



NCMA
Nebraska City/County
Management Association
A State Affiliate of ICMA

2023 AGENDA



June 28 - 30, 2023

Nebraska City County
Management Association Conference
Papillion Landing, NE

welcome!

WEDNESDAY LOCATIONS

Wednesday Afternoon

Golf Outing
Eagle Hills Golf Course
501 Eagle Hills Dr.

Wednesday Evening

Welcome Reception
Twisted Vine Wine & Tap
123 N. Washington St.

Sponsor Setup Wednesday

Papillion Landing
1046 W. Lincoln St.

THRS. & FRIDAY LOCATIONS

General & Educational Sessions

Papillion Landing
Chrysalis Ballroom #1

Sponsor Booths & Lunch

Chrysalis Ballrooms #2 & #3

Thursday Evening Outing

Storm Chasers vs. Iowa Cubs
Werner Park Stadium
12356 Ballpark Way
Sun Valley Party Patio Area

WIFI INFORMATION

Wi-Fi Network:
RecCenter

Wi-Fi Password:
PapRec122!

thank you!

A major shout-out of thanks goes to the City of Papillion for their help and direction.

A BIG THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Black Hills Energy ~ Allo Fiber ~ CALEA ~ Core and Main
Creative Sites ~ JEO Consulting ~ Johnson Service Company
NFIT, a program of UBT ~ Pinnacle Bank ~ Piper Sandler
Synder and Associates Inc. ~ Voya Financial Services
First National Capital Markets ~ Viking Painting LLC
Gilmore & Bell ~ Alley Poyner Macchietto Architecture
UNO School of Public Administration ~ Vacanti Municipal
Consulting Services, LLC



WED. JUNE 28 PM

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING, JUNE 28, 2023

11:00 – 5:00 pm

Golf Outing: Tee Time 11:30 am

Eagle Hills Golf Course, 501 Eagle Hills Dr.

3:00 – 6:00 pm

Sponsors Set Up

Papillion Landing, Chrysalis Ballrooms, #2 & #3

Hotel Check-in

Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott, 465 Olson Drive

5:00 – 9:00 pm

Welcome Reception

Twisted Vine Wine & Tap, 123 N. Washington St.

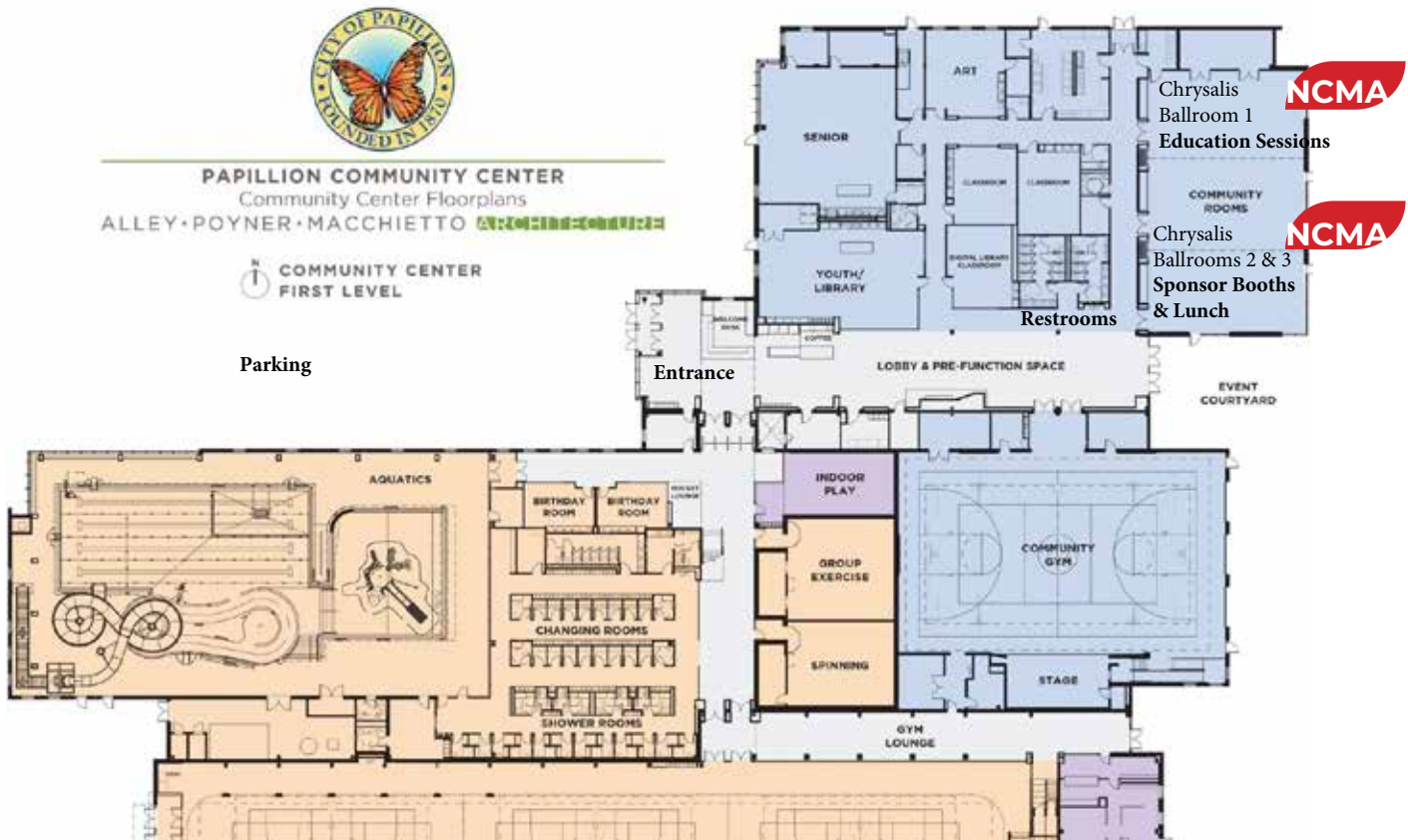
5-6 pm: Social Hour (hors d'oeuvres by Talus Spirits and Sustenance)

6-6:15 pm: Welcome by the City of Papillion

6:15-9 pm: Meal (catered by Talus Sustenance and Graley's Creamery)/Social time

AFTER EVENT

Discover Downtown Papillion (on your own or in groups)



Nebraska City County Management Association
Papillion Landing, NE



THRS. JUNE 29 AM

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 29, 2023

7:30 – 8:00 am

Registration & Visit Vendor Booths
(breakfast at Fairfield, light breakfast at Landing provided by Cafe Diem)

8:00 – 8:15 am

Welcome from NCMA President

8:15 – 9:45 am

Decent Discourse
Keynote speaker: Jay Jackson, sponsored by Allo Fiber

9:45 – 10:00 am

Break (Sponsors in Chrysalis Ballrooms #2 & #3)

10:00 – 11:00 am

Changing Demographics of Nebraska
Josie Schafer, Ph.D.

11:00 – 12:00 pm

AI Chat Boxes and the Effects on Government
Yu-Che Chen, Ph.D. and Chun-Hua Tsai, Ph.D.

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Break - Lunch (catered by Sauced by Alfaro – Chrysalis Ballrooms #2 & #3)
Presentations by Sponsors



Nebraska City County Management Association
Papillion Landing, NE



THRS. JUNE 29 **PM**

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 29, 2023

1:00 – 2:15 pm

Hiring and Managing Today's Employee
Ralph Kellogg

2:15 – 2:45 pm

Upcoming Legislation
Lynn Rex

2:45 – 2:50 pm

What to Expect on Papillion Tour
Amber Powers & Mark Stursma, City of Papillion

2:50 – 3:05 pm

Break / Load Bus for Tour (North Side of Papillion Landing)

3:05 – 4:45 pm

Bus Tour of Papillion
Mayor Black and Mark Stursma (Return to Landing)

(Break for Sponsors in Chrysalis Ballrooms #2 & #3)

4:45 – 5:40 pm

Break before Dinner and Evening Entertainment

5:40 pm

Bus Pick-Up Location to take to Werner Park:
Fairfield by Marriot, 465 Olson Dr.

5:50 pm

Bus Pick-Up Location to take to Werner Park:
Papillion Landing, 1046 W. Lincoln St.

6:00 – 7:00 pm

Dinner at Werner Park
Sun Valley Party Patio Picnic Area, 12356 Ballpark Way

7:05 pm - ?

