



Every quarter we will feature a photo from one of our member governments. This quarter: Evendale

Highlights of this Issue:

- New CLG Annual Survey and Pay Data Format
- ELGL Comes to Town
- Traffic Calming Lending Bank Launches
- CLG Electricity Bid Renewing Soon
- News from Liberty Twp, Washington Twp and Springboro
- Trenton Joins CLG



Regular Features:

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The Center for Local Government 3rd Quarter Newsletter

2019 Fall Luncheon Celebrates 6th CLG Leadership Academy

The 2019 CLG Fall Luncheon took place in Mid-September at the Phalen Center at the City of Fairfield. As always, the highlight of this luncheon was celebrating our most recent CLG Leadership Academy graduates. We graduated our 114th Leadership Academy participant this year, with 42 governments now being able to state they have a Leadership Academy graduate on their staff. Indeed, 24 governments have multiple graduates, with some having up to 7 or 8.

It has been an exciting year for the Academy outside of the realm of our students and classes as well: We were recognized with the OCMA 2019 Intergovernmental Cooperation Award this year, and we were asked to speak at the Ohio Municipal Clerks Association annual conference so that similar programs can potentially be developed in other parts of the state. We are excited to see the Leadership Academy continue to grow and prosper. We look forward to hosting for many more years.

With this year's Fall Luncheon in the books, we are also looking forward to trying a new format for 2020. In light of it being CLG's 30th Anniversary, we are going to combine the Annual Meeting and Fall Luncheon into one large event next September. We are already in the preliminary planning stages (identifying a speaker and location, etc.), and of course more details will be revealed next summer as we get closer to the event.

However, to close out this year, we would like to again thank the City of Fairfield for hosting the Fall Luncheon, the Miami Valley Risk Management Association for being our co-sponsor of the Leadership Academy, and most importantly all of our participating governments for their continued support of this program.



CLG Leadership Academy Class 6



The Center for Local GOVERNMENT

4015 Executive Park Dr. Suite 216
Sharonville, OH 45241

ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION:

The Center for Local Government (CLG) located in Cincinnati, OHIO is a unique non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, created in 1990 as a clearing-house for inter-governmental collaboration, training and information sharing. CLG membership consists of 54 local government in 6 counties.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Effective Governance Through Collaboration



STAFF (L to R)

Jeremy Worley, Program Development Director,
jworley@C4LG.org
T.J. White, Executive Director, twhite@C4LG.org
Lori Stuckey, Program and Data Coordinator,
llstuckey@C4LG.org

NEW CLG ANNUAL SURVEY AND PAY DATA FORMAT LAUNCHES THIS MONTH

The newly redesigned “CLG Datacenter” will go live later this month. The goals of this redesign are simplicity, ease of use, and the addition of primary source material when compared to the old system. The datacenter redesign will feature more tabs to help get you to the information you need with as little obstacles along the way. This will allow the spreadsheets generated by the datacenter to be smaller, and eliminates the need to filter out large sections of information not pertinent to the information you seek. Once we launch the new datacenter, we will be interested in your feedback. The new tabs include:

Service Profile

- Basic demographic information such as population, government type and utilities operated by municipality.

Employee Census

- Employee head counts by department and FT/PT status, a list of departments staffed by municipality, who is unionized.

Budgets

- A direct link to budget documents uploaded by the user.

Tax Rates

- Property tax both full and effective, income tax rates, other levies, JEDZ information.

Employee Leave

- Sick and personal leave policies and details regarding amounts, conversion rates and eligibility and comp time policies.

Overtime

- OT qualifications and caps, pay out policies.

Pay Increases

- How increases are set, when they are paid out and how frequently they are updated.

Part Time Employees

- Definition, benefit eligibility, seasonal staff, PT Fire and police.

Holidays

- A list of holidays observed by each participant.

General Health Insurance Info

- Self/Fully insured, types of plans offered, opt-out incentives, spousal options, Health and Wellness overview, HSA policies.

