Jane Halstead

From: League of California Cities <communications@cacities.org>

Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:43 PM

To: Jane Halstead

Subject: League Planning a Reimagined Virtual Annual Conference & Expo



July 15, 2020

Dear City Leaders,

The League of California Cities Annual Conference & Expo is one of the most important events of the year for city officials to learn and collaborate on solutions to common challenges and an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments.

With so many factors related to the COVID-19 pandemic still unknown and the health and safety of League members, staff, partners, vendors, and guests as our top priority, the Board Executive Committee has made the decision to transform the annual conference, scheduled Oct. 7-9 in Long Beach, into a virtual event.

Apart from health and safety considerations, we also looked at a variety of factors including the logistical challenges of holding in-person meetings while following local and state orders regarding large gatherings, potential state and local restrictions on travel, and the tremendous pressure on city budgets that could impede your ability to attend an in-person conference.

This was a difficult decision that was not made lightly as we understand the value of gathering face-to-face. However, the League is committed to making this an unparalleled virtual experience with general and breakout sessions, an Expo, and networking opportunities.

While this isn't the way we would have planned it originally, many opportunities emerge in a virtual environment that are impossible in an in-person conference, and we are quite excited about the possibilities of this reimagined experience.

Over the last four months, League staff have worked tirelessly to reinvent how best to serve members in a virtual environment – with advocacy, education, and communication – and member engagement has never been stronger.

Stay tuned for further details about the <u>League's Annual Conference & Expo</u>. We will be sure to communicate additional information as soon as it is available.

Thank you again for your unwavering leadership at this time. Be safe and stay healthy!

Carolyn M. Coleman Executive Director League of California Cities John F. Dunbar President League of California Cities

League of California Cities | 1400 K Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814

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