Omaha Storm Chasers vs. Iowa Cubs, Werner Park
12356 Ballpark Way, sponsored by Black Hills Energy

After the Game
After the Game

Bus Drop-Offs at Papillion Landing and Fairfield by Marriott
Discover Papillion (on your own or in groups)



Nebraska City County Management Association
Papillion Landing, NE



JUNE 30 FRIDAY

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 30, 2023

7:30 – 8:00 am

Registration & Visit Sponsor Booths

(breakfast at Fairfield; light breakfast at Landing provided by Fovero Greek Kitchen)

8:00 – 9:00 am

NCMA Business Meeting

9:00 – 10:00 am

Legislative Update

Christy Abraham

10:00 – 10:15 am

Break (Sponsors in Chrysalis Ballroom #2 & #3)

10:15 – 11:15 am

Building Relationships to deal with the drought issues in Nebraska

Daniel Whitesel

11:15 – 12:15 pm

Recent Developments in Municipal Finance:

Exploring alternative pathways to achieve project financing goals of local communities, from Leveraging sales tax revenues to utilizing interlocal entities.
Mike Rogers

12:15 pm

Closing (Lunch on Your Own)



Nebraska City County Management Association
Papillion Landing, NE

Decent Discourse

Participants will be offered a hopeful, helpful, and historical way to push back against the warlike language and echo chambers that dominate today's political discourse. Attorney and veteran Jay Jackson builds the case for decent discourse, showing how Americans have solved the immense challenges of our past with truth, humility, and compassion – in other words, by loving their neighbors (even when they might be wrong).

Decent Discourse identifies five critical problems with the state of our political discourse today and offers solutions to each, including practical action items for each of us. Key topics discussed will include but are not limited to, building relationships, combating radicalization/polarization, ensuring a healthy media diet, avoiding echo chambers and defeating victimhood culture

Jay Jackson, JD

Jay is a husband, dad, and attorney from Papillion, Nebraska. Jay serves in the public finance department of Kutak Rock LLP, where his legal practice is focused on the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing. He is also a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve. Before settling down in Nebraska, Jay served on active duty for fourteen years and deployed to the Middle East six times. Jay is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Joint Special Operations Association, and he volunteers regularly at the Siena Francis homeless shelter and Douglas County eviction court.

Changing Demographics of Nebraska

Participants will explore a range of demographic trends in Nebraska including population growth, change, migration, and workforce composition using data from the United States Census Bureau. Then, they will explore some original survey data about how young people feel about their communities including the increase in diverse population groups. Key topics discussed will include but are not limited to, understanding of current population trends for every county, new resources to explore these trends and insights into perceptions of rural young people.

Josie Schafer, Ph.D.

Josie joined the University of Nebraska at Omaha as the Director of the Center for Public Affairs Research in 2018. Recent projects lead by Josie include the Entrepreneurship in Nebraska report, the Nebraska Women in STEM report, the Nebraska Community Foundation Youth Survey, policy analyses for the Planning Committee of the Nebraska State Legislature and being the principal investigator of the Nebraska Rural Transit Project for UNO.



AI Chat Boxes and the Effects on Government

Participants will be introduced to the basic features of AI-enabled chatbots and gain knowledge about the features, application and impacts of AI-enabled chatbots for government services. Guidelines for best using AI-enabled chatbots will also be provided. Key topics discussed will include but are not limited to the technical features of AI enabled chatbots, government applications of AI-enabled chatbots, the impacts of government AI-enabled chatbots and the recommendations for AI-enabled chatbots for government use.

Yu-Che Chen, Ph.D.

Yu-Che is an Isaacson Professor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Professor in the School of Public Administration. Yu-Che is the Director of the Digital Governance and Analytics Lab. Dr. Chen's research interests are public governance of artificial intelligence, cyberinfrastructure governance, and collaborative digital governance. Yu-Che's most recent co-edited book is the Oxford Handbook of AI Governance. He published a single-authored book entitled Managing Digital Governance in 2017 with Routledge and served as lead editor for two other books. He is the Associate Editor of two digital government journals. He serves on the oversight committee for DOTComm (Douglas Omaha Technology Commission) and on the Executive Committee of the ASPA's Section on Science and Technology in Government.

Chun-Hua Tsai, Ph.D.

Chun-Hua is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Information Systems and Quantitative Analysis (ISQA) at the College of Information Science & Technology, University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). Prior to his appointment at UNO, he served as an assistant research professor at the College of Information Sciences and Technology at Penn State University. His research agenda aims to contribute to the understanding and design of sociotechnical systems through the application of Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) and Human-Centered Computing (HCC) methodologies. Chun-Hua's research lies at the intersection of HCI, Intelligent User Interface (IUI), and Artificial Intelligence (AI), with a focus on developing fair, trustworthy, and transparent AI through data-driven and human-centered computing approaches.

Hiring and Managing Today's Employee

Participants will be introduced to the concept of successful recruiting and hiring practices including employment branding and the employee value proposition. Participants will also learn about the importance of having a psychologically safe workplace to address mental health and well-being issues.

Ralph Kellogg

Ralph serves as the Vice President for People and Training at Lutheran Family Services, thanks to his extensive background in human resources and corporate training. Ralph received a B.S. in Business Administration from Creighton University in 1992. He obtained an MBA from Bellevue University in 2002, and an M.S. in Negotiation and Dispute Resolution from Creighton University in 2009. In 2012 Ralph received a B.S. in Human Resources Management from Bellevue University earning cum-lade designation. He also holds the Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) as well as the Senior Certified Professional (SCP) designation. Ralph works as a keynote speaker and workshop presenter. In 2022, Ralph was a keynote speaker for McLean and Company on the topic of employee well-being. He has also presented at TEDx Omaha and spoke on the topic of normalizing mental health conversations in the workplace.



SESSIONS & BIOS

Legislative Update and How Governments Can Work Together

Participants will discuss the major legislative issues impacting municipalities in the 2023 Legislature. Specific focus will be given to bills that were enacted into law and those that the Nebraska League of Municipalities worked on with other political subdivisions. Key topics discussed will include but are not limited to bills that impact municipalities, including “constitutional carry”, broadband updates, tax incremental financing, and transparency in government.

Christy Abraham

Christy is the legal counsel for the League of Nebraska Municipalities where she helps municipalities on issues such as budget concerns, economic development, and open meetings and public records. Before joining the League in 2016, Christy worked for 16 years in the Nebraska Legislature as legal counsel for the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee as well as the Revisor of Statutes office. She is married and her daughter is graduating from high school which means she has spent the last year softly weeping and wondering how kids can grow up so fast.

Building Relationships to Deal with Drought Issues in Nebraska

Participants will be able to properly utilize the tools that the High Plains Regional Climate Center (HPRCC) and National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) have at their disposal to understand climate and drought data to aid in the creation of informed decisions. Key topics discussed will include but are not limited to HPRCC, NDMC, US Drought Monitor, and Water Deficit Trends.

Daniel Whitesel

Daniel recently moved to Nebraska from Kentucky to work for the High Plains Regional Climate Center and the National Drought Mitigation Center. Daniel earned a B.S. in meteorology from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky. He also earned his M.S. in Natural Resource Science with a specialty in Climate Assessment and Impacts from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



Nebraska City County Management Association
Papillion Landing, NE



SESSIONS & BIOS

Recent Developments in Municipal Finance

Participants will discuss approaches to financing city and county projects that are less frequently used but which may prove useful to local communities. Discussion will focus on methods to help facilitate nonprofit projects, as well as some limitations on those methods, all through the lens of what is legally permitted under Nebraska law. Key topics will include but are not limited to:

- Sales tax and bonds for municipal purpose of a city
- Entities formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act and how interlocal entities can be used to finance projects for cities and counties
- Public and Private Partnerships 63-20 Corporations (Leasing Corporations or Facilities Corporations)
- Tax-exempt tax increment financing

Mike Rogers

Mike is a partner in the Omaha office of Gilmore & Bell and leads the firm's Nebraska practice. Gilmore & Bell specializes in public finance transactions, with a national reputation and one of the largest public finance practices in the country. For more than 25 years, Gilmore Bell has ranked in the top 10 nationally in the number of bond counsel opinions rendered on municipal bond issues. In 2022, the firm delivered the approving opinion on 336 long-term municipal issues aggregating \$7.72 billion in principal amount.

Mike has been active in the public finance area since 2001, almost exclusively in Nebraska, and primarily serves as bond counsel on governmental and 501(c)(3) financings. Mike received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Doane College in 1997 and his J.D. (with distinction) from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 2000. Mike grew up in Randolph, Nebraska, and lives in Omaha with his wife and three children.



Nebraska City County Management Association
Papillion Landing, NE

OUR SPONSORS

A BIG THANKS TO OUR 2023 SPONSORS

Level 4



Level 3



Level 2



Level 1