Health Insurance Plans

- Detailed information including costs, coverage limits, employee contribution amounts, deductibles, and copays.

Dental/Vision/Life/Disability Plans

- Each of these categories will have it's own page detailing employee contributions, and coverage.

Pay Data

- This tab will remain mostly unchanged from the current datacenter minus eliminating a few columns that were not in frequent use.

CAO Pay Data

- This tab to remain unchanged from the current datacenter.

Finally, THANK YOU to everyone who filled out the Annual Survey this year. Your responses will be saved so that next year you only have to log in and update any changes.



ENGAGING LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERS (ELGL) ROAD TRIP COMES TO TOWN

Academic research from the late 1990's and early 2000's showed that first suburbs were increasingly facing large city issues—depopulation, aging housing stock, deindustrialization, increasing poverty, and disinvestment. Then the Great Recession of 2008 hit, and the unique challenges facing first suburbs reverted to the policy shadows as all types of local governments faced grave economic challenges. More than a decade after the Great Recession, what is the state of first suburbs? On September 27th, Silverton Village Manager Tom Carroll presented on the current social and economic conditions of 33 suburbs in Hamilton County, Ohio as part of the Engaging Local Government Leaders (ELGL) Roadshow.

The data show that our region's first suburbs are on two tracts: one of stability and the other of decline, albeit at differing rates. Mr. Carroll went into detail about what is causing that stability and/or decline, as well as worked to identify strategies to help mitigate any decline that is occurring. Recommendations were wide ranging, with some of the significant ones including making revitalization part of the budgeting process (e.g. having an operating, capital, and revitalization budget); have a housing plan, which looks at items such as housing costs and housing stock needs; be welcoming to newcomers and help them plant roots in the community, identify poverty service gaps, identify developable tracts of land, and other solutions. The presentation materials for this session will soon be available through ELGL and will be distributed upon request. Thank you to all who attended.



Tom Carroll Presents during the ELGL Roadshow

CLG CONDUCTS CENSUS TRAINING

The 2020 US Census will have a deep effect on all communities in our area, deciding **legislative district lines, \$675 billion in federal funding, city vs. village status**, and a host of other issues. The Center for Local Government recently partnered with the U.S. Census Bureau to conduct a 2 hour training for local governments to help prepare for the census in 2020. *This was a free training thanks to the Duke Energy Foundation.* Everyone at the Center appreciates their help on the event.

The main goal of the session was to help governments identify ways to ensure that their counts are as accurate as possible. One of the major tools to accomplish that second goal is the formation of a Complete Count Committee (CCC). A CCC is comprised of a broad spectrum of government and community leaders from multiple sectors (healthcare, business, etc.). This group develops a 2020 Census Awareness campaign based on their knowledge of their local community. Locally, the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County are forming a CCC to raise overall awareness of the Census and to develop strategies to get a good count of historically undercounted communities. Similar efforts are taking place in the Dayton area and elsewhere. More information about these groups will be shared by CLG as the census moves forward.

The US Census Bureau also utilized this training session to introduce their Partnership Specialists. We encourage you to reach out to your partnership specialist and introduce yourself so that you can be assured of obtaining the best Census information moving forward: Hamilton/Clermont: Lauren Taylor (Lauren,a,taylor@2020census.gov) and Tyla Ward (tyla.r.ward@2020census.gov); Butler/Warren: Carolyn Tepe (Carolyn.m.tepe@2020census.gov) and Carie Schultz (carie.L.schultz@2020census.gov); Montgomery: Janice Atwater (janice.c.atwater@2020census.gov), Donald Sanders (Donald.sanders@2020census.gov), and Carie Schultz (see above).



Training participants take place in a group exercise.

TRAFFIC CALMING LENDING BANK LAUNCHES

A problem that is affecting all of our communities is speeding drivers. In Colerain Township, they receive a multitude of complaints about speeding from residents year-round. They conduct extra speed patrols in areas having complaints, and often receive input to install speed bumps or speed humps, which can be effective but also produce other issues when it comes to police and fire. Based on their experiences with design based traffic calming tests, they approached CLG about creating a traffic calming lending bank. We are proud to announce that after a summer of development, this program recently launched!

The Lending Bank is a virtual library where communities can borrow traffic calming equipment from each other, under the condition that they return the equipment undamaged and are willing to share the results of their traffic calming pilot project with the other participants. CLG developed an MOU that sets the policies and procedures for this program. Participating governments are currently providing detailed information about what traffic calming equipment they have available so that CLG can build the library itself. Once completed, this will be hosted on the CLG website, along with a database of the results of these pilot projects.

The database of results is an integral part of this effort: The majority of traffic calming efforts are enforcement efforts instead of design efforts. While enforcement is a valid temporary measure, one of the initial goals of the traffic calming library project was to provide governments with the wherewithal to conduct short pilot project that test out new road designs to calm traffic (e.g. Colerain's chicane system), which could lead to permanent design changes, freeing up law enforcement officers to conduct enforcement in other areas.

If you are interested in learning more about how to participate in this program, contact us at TWhite@C4LG.org or 513-741-7999.

CLG ELECTRICITY FACILITY BID COMING IN EARLY 2020

The CLG Facility Electricity Consortium consists of 11 governments who share in the cost of their facility and street lighting electricity bills. Governments have the option of a combined bill for both their facilities and streetlights or separate facility and streetlight rates. Governments also have the option to obtain their electricity from either coal or wind sources. CLG last bid this project in 2017 with Eagle Energy as broker. At the time, the bid resulted in over \$30,000 in savings from the previous CLG contract. (All contracts under this program have shown a savings from the previous contract). The current consortium contract is up in May of 2020. CLG has been working with its broker, Affordable Gas and Electric (AGE) to prepare for this next bid. (Note that Eagle Energy was purchased by AGE. Eagle brokered the 2017 deal).

At this stage, it is premature to discuss what the projected rates or term of the new contract will be, but generally CLG Electricity Consortium contracts last for 30-36 months depending on the market. We do know that we will likely pursue the same contract structure as was done in the previous deal (options for separate street light and facility rates or combined / options for green power).

The governments who are currently in the consortium will meet later in October to assess the current electricity market and decide what direction they would like to take with their next bid. After that meeting, CLG will open this program up to any other member community who wishes to participate. Any CLG member community is eligible to join the consortium as long as they are in the Duke Energy Service Area. More information will be forthcoming once the planning meeting is held with the current participants.

UPCOMING TRAININGS—HR AND AP LUNCHEON

The Fall Administrative Professionals Luncheon will take place at Miami Township (6101 Meijer Dr. Miami Twp., OH) on October 15th. The topic of the event will be what to do in the event of an active shooter. It will be presented by Miami Township Police Officer Skip Rasfeld, who has ALICE training, and is also a school resource officer. For more information, contact Lori Stuckey at LStuckey@C4LG.org. Event cost is \$20. RSVP by October 9th to Lori.

The Fall Human Resources Luncheon will take place on Thursday November 7th. The topic will be how to regulate medical marijuana from a human resources perspective. The presenter will be Alexander Ewing from Frost Brown Todd. Cost and RSVP information will be released soon, but if you have any questions in the short term, please contact Jeremy Worley at JWorley@C4LG.org. We look forward to seeing you at both of these events!



SPRINGBORO CENTRAL CROSSROADS REDEVELOPMENT IS SPURRING RESULTS

Four years ago, the City of Springboro embarked on a major redevelopment project at the central crossroads of the community (the intersection of State Route 741 and State Route 73). The roadway intersection was in need of expansion, and the 6.2-acre former IGA development directly adjacent was soon to be in a state of disrepair. The City first made the decision to upgrade the roadway intersection, spending almost \$4 million in City funds to do so. After an 18 month process, in conjunction with ODOT, MVRPC and the Warren County Transportation Improvement District, those upgrades were accomplished – including widening the intersection for improved traffic flow, two (2) northbound lanes onto SR 741 from SR 73, continuous flow right turn movements in two directions and pedestrian access upgrades. Around the same time, the City decided to purchase the 6.2 acre former IGA property to ensure its viability and to begin to redevelop the property for the future.

Plans were put forth to the community for an “urban center” redesign of the property, providing ease of walkability, as well as a public anchor and the opportunity for future retail and office development. Public meetings were held and internet surveys of the community helped to shape the final redevelopment plan that was adopted by Council. The name of the redevelopment - Wright Station – was chosen to recognize the founder of Springboro Jonathan Wright, as well as recognize Springboro’s role on the Underground Railroad (“station”).

Fast forward to today. Recently, the City opened its new 16,000 square foot Springboro Performing Arts Center (PAC) as the public anchor for the property. The PAC currently houses the Springboro Community Theatre in a 142-seat, 8,000 square foot community theatre space, the Springboro Chamber of Commerce and the Center Stage Dance Studio. The first commercial tenant for Wright Station was recently announced as well. Warped Wing will construct a 20,000 square foot brew pub on the property. Warped Wing will move all its distribution to the site as well as conduct their R & D for new brews and offer a full restaurant with indoor and outdoor seating. The public response to this announcement has been overwhelmingly positive! Warped Wing plans to open by June 2020.

The City hopes that these first two buildings on the site will encourage more business opportunities, as well as more amenities for our residents to enjoy. City Manager Chris Pozzuto stated “It has been exciting to see the project grow from its infancy to what it is today. And the future looks to be even more exciting at our central crossroads!”



Routes 741 and 73 in Springboro

The Springboro Performing Arts Center



Rendering of the new Warped Wing Brewpub coming to Springboro





LIBERTY TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDED SAFER GRANT: 9 FULL-TIME POSITIONS TO BE ADDED IN 2020

The Liberty Township Fire Department (LTFD) has been awarded the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant from the Department of Homeland Security. The grant will reimburse \$1.36 million over the next three years for the additional staffing of nine new full-time Firefighter/EMT positions.

Fire Chief Ethan Klussman and his department applied for the grant earlier this year as a means to maximize staffing while minimizing the budget's impact. It's also a partial solution to the ongoing challenge of finding and retaining part-time employees. With the grant, the LTFD will reduce its reliance on part-time personnel from six per day to three per day.

"This is excellent news for the Liberty Township Fire Department, and I want to commend Battalion Chief Rob Morton who took the lead on the grant application. We've been working towards a plan which would add career Firefighter/EMT positions, and being awarded FEMA's SAFER grant allows us to expedite our process. Adding nine full-time positions will allow us to provide the consistent personnel we need to run the department more efficiently," said Klussman.

The SAFER grant provides funding for 75% of the salary and benefits of an entry-level firefighter for the first two years. In year three, the grant covers 35% of the new hire's salary and benefits.

"We've got to give credit to Chief Klussman and his team for identifying the opportunity and being awarded the grant amongst significant national competition. When we hired the Chief two years ago, we charged him with developing a future path for the LTFD. His initiative and commitment to finding long-term solutions to ongoing challenges has been impressive," said Steve Schramm, President, Liberty Township Board of Trustees.

The LTFD has been working on a plan to add career Firefighter/EMT positions. Because of this advanced planning, the Township is confident of its abilities to support the staffing profile beyond the three years of grant funding.

"Congratulations to Chief Klussman and his team at the Liberty Township Fire Department. The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant is a competitive grant program administered by FEMA. Chief Klussman contacted my office early this year to inform us of the township's application. I was happy to provide a letter of support. With this award, Liberty Township will be able to hire 9 additional first responders to protect and serve its residents and visitors," said Congressman Warren Davidson.

Since Fiscal Year 2004 the Department of Homeland Security, through FEMA, has been awarding the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Act to fire departments across the country. This Congressional Act provides funding to fire departments for the purpose of increasing the number of firefighters to help their communities meet industry-minimum standards and attain 24-hour staffing to provide adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards.

CLG WELCOMES TRENTON INTO THE MEMBERSHIP FOLD

We are excited to announce that the City of Trenton recently joined CLG as our 55th member. Trenton is a city in North Central Butler County with a population of roughly 13,000. Trenton's City Manager is Marcos Nichols. Prior to his tenure in Trenton, Mr. Nichols was the Civil Service and Personnel Department Director for the City of Hamilton and is a CLG Leadership Academy graduate. Please reach out to Mr. Nichols and introduce yourself now that Trenton is in the CLG family. He can be reached at mnichols@ci.trenton.oh.us.

We thank the City of Trenton for joining the Center, and we look forward to working with them as we move forward. More information about Trenton can be found at www.ci.trenton.oh.us.

Welcome aboard!



Trenton City Manager Marcos Nichols



SUPER SATURDAY HAS BECOME A USEFUL TRADITION FOR WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

When Washington Township launched its first Super Saturday in spring 2013, it was clear that the township had connected to a community need. Well over 1,000 residents turned out for the free weekend event which consolidated three services – document shredding, drug drop off and child safety seat checks. In total, 1,177 vehicles passed through the gate of the township's public works garage to drop off sensitive papers and data storage materials for safe and secure disposal. Meanwhile, two doors away in the bay of Fire Station 45, residents dropped off 468 pounds of medications and stopped by to have about 10 child safety seats checked for correct installation.



Since then, Super Saturday has become a ritual of spring, summer and fall that consistently draws strong attendance. In 2018, residents dropped off 133,500 pounds of sensitive documents for secure shredding and 1,542 pounds of drugs, inhalers and Sharps containers. In addition, a small portion of the fire department's 387 safety seat checks took place at Super Saturday.

Pulling all three services together into one event has proved to be convenient for residents who can attend to two or three errands at one time. For both drug drop off and shredding, residents do not ever need to leave their vehicles.

Super Saturday also has provided greater visibility for these three individual services and encouraged greater participation. Marketing is simpler and more effective because several opportunities are pulled into one.

Because Super Saturday events are well attended, they provide a useful opportunity to disseminate information to our residents. At every event, identity theft information is distributed and a deputy is on hand to answer questions and give further advice. The events also have provided an opportunity to offer residents a wide range of print materials on current topics that have ranged from recreation programming to fire, recreation, police and public works levies.

Equally important, Super Saturday shows government in action, going beyond typical government roles to provide a service that residents have overwhelmingly embraced.



Presenting the event requires interdepartmental cooperation and has encouraged teamwork. Three departments -- fire, police and public works -- meld their schedules for Super Saturday. A police deputy works alongside public works employees at the shred, while fire and police staff assist one another at drug drop off.

In the end, everyone benefits. Drugs, sensitive documents and data storage items are safely and securely disposed of in an environmentally sound manner. Residents receive critical information about child safety and identity theft. And, with few exceptions, residents drive away with a feeling of satisfaction concerning their local government.



NEWS BITS

CLG is on Social Media

The Center for Local Government has entered the world of social media with a Twitter presence. We can now be found at [@C4LG2018](#). We joined Twitter because we thought that was the best platform to provide information to our audience of local governments and local government staff members / officials. This will supplement our normal communications tools, and will be a good way to get insights from our trainings, meetings, and other initiatives as they happen. We will also use this platform to help inform you about interesting news from our member governments.

Outreach Visits

CLG continues to reach out to governments to schedule the 2019 series of outreach visits. It is the goal of CLG to reach out to all governments by the end of July. This does not mean all outreach visits will be conducted by the end of July, but we would at least like to attempt to contact everyone by then. This year's outreach visits will focus on four primary topics: Learning what is going on in your community, updating you on CLG activities, identifying any special projects or needs where CLG may be of help; and determining if there are trends from the outreach visits that may lead to new program development. Thank you for your time!

Public Works Mutual Aid

If you are a member of the CLG Public Works Mutual Aid Pact, keep an eye on your e-mails. The 2019-2021 Public Works Mutual Aid Book will be distributed in early October. This book will be e-mailed to each government who is in the pact, and will also be available on the CLG member log-in page.

Additionally, CLG is excited to welcome new members into the pact: The City of Springboro, Washington Township, and The Village of Cleves. If your government is interested in learning more, please contact TWhite@C4LG.org.

CLG CALENDAR

Managing the Discipline Process Workshop, presented by MVRMA, October 10, 2019, at City of Sidney Police (234 W. Court St., Sidney, OH 45365), 9:00am-3:30pm, \$40 for MVRMA, MVCC & CLG Members, Contact [Starr Markworth](#) with any questions, and [click here](#) to register.

Administrative Professionals Luncheon, October 15, 2019 at Miami Township Administration Bldg (6101 Meijer Drive, Miami Township, OH), 11:30-1:00, Cost is \$20, [click here](#) to see flyer, please RSVP to [Lori Stuckey](#) by 10/9/2019

Forklift Training, presented by MVCC, October 15, 2019, 8:30-1pm at Troy Miami Industrial Truck (1101 Horizon West Ct. Troy, OH), Fee:\$55 for MVCC Members/\$65 Affiliates & Partner Members, register at [mvcc.training](#)

Bulletproof Leadership, Tools for Improving Morale, Accountability & Performance, sponsored by MVRMA and presented by National Speaker Chief Ron Glidden (RET.), October 15, 2019 at City of Centerville Police Dept (155 W. Spring Valley Rd, Centerville, OH), registration and breakfast at 8:30, Program 9:00am-4:00pm (lunch on your own). Cost is \$100 for MVRMA, MVCC and CLG members, \$150 for non-members. Contact [Starr Markworth](#) with any questions, and register at [www.mvrma.com](#)

APSO Supervisor Snow and Ice Luncheon, presented by MVCC, October 16, 2019, 11:30am-1:30pm, location TBD,

OMAA/OML Webinar: Financial Tools Available to Municipalities to Fund Infrastructure Improvements, presented by MVCC, October 17, 2019, 9:00am-12:30pm, at Miami Valley Communications Council (1195 East Alex Bell Rd, Centerville, OH) No cost for MVCC Members/\$10 Affiliate & Partner Members/\$20 Non members, [click here](#) to register

Diversity Training - Creating a Work Place with Diverse Culture and Inclusion, resented by MVRMA, October 23, 2019 at Home2Suites in Centerville (5161 Cornerstone North Blvd, Centerville, OH 45440), 10am-12:00 or 1:30-3:30pm. Cost is \$25 for MVRMA, MVCC and CLG members, \$35 for non-members. Go to [www.mvrma.com](#) to register. [Click here](#) to see flyer for more information.

Performance Management Essentials, presented by MVCC, October 30, 2019, 9:00am-12:30pm, at Miami Valley Communications Council (East Alex Bell Rd, Centerville, OH), MVCC Members \$35/ Affiliate & Partner Members \$45, [click here](#) to register

Aerial Equipment Operator Safety Training, presented by MVCC, November 12, 2019 at Dayton Miami Industrial (2830 East River Rd, Dayton, OH) or **November 14, 2019** at Troy Miami Industrial Truck (1101 Horizon West Ct., Troy, OH), 8:30am-1:00pm, \$55 for MVCC Members, /\$65 Affiliates & Partners, [click here](#) to register