



July 5, 2011

NACo Prepares to Meet in Portland

Rarely has NACo's annual meeting come at a more important time for California's counties.

There are only 10 days left before county officials from across the country meet July 15-19 at the National Association of Counties' (NACo) 76th Annual Conference and Exposition in Multnomah County (Portland), Ore. to set national policies affecting counties and share ideas on leading in tough times. More than 2,000 elected and appointed county officials, exhibitors, presenters and guests are expected to participate in the conference at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland. NACo's Annual Conference is the most important gathering of county officials of the year and offers the best opportunity for leaders in county government to discuss pragmatic solutions to common challenges facing counties and communities.

Rarely has NACo's annual meeting come at a more important time for California's counties. Congress is considering significant budget cuts to a variety of federal programs which directly affect counties and communities. Areas slated for budget cuts include justice and public safety, homeland security, transportation and infrastructure, housing and community development, Medicaid and several human service safety net programs.

Despite the revenue and budget challenges, counties remain on the cutting edge of implementing innovative and cost-effective solutions to the challenges they face. Many of these initiatives - from green government efforts and information technology advances to criminal justice system reforms - will be explored in detail during the Annual Conference.

Conference participants will attend a variety of [educational workshop sessions](#) to gain greater understanding of issues affecting county government. For example, growing green economies and innovative energy efficiency efforts will be explored in detail during workshops entitled, "Smart Communities and Smart Buildings: How they Improve the Economy, Environment and Experience" and "Going Green Without Going Red."

Other workshops will address funding infrastructure and economic development efforts, sharing services across jurisdictional lines, and jail diversion programs. On Friday, July 15 and Saturday, July 16, [NACo's 11 steering committees](#) will meet to discuss and adopt official resolutions addressing issues such as budgets and revenues; rural and urban development, green government; transportation; public

safety; emergency preparedness and response; housing and more. Resolutions adopted by conference delegates will serve as official NACo national policy positions - The American County Platform - for the next 12 months. It will be available at www.naco.org in late July.

On Sunday, July 17, [NACo's Rural Action Caucus](#) (RAC) and [Large Urban County Caucus](#) (LUCC) steering committees will meet to get updates on caucus priorities and initiatives and hear from guest speakers.

More than 150 exhibitors will be on hand to showcase the latest goods and services available to help local governments better serve their communities. Exhibit Hall will be open Sunday, July 17, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., and Monday, July 18, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (Exhibit Hall C, Level 1)

On Tuesday, July 19, delegates will vote on the final policy resolutions, elect NACo's 2011-2012 officers, and the new NACo president will appoint NACo committee leadership. (10 a.m.-noon, Portland Ballroom, Level 2)

Click [here](#) to view the entire conference schedule of meetings and events.

I hope to see you there!

Paul McIntosh
Executive Director
California State Association of Counties
1100 K Street, Suite 101
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 327-7500 Ext. 506
Email - pmcintosh@counties.org
See: [Web](#) / [Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [The County Voice](#)