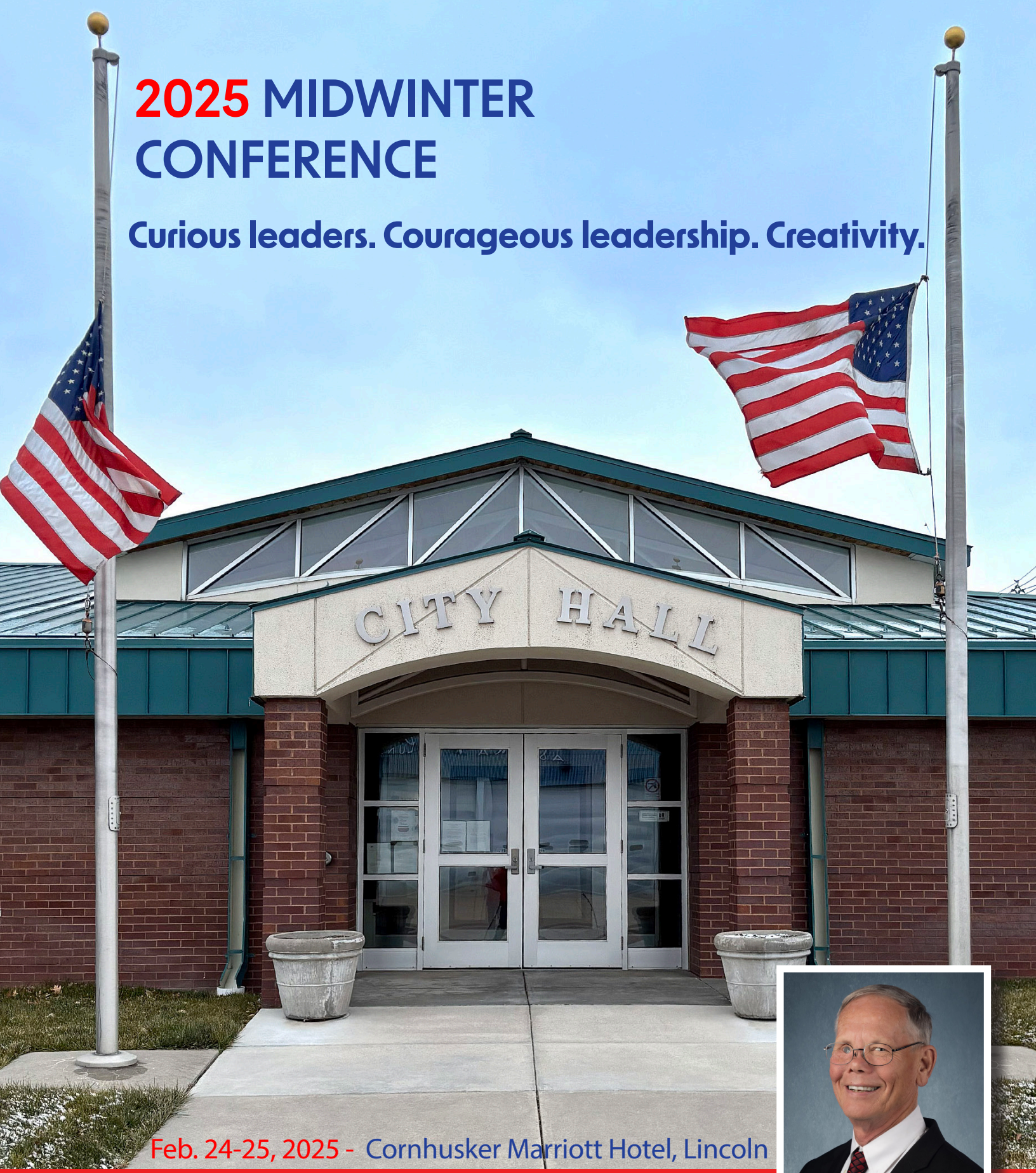
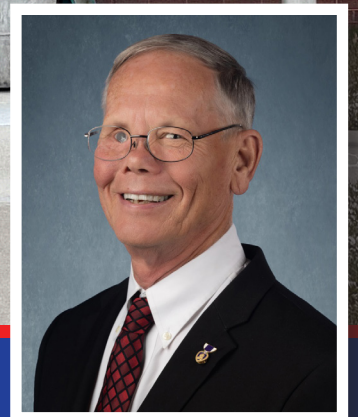


2025 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

Curious leaders. Courageous leadership. Creativity.



Feb. 24-25, 2025 - Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln



League President Marlin Seeman
Mayor of Aurora

2025 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln

February 24-25, 2025



Sponsor Registration

Firm name (as you want it to appear on program): _____

Representatives attending (sponsorship includes registration for up to 3 representatives):

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Additional Representatives (\$50 per person):

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Type of product or service your company provides: _____

Firm Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

PLEASE NOTE: Display tables will be available for setup between 12-8 pm Feb. 23 or the morning of Feb. 24.

Display Backdrop (please check one): Free Standing Display Board _____ Tabletop Display Board _____
 Table for Literature Only _____

Associate Members: (includes registration for up to 3 representatives, **meals are extra**)

	Through Feb. 7	After Feb. 7
_____ Contributing to Conference Sponsor Fund, but no display table	\$300	\$325
_____ Contributing to Conference Sponsor Fund, reserve a display table	\$700	\$775
Sponsorship includes registration for up to 3 representatives; each additional representative x \$50		\$ _____
_____ Number of 110 Volt Outlets needed at \$60 each		\$ _____
_____ Number of 220 Volt Outlets needed at \$100 each		\$ _____
Contact the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel for information about phone lines/fees	Conference Total:	\$ _____

Non-Associate Members: (**PREPAYMENT REQUIRED**; includes registration for up to 3 representatives, **meals are extra**)

	Through Feb. 7	After Feb. 7
_____ Contributing to Conference Sponsor Fund, but no display table	\$425	\$450
_____ Contributing to Conference Sponsor Fund, reserve a display table	\$975	\$1,050
Sponsorship includes registration for up to 3 representatives; each additional representative x \$50		\$ _____
_____ Number of 110 Volt Outlets needed at \$60 each		\$ _____
_____ Number of 220 Volt Outlets needed at \$100 each		\$ _____
Contact the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel for information about phone lines/fees	Conference Total:	\$ _____

Promotional Material for Packets (Submit sample and form by Feb. 7): _____ \$250

Meals: (indicate the number of tickets needed and who will use them by Feb. 7)

Name(s):	Number:	Meals:	Meal Total:
_____	_____	Monday Luncheon – \$33	\$ _____
_____	_____	Tuesday Senator Appreciation Luncheon – \$33	\$ _____

- To meet production schedules for conference materials, sponsor fund or display table information must be returned by Feb. 7.
- Preregistration deadline is Feb. 7. Registrations received after this date will incur higher registration costs.
- No shows or cancellations made after Feb. 7 will be billed for reserved display table and meals.

Mail registration and payment to: League of Nebraska Municipalities, 206 S 13th Street, Suite 800, Lincoln, NE 68508, or fax 402-476-7052.

Online registration will open Jan. 13.



Join us!

February 24-25, 2025 | Cornhusker Marriott Hotel - Lincoln

League of Nebraska Municipalities 2025 Midwinter Conference Sponsor information & registration

Display Tables

If your organization wishes to participate in the conference as an exhibitor, the League offers a *limited number of display tables, which are assigned on a first reserved basis*. Associate members will receive priority of the registrations received by Feb. 7, 2025.

Displays will be set up in the Atrium and lower level near the coffee and soft drink break areas to ensure the best exposure to municipal delegates. Display tables are 8 feet long. *You may set up your display any time between 12-8 p.m. on Feb. 23 or the morning of Feb. 24.* The League and hotel are not responsible for any items or equipment.

Sponsor Fund

If you don't want a display table, you are welcome to contribute to this fund and help sponsor the conference, including coffee, rolls, and soft drink breaks.

What are the perks?

- organization name will appear in the conference handbook, the conference program, and in the Nebraska Municipal Review magazine following the conference
- special recognition during the conference
- conference sessions on Monday and Tuesday
- a conference list of registered delegates will be emailed to you before the conference
- organization logo featured in a sponsor video shown before General Sessions on Monday



The registration fee covers up to three representatives from your company with a \$50 charge for each additional representative. The meals are not included in the conference registration fee but may be purchased separately.

For more information about registration fees and meal tickets, please see the registration form. "No shows" or cancellations made after Feb. 7, 2025, will be billed for reserved display table and meals. **PREPAYMENT IS REQUIRED FOR NON-ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.**

TO MEET PRINTING SCHEDULES, SPONSOR INFORMATION MUST BE RETURNED BY FEB. 7, 2025.

Thank you for your support! We look forward to seeing you at the 2025 League Midwinter Conference! If you have questions, contact the League office.



ATTENTION CONFERENCE SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS!

The League of Nebraska Municipalities will insert your promotional material in all conference packets to be handed out at our 2025 League Midwinter Conference.

As conference attendees go through their packets, your material will be in their hands. Promote your service or product. Create interest and invite delegates to visit you at your exhibit booth.

➔ This service is provided only for conference sponsors and exhibitors.

➔ Insert material is limited to an 8½x11 one-page brochure or flyer (front and back printed sheet). If you have more than a one-page brochure, please call our office to see if it is possible for us to include and for the additional cost.

➔ A sample of your material, this form, and payment must be submitted to our office for approval by Feb. 7. We will contact you with the number of inserts we will need for the packets.

➔ Copies of the approved material must be in our office by **Feb. 17**.

➔ Cost: \$250

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2025 League Midwinter Conference
Promotional Material for Packets

Firm: _____ Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone/Fax: _____

Email: _____

2025 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln

February 24-25, 2025



MUNICIPAL TREASURERS AND MUNICIPAL ATTORNEYS: The League will let you know as soon as the State Auditor's Office and the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission informs us of the number of hours each will receive.

Tentative Conference Program (subject to change)

Monday, February 24, 2025

- 7:30–8 am** **Registration:** Visit Display Areas (coffee and rolls available)
- 8–8:10 am** **Welcome**
League President Marlin Seeman, Mayor, Aurora
- 8:10–9:15 am** **Panel of State Senators and Others Discussing Legislative Issues of Municipal Importance**
- 9:15–9:30 am** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 9:30–10:30 am** **Affordable Housing/Workforce Housing Updates; Strategic Housing Framework**
K.C. Belitz, Director, Nebraska Department of Economic Development
Shannon Harner, Executive Director, Nebraska Investment Finance Authority
- 10:30–10:45 am** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 10:45–11:45 am** **League Legislative Update**
L. Lynn Rex, Executive Director, LNM
- 11:45 am–12 pm** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 12–1:30 pm** **Luncheon**
Special Keynote Address by Melissa Hinrichs, