



Southern Tier West 29th Annual Local Government Conference

Houghton University, 1 Willard Avenue, Houghton, NY 14744

Thursday, June 6, 2024 from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Two Ways To Register!

Register Online:

www.southerntierwest.org/lgc-registration.html

Open through May 2024

Pay with PayPal

Register By Mail:

Complete REGISTRATON FORM and return back with check or voucher to:

Southern Tier West, 4039 Route 219, Suite 200

Salamanca NY 14779

\$40 CAP Members
\$50 Non-CAP Members
\$60 At the Door

CAP Members are municipalities from Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua Counties that pay yearly dues to be a member of the STW Community Assistance Program. You can check your status at www.southerntierwest.org/2024-cap-members.html

Certificates of Attendance are available for all attendees

2024 Corporate Sponsors



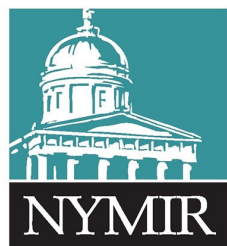
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2024 Conference Exhibitors



June 6, 2024 Conference Sessions

Clerks ~ Town and Village Boards ~ Planning Boards ~ Zoning Boards ~ Code Enforcement Officers ~ Justices ~ Court Clerks

7:30 AM - 8:45 AM REGISTRATION - VISIT WITH EXHIBITORS

SESSION 1 9:00 - 10:15 AM	SESSION 2 10:45 AM - 12:00 NOON	SESSION 3 1:00 - 2:15 PM	SESSION 4 2:45 - 4:00 PM
<p><u>The Value of Authentic Community Engagement</u> Discussion on one of the most important elements of municipal planning: public engagement. Getting residents to feel substantial “ownership” of planning outcomes can go far in uniting and strengthening a community.</p> <p><u>Liabilities and Pitfalls of Social Media</u> First Amendment concerns triggered by social media and local governments, what constitutes protected speech, the levels of protection such speech is entitled to, an analysis of public forum doctrine and where social media falls on this spectrum, and a review of various federal cases. Practical tips will be offered in drafting a social media policy. Questions are encouraged during this session!</p> <p><u>FOIL, Open Meetings Law, Mandatory Publications</u> Overview and answer questions about the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL), which governs the rights of access to government records. Also, an explanation of the Open Meetings Law, which concerns the conduct of meetings of public bodies and the right to attend those meetings. A discussion of the principles underlying the FOIL and the Open Meetings Law would put both laws in context.</p> <p><u>Critical Infrastructure Protection for your Municipality</u> Critical infrastructure protection—gain knowledge necessary to safeguard vital systems. Insights into risk assessment and discussion on incident response strategies.</p> <p><u>Area Variances: A Deeper Dive</u> Area variances are the most frequent appeal before most zoning boards of appeals. This session is a thorough exploration of each factor of the area variance test with examples and discussion of details often missed and concepts often misunderstood.</p> <p><u>Zoning Code Reform: Analysis to Modification</u> Examine the process in large and small Townships and compare the resultant code changes in each typology.</p> <p><u>Criminal Contempt</u> This session will cover contempt procedures justices should follow for both criminal and civil cases under the Judiciary Law. Case review and sample case screenings will be included.</p> <p><u>Court Clerk’s Role in Certain Proceedings</u> This session will focus on the Court Clerk’s role in select proceedings, specifically accusatory instruments, environmental conservation law, domestic violence awareness, probation, supporting depositions, global depositions, felony reductions, and failure to prosecute.</p>	<p><u>Ag Districts and Ag Assessments</u> Is your Town Planning for Agriculture? Agricultural Districts Law (AML 25AA) extends various protections to farmers from unreasonably restrictive local laws. This session will highlight common myths related to Right to Farm Laws, other agricultural protections, and funding opportunities for municipalities to accommodate emerging agricultural interests.</p> <p><u>Municipal Website Do’s and Don’ts</u> This session will cover the laws and requirements governing municipal websites, including which officials have control over the website, what information is required to be included on the website, and how local governments should balance the website with other forms of media, including social media.</p> <p><u>A Primer on Enacting Local Legislation and Conducting Referenda</u> An overview of how municipalities establish policy by adopting local laws and other types of local legislation.</p> <p><u>Economic Development for Rural Communities</u> This session will highlight discussions from MRB Group’s Leadership Roundtables held with local governments in smaller communities. Many participants are surprised at how much influence they have in creating a thriving local economy. Frequent questions include: What is Economic Development? Who has a role? How can we have an impact? Can we afford to fund Economic Development activities? Where do we begin?</p> <p><u>SEQR Hot Topics</u> While SEQR is sometimes seen as a burdensome requirement for municipal actions, it can actually be used to make projects BETTER! Based on 40+ years of experience and thousands of projects, this presentation will focus on some of the important and controversial SEQR issues that arise frequently with today’s projects.</p> <p><u>Special Use Permits</u> Scenarios in which the special use permit tool is most helpful will be discussed, along with rules local boards must follow for reviewing and approving applications for special use permits.</p> <p><u>Recognizing CDL “Masking” With the Goal of Reducing Crashes and Saving Lives</u> Commercial Driver’s License holders are responsible for understanding the Federal Regulations. Courts have the legal and ethical responsibility to properly handle these cases.</p> <p><u>DWI Refresher</u> This session will serve as a refresher regarding arraignments in DWI cases and issues surrounding suspension pending prosecution.</p>	<p><u>Adult-Use Cannabis Update</u> An overview of the newly adopted regulations, focusing on what local officials can and cannot do with respect to regulating cannabis business in their municipality.</p> <p><u>Breaking the Cycle: Getting Away from a “Damage-Repair-Damage” Pattern in Floodplain Management</u> To avoid costly "damage-repair-damage" situations in flood hazard areas, thinking and planning pro-actively for community resilience and sustainability is key. In addition, planning for smart growth by concentrating development away from sensitive floodplain areas while increasing/restoring the functionality of existing wetland systems in the landscape can help mitigate the impacts of flood damage.</p> <p><u>Q&A For Municipal Clerks</u> Join our panel of ‘seasoned’ clerks for a round table discussion on the duties of the office, changes to procedures, NYS Legislation and more. This will be a structured open forum for you to have your questions answered. There’s always something new to learn. Join Allison Vento, Town of Pomfret, Patricia Dashnaw, Town of Ashford, and Kristine Young, Town of Amity, for a lively discussion!</p> <p><u>Navigating Complex Capital Projects</u> What can a municipality do to minimize investment and maximize results? Plan and implement integrated project planning, engineering, and funding solutions; develop a clear process to inform actions and align with municipal priorities; and activate opportunities to maximize funding.</p> <p><u>Renewable Energy</u> Almost every community in NYS is dealing with issues associated with green energy policies and projects. This presentation will focus on best practices and lessons learned for municipalities dealing with community solar, wind energy, battery energy storage systems, and “94-c” scale green energy projects.</p> <p><u>Electric Vehicles—Basics of Ownership & Charging</u> This session is a brief education on electric vehicles and charging - including some history, current trends, fuel cost comparisons, and why EV’s are an important part of your municipality’s future.</p> <p><u>A Review of the Sex Offender Registration Act (SORA)</u> The history and purpose of SORA, as well as the designation of defendants who have been convicted of registerable offenses.</p> <p><u>Tenant Dignity Act RPAPL Article 7-D</u></p>	<p><u>Environmental Land Use Planning</u> The WNY Land Conservancy will present on how they are working with partners and municipalities to implement the WNY Wildway to match available funding with landowners who are willing to permanently protect their forests and fields through conservation easements and fee-purchase agreements.</p> <p><u>Climate Action Planning</u> An overview of both climate mitigation planning (reducing greenhouse gas emissions) and climate adaptation planning—the two feet of climate action—focus on local climate adaptation and resilience planning and a walkthrough of the DEC’s new Local Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Plan Template.</p> <p><u>Understanding the Budget Process</u> Explanation of the budget process, the procedures that should be used in preparing the budget and the resources and tools available to assist with budget development. It will also address the requirements and options for amending the budget, and the reports necessary for successfully monitoring the budget during the year.</p> <p><u>Capital Improvement Plan</u> What is a CIP? Why do I need a CIP? How do I implement and monitor my CIP once I have established one? Speaking of the importance of a municipal Capital Improvement Plan, we will walk through these top-level questions and lead to answering many lower-level specific questions along the way.</p> <p><u>Land Use, Permitting and Zoning</u> This session will provide attendees with an overview of changes in the law relating to land use and zoning in New York State. The latest cases from New York courts have been reviewed and the speaker will discuss new trends in municipal land use and zoning issues. The session will also include discussion about the latest decisions relating to the State Environmental Quality Review Act.</p> <p><u>Electric Vehicle Charging—Capitalizing on the Revenue & Funding Opportunities</u> This session will cover the different types of charging, as well as a look at the available incentives, and how to evaluate the long term revenue opportunity that comes with installing charging hardware in your municipality.</p> <p><u>WebDVS</u> This presentation will guide you step by step through the process and requirements to enter an Order of Protection into the WebDVS system.</p> <p><u>For Clerks By Clerks</u></p>
<p>MORNING BREAK VISIT WITH EXHIBITORS 10:15 - 10:45 AM</p>	<p>LUNCH - VISIT WITH EXHIBITORS 12:00 NOON - 1:00 PM</p>	<p>AFTERNOON BREAK VISIT WITH EXHIBITORS 2:15 - 2:45 PM</p>	<p>CONFERENCE CONCLUDES 4:00 PM</p>