



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

# NYSAC

## 2026 Fall Seminar

September 28-30, 2026 • Syracuse, NY • Onondaga County



**STRONG COUNTIES. STRONGER NEW YORK.**

### ★ WORKSHOP TRACKS & SESSIONS ★



#### FUTURE-READY COUNTY GOVERNMENT



##### From Hype to Impact: Implementing AI in County Operations

Artificial intelligence is rapidly changing how governments deliver services, manage information, and support decision-making. Learn practical strategies for evaluating AI tools, managing risks, and identifying opportunities that are being leveraged by counties to improve efficiency and service delivery in county government.



##### Connecting Communities: County-Owned Broadband Solutions

Reliable broadband access is essential for economic growth, education, healthcare, and public safety. Explore how counties are developing, expanding, and managing broadband infrastructure to close connectivity gaps and strengthen communities.



##### Systems Mind-Meld: Improving Services Through Arrest Data

Counties often collect important data in separate systems that rarely communicate with one another. Learn how Westchester County uses arrest and fingerprint data to connect behavioral health, probation, and criminal justice systems, providing near real-time information that helps coordinate services, identify emerging needs, and improve outcomes for residents involved in the justice system.



##### When the Attack Comes: County Cybersecurity Response Simulation

Cyberattacks can disrupt essential county services and put sensitive information at risk. Through an interactive simulation, participants will explore response strategies, communication protocols, and leadership decisions that can help counties prepare for and recover from cybersecurity incidents.



#### GOVERNANCE, ETHICS & PUBLIC TRUST



##### Public Records, Public Trust: What County Leaders Need to Know About FOIL

Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests are a critical component of transparent government. This session will review key requirements, shared challenges, and best practices for balancing public access with legal obligations and operational realities.



##### Leading with Integrity: Ethics Challenges and Best Practices

County leaders face complex ethical decisions that can impact public confidence and organizational culture. Examine real-world scenarios and learn practical approaches for promoting accountability, transparency, and ethical leadership.



##### Better Meetings, Better Governance: Robert's Rules and Beyond!

Effective meetings are essential to sound decision-making and public trust. Learn strategies for managing meetings efficiently, navigating parliamentary procedures, and fostering productive discussion among elected officials and stakeholders.



##### Procurement Reimagined: Faster, Smarter, More Effective Purchasing

Counties are under increasing pressure to deliver services efficiently while maintaining compliance and accountability. Explore innovative procurement practices, emerging technologies, and strategies that can streamline purchasing and maximize taxpayer value.



LEARN from experts and peers



SHARE Ideas and solutions



CONNECT across counties and communities



EXPLORE new concepts



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#### WORKFORCE & LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE



##### Winning the Talent Challenge: Recruiting and Retaining Top Employees

Competition for skilled workers continues to challenge public-sector employers. Learn innovative recruitment strategies, retention practices, and workforce development approaches that can help counties attract and keep talented employees.



##### Developing Tomorrow's County Leaders Today

Strong leadership pipelines are critical for organizational success and continuity. Discover how counties can identify Emerging leaders, invest in professional development, and prepare for the next generation of public servants.



##### Creating a Culture Where Employees Thrive

A positive workplace culture supports employee engagement, performance, and retention. Explore practical strategies for building trust, improving morale, and creating an environment where employees can succeed and grow.



##### The Art of Influence: Presentation Skills for Public Leaders

Whether speaking to residents, colleagues, or policymakers, effective communication is a core leadership skill. Gain techniques for delivering compelling presentations, communicating with confidence, and engaging diverse audiences.



##### Conflict to Collaboration: Communication Skills for County Leaders

Difficult conversations are inevitable in public service. Learn communication tools and conflict-resolution strategies that help leaders build consensus, strengthen relationships, and navigate challenging situations constructively.



#### COUNTY FINANCE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



##### Growing Local Economies: Tools for Community Prosperity

Counties play a vital role in creating conditions for economic growth and opportunity. Explore strategies, partnerships, and development tools that can support business growth, workforce expansion, and long-term community prosperity.



##### Balancing Priorities: Real-World County Budget Solutions Roundtable Discussion

County budgets require balancing competing demands, limited resources, and evolving community needs. Join a peer-driven discussion to share challenges, compare approaches, and explore practical solutions for sustainable fiscal management.



##### Data-Driven Decisions: Using Analytics to Improve County Outcomes

Leverage data and analytics to identify trends, measure impact, and drive better outcomes for residents. Discover how counties are using data to make smarter, more informed decisions.



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#### HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, PUBLIC SAFETY & COMMUNITY



##### **Building Strong Starts for Children and Families**

Early investments in children and families can have lasting impacts on community well-being. Learn about programs, partnerships, and policies that support healthy development, strengthen families, and improve outcomes for future generations.



##### **Federal SNAP Changes: Impacts on County Budgets, Nutrition, & the Local Economy**

Changes to federal nutrition assistance programs can affect residents, county operations, and local economies. This session will examine recent and proposed SNAP policy changes and discuss their implications for counties across New York State.



##### **Strengthening EMS for the Future**

Emergency Medical Services providers face workforce shortages, funding challenges, and increasing demand. Explore strategies for building resilient EMS systems that ensure timely, high-quality care.



##### **Protecting Our Communities: The County Role in Public Health**

Explore county strategies for disease prevention, emergency preparedness, and public health partnerships.



##### **Emergency Preparedness in a Changing World**

Strengthen county readiness through planning, partnerships, and adaptive response strategies for evolving threats.



#### ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY



##### **Sustainable Counties: Practical Steps for a Greener Future**

Actionable strategies to reduce environmental impact and advance sustainability goals. Learn how counties are leading by example through innovative programs and policies.



##### **Infrastructure That Moves Communities Forward**

Explore innovative funding, planning, and management approaches for critical infrastructure. Learn how counties can build and maintain infrastructure that supports growth and resilience.



##### **County Facilities of the Future**

Discover modern design, technology, and operations strategies for smart, efficient, sustainable facilities. Explore case studies from counties leading the way.



##### **Energy Independence: Local Solutions for a Resilient Future**

Explore how counties can advance energy independence through local renewable energy projects, energy efficiency initiatives, and smart energy management. Learn strategies to reduce costs, increase resilience, and support a cleaner, more sustainable future.



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