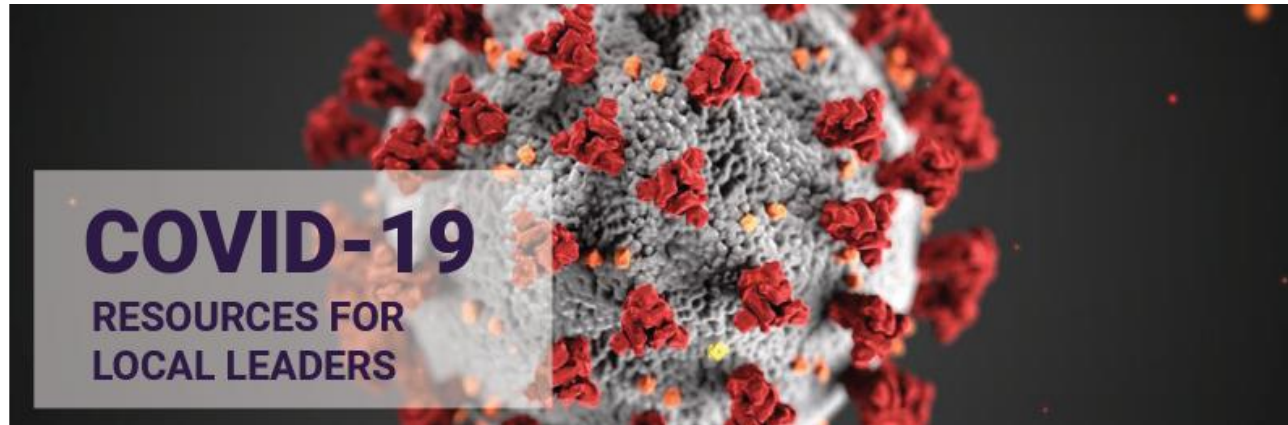
May 5 - Southcentral - Hilton Harrisburg

May 6 - Southeast - River Crest Golf Club, Phoenixville

[Click Here to Register](#)

For more information, see our [News & Announcements and newsfeed](#) on our homepage.

Also be sure to check out our [COVID-19 Resources for Local Leaders](#) webpage.



Resource Roundup

[Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Encourages Municipalities to Participate in Pick Up](#)

[Pennsylvania](#) – Participate in Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's PICK UP PENNSYLVANIA program from March 1 through May 31 and make a difference in your municipalities and neighborhoods.

The [PA Recreation & Park Society](#) (PRPS) & The [Park Maintenance Institute](#) (PMI) have a few events coming up:

[Tech Tuesday: What is CMMS?](#) – February 22

[Professional Development Webinar Series](#) – February 24, April 28, June 14

[Meadow Management for Pollinators](#) – March 10

[Directors & Supervisors Roundtable](#) – March 30, May 25, August 24, November 16

[PRPS Conference & Expo](#) – March 29 – April 1

[New Resource to Help Your Community Navigate Infrastructure Opportunities](#) – The White House infrastructure team recently released the first edition of its Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook to help state, local, Tribal and territorial governments unlock the benefits from the historic investments in our nation's infrastructure.

[Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Guidebook Webinar Series](#) – To help partners better understand the programs within the guidebook, The White House is launching an **Infrastructure School** which includes a series of twelve webinars over the coming weeks that will provide an in-depth look into the programs contained within each of the twelve major chapters in the guidebook.

[Comcast Connections](#) – January 2022 issue covers topics such as: Comcast Rise expands efforts to help "women-owned" businesses, Pathways to get even more americans connected to the internet, and more.

[The Good Jobs Initiative and Grant Opportunities](#) – At the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Secretary Walsh announced the launch of the Good Jobs Initiative—an effort the DOL is leading to help improve job quality across the economy.
