



Virtual Winter Conference 2021
February 10-12, 2021

**Leading in Challenging Times: Local Impacts of Civil Unrest and A
Global Pandemic**

Wednesday, February 10

10:30 a.m.–12:45 p.m. VLGMA Executive Committee Meeting

1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

Law Enforcement Panel

Moderator: Courtney Sydnor, Deputy County Attorney, County of Loudoun

Sam Roman, Chief of Police, City of Roanoke; Howard Hall, Chief of Police, County of Roanoke; Ron Lantz, Chief of Police, County of Albemarle; Gregory Brown, Chief of Police, Town of Leesburg and Maggie DeBoard, Police Chief, Town of Herndon and President of the VA Association of Chiefs of Police.

In true 2020 fashion, policing has had a tough year. Join these seasoned police chiefs as they discuss collaborating around equity and policing, targeting their hiring process to increase diversity, equity and inclusion, and being “black and blue” in policing. This frank conversation features Maggie DeBoard, President of the VA Association of Chiefs of Police, reviewing legislative issues related to policing.

3:00 p.m.-3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Book Club – *White Fragility*

Co-facilitators:

Felicia Logan, Leadership Development Director, ICMA

Sheryl Bailey, Visiting Professor of Practice, Virginia Tech Local Government Certificate Program

*Engage with Felicia and Sheryl for an interactive dialogue on the book *White Fragility*. *White Fragility: Why It’s so hard for White People to Talk about Racism* is an illuminating examination of how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.*

4:40 p.m.-5:45 p.m.

How I Manage Social

Ed Daley, Senior Advisor, VLGMA/ICMA and Sheryl Bailey, Visiting Professor of Practice, Virginia Tech Local Government Certificate Program

Aretha Ferrell-Benavides, City Manager, City of Petersburg
Steve Owen, Retired City Manager, City of Staunton
Bonnie Svrcek, Retired City Manager, City of Lynchburg

Drop in on veteran administrators as they participate in highly interactive conversations on current topics as is typical for attendees at a VLGMA conference.

Thursday, February 11

7:30 a.m.–8:15 a.m. Civic Engagement Committee Meeting

7:30 a.m.–8:15 a.m. Communications & Networking Committee Meeting

8:30 a.m.–8:45 a.m.

Welcome

Cindy Mester, President, VLGMA, and Deputy City Manager, Falls Church

8:45 a.m.–9:15 a.m.

Remarks on the Future of the Profession

Marc Ott, Executive Director, ICMA

Laura Fitzpatrick, Deputy City Manager, City of Chesapeake and ICMA Board Member

Ray Baray, Chief of Staff, ICMA

Marc will share his thoughts on the impact of the pandemic and civil unrest on the future of local government. Laura will answer questions from conference attendees during the live Q&A.

9:15 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE) Keynote

Jaqueline Tucker, Race and Social Equity Officer, City of Alexandria, GARE Consultant

The Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE) is a national network of governments working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all. Jacqueline will share from her work with GARE in a session designed to help localities small and large participate in the important work of equity and inclusion.

12:00 p.m.–1:15 p.m.

Student / Early Career Professionals: Coaching

Matt Lawless, Town Manager, Town of Scottsville

Much like past coaching sessions, this one is designed to connect students and early career professionals virtually with experienced members.

2:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

Race, Equity and Inclusion Lessons Learned Panel

Moderator and Panelist: Kevin McDonald, Vice President of

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Community Partnerships, UVA

Robin Wilson, Policy Advisor, One Fairfax, County of Fairfax

Jaqueline Tucker, Race and Social Equity Officer, City of Alexandria

Siri Russell, Director, Office of Equity and Inclusion, County of

Albemarle

There is much work to be done with race, equity and inclusion. The panelists will share their experiences of doing this work in their localities and offer practical tips on how your locality can ensure that this important work is done.

- 3:30 p.m.-3:40 p.m. Break
- 3:40 p.m.-4:25 p.m. **General Assembly Financial Update and Q&A**
 K. Joseph Flores, Deputy Secretary of Finance
The pandemic has created incredible financial challenges for local governments. This update will help in future fiscal planning.
- 4:25 p.m.-4:35 p.m. Break
- 4:35 p.m. –5:45 p.m. Social
The winter conference co-chairs have planned a highly interactive and entertaining social.

Friday, February 12

- 7:30 a.m.–8:15 a.m. Member Support Committee Meeting
- 7:30 a.m.–8:15 a.m. Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- 9:00 a.m.–10:00 a.m. Pandemic/Financial Crisis Panel
 Moderator: Charles Hartgrove, Associate Director, Virginia Institute of Government
 Angela Clem, Town Manager, Town of Woodstock
 James Morani, Town Manager, Town of Abingdon
Localities from across the state will talk about the ways the pandemic has manifested in their financial crises and how they are recovering and moving forward.
- 10:00 a.m.-10:10 a.m. Break
- 10:10 a.m.–11:10 a.m. **How a Pandemic and Civil Unrest Changed Local Governments**
 Rebecca Ryan, Economist and Futurist
This highly engaging session will help us all prepare for the ways in which the pandemic and civil unrest has changed the way we work forever.
- 11:10 a.m.–12:15 p.m. VLGMA Business Meeting (for all members)
- 12:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m. Professional Development Committee Meeting