

## February 2022 VLGMA eNews

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### **Craig's Corner**

#### **The Future is Here – Are We Ready?**

Here in Montgomery County, our fiscal year 2022-2023 budget season is underway, and I'm sure that nearly all of you are also working on this annual activity. As I was reviewing our budget schedule with our Board a few weeks ago, I realized that this is the 32<sup>rd</sup> year I have been involved in developing a municipal budget – how could that possibly be? And further, considering I was in the private sector for over six years prior to moving into local government as a finance director, just how old am I, and where has the time gone?

### **Civic Engagement**

*By John Hughes, Lynchburg Assistant City Manager*

#### **Engagement through Action**

Community engagement should be Civic Engagement in Action. The VLGMA Civic Engagement Committee's charge is to "...promote civic education and engagement, to help citizens better understand local government, to foster a positive sense of community and to prepare the next generation of local government managers"<sup>[1]</sup> To that end, the ongoing movement dedicated to strengthening neighborhoods in the City of Lynchburg epitomizes this mantra.

### **Registration Closes February 7th**

#### **VLGMA Winter Conference**

#### **"The Big Reveal"**

**February 16-18, 2022, Hotel 24 South in Staunton**

Don't miss this chance to connect with your colleagues and enjoy a great professional development opportunity!

In-person and on-line participation opportunities.

[More info online](#)

### **Certificate News**

Classes begin! Learn more about Spring Information Sessions and congratulate Fall graduates. Find more info on resources and contacts.

### **VA Women's Municipal Leadership Institute**

FIRST ANNUAL Virginia Women's Municipal Leadership Institute. It is being led and coordinated by our own Bonnie Svrcek, who has put her heart and soul, as well as her many years of professional expertise into designing a program to help women move ahead in local government. Please take a look and we hope to see you at the Institute!

The application deadline for the first ever Virginia Women's Municipal Leadership Institute is this Friday, February 4, 2022.

## VRSA supports Virginia Women's Municipal Leadership Institute and VLGMA

Persistence, patience, positive attitude, partnership, and collaboration are all necessary when fostering successful relationships.

Last March, a new organization, Virginia Women Leading Government, began reaching out for possible partners and participants to achieve their goals – one of which was a new training program. VRSA immediately offered support, providing peace of mind as we do for our members, while many details of the conceptual program were being worked out over the following months.

Now with the official launch of the 2022 **Virginia Women's Municipal Leadership Institute**, VRSA is that trusted partner in more way than one.

### Wind Song

The passion to soar or a sweet caress,  
a rambunctious roar or a whimsical playfulness,  
the wind plays invisibly  
pushing us around or exhilarating.

What will it say to me today?  
What secret will it convey?  
The answer, my friend, isn't blowin' in the wind.  
It awaits the stillness within.



## Position Changes And Other Events

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