



**Spring 2024 Conference**  
**Embassy Suites Cool Springs Hotel, Franklin**  
**AGENDA**

(All meetings are in the Chestnut/Poplar/Redbud/Sycamore room unless otherwise noted)

Wednesday, April 17

9:00 President's Introduction

9:10 TDOT's New Access Management Manual – TDOT Civil Engineer Manager Michelle Nickerson

TDOT's "Highway System Access Manual" provides guidance on land use, procedures on intersection control selection, and the design of access points. The Manual was developed in accordance with National Best Practices and is tailored to the needs of Tennessee. Join TDOT Civil Engineer Manager Michelle Nickerson to find out about the Manual and how it can help cities.

10:00 Introduction of Students and First-Time Attendees

10:10 Break

10:30 Is it the Jetsons or Gen Z?: Creating an Out of this World Workplace for the Future – Danette Scudder, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, The Tennessee Valley Public Power Association

There are 5 generations in the workplace today – each with differing value systems and priorities. That means there is potential for miscommunication, conflict and confusion. At the same time, the diversity of thought, capabilities and expertise that a cross-generational team can bring to the table can take creativity, innovation and problem solving to a new level. In this session we will explore what drives – and divides – the different generations with a goal of creating a better understanding of how we can bridge the generation gap to create resilient organizations.

11:50 Gold Level Sponsor C-Spire (Hollye Massey)

12:00 Networking Lunch

1:30 Platinum Level Sponsor Cumberland Securities (John Werner)

Gold Level Sponsor McGill Associates

1:45 Recovering Californian - Carolyn Xavier

We need a little comedy, and Carolyn is here to help. She is a fast-rising addition to the Tennessee stand-up scene. Currently living in Nashville by way of Los Angeles, but don't let her California blood fool you. Carolyn's clean-cut humor and witty takes on her newfound love of southern culture will leave you wanting more. Feel free to laugh to your heart's content during this fun session.

2:40 Platinum Level Sponsor the Perfection Group (Matt Callahan)

2:50 Break

3:10 A Panel Discussion: What to Expect if You Find Yourself in Transition – Moderated by Spring Hill City Administrator Pam Caskie

Many of us have found ourselves “in-transition,” survived it, and even come out stronger for the experience. But what is it like, what can you expect, what pitfalls should you be aware of when it happens to you, and what advice can help pull you through to become a better and wiser manager? In this session we will hear answers to these questions from a panel of TCMA members who have found themselves in-transition and are willing to share their experiences.

4:10 Committee Meetings

5:00 Hospitality Suite – Rooms 219/220

Graciously supported by Cumberland Securities with hosts John Werner and Joe Ayres Jr., will be open until 11:00. Come join your friends for snacks, drinks, and excellent conversation.

6:00 Evening Social Event until 9:00

Join your colleagues in the Whiskey and Royal Rooms at *Kings Dining & Entertainment*, 1910 Galleria Blvd (adjacent to Cool Springs Mall) for an evening of fun including karaoke and unlimited gaming of pool, air hockey, foosball, shuffleboard, pop-a-shot basketball, darts, and more - while enjoying gourmet pizza, appetizers, and beverages. The event starts at 6:00 p.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m. Buses will leave from the front of the hotel beginning at 5:50 p.m. and will continue to shuttle back and forth until 9:00. There is plenty of parking on-site should you want to drive. This is a ticketed event.

Thursday, April 18

9:00 President's Welcome

9:05 Fraud: Like Other Stuff... It Happens – MTAS Finance Consultant Cassie Wheeler and MTAS Finance Program Manager Eric Spencer

You may not believe it, but fraud could happen to you. This presentation will give real-life examples of fraud and show us techniques to prevent and detect it in our cities.

10:10 Break

10:30 Expanding Fire Alarm Ordinance Programs – Joseph Estey, National Law Enforcement Liaison, The Security Industry Alarm Coalition

Join us to learn about the Security Industry Alarm Coalition and how they can help you. SIAC has worked with law enforcement agencies across the country for the past 20+ years at no cost. They focus on “Alarm Management.” From model policies, ordinance development and adoption to assisting with enforcement of ordinances and reducing the number of false alarms, SIAC has helped dozens of communities. They have had a presence in Tennessee for several years.

11:15 Happenings at TML and the State Legislature – Anthony Haynes, TML Executive Director

Find out what's been going on at the State Legislature during this session, and what has happened that will affect cities. Also learn about new happenings within TML itself.

12:00 Lunch

Lunch will be served in the Birch/Maple/Oak/Hickory rooms. Committee reports will also be given at this time.

1:20 Platinum Sponsor Sherrill Morgan (Mark Morgan)

1:30 Braver Angels – Debra Fish, Braver Angels

Life has never been easy for public officials, but these days it seems especially difficult, as America has become increasingly divided, and civility seems to be disappearing at an alarming rate. Braver Angels was founded six years ago as a civic renewal movement to address this very problem. In this session, you'll learn more about Braver Angels and learn skills you can use when dealing with challenging constituents.

2:30 City of Franklin Projects Tour

Don't miss this tour of two City of Franklin projects. First, we will check out the updated water reclamation facility, which includes a bio-solid treatment component that is one of the first of its kind in the U.S. Then you will tour the Harlinsdale Farm, which is both a historical site but also a vital "central park" just north of downtown Franklin. Buses will load from the front of the hotel at 2:30 sharp.

5:00 Hospitality Suite – Rooms 219/220

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Friday, April 19

9:00 Happenings at ICMA – ICMA Southeast Regional Director Randy Reid

Find out what's been happening at ICMA and how that can benefit our members.

9:20 Artificial Intelligence: Relax, it not Skynet... yet. - Tony Tolstedt and Dan Allen, Spring Hill Assistant City Administrators

The presentation will delve into the transformative power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in revolutionizing city management. The focus will be on two critical areas: the general use of AI across various city services and the automation of processes to enhance efficiency and accuracy. The session will explore how AI technologies, including machine learning and natural language processing, can be leveraged to optimize municipal resources and services. The presentation will illustrate how AI can free up valuable staff time for strategic decision-making and innovation.

Attendees will gain insights into best practices, potential challenges, and strategies for adopting AI in their operations. If you can, bring your computer and be prepared for hands-on learning as well.

11:20 Evaluation and Conference Conclusion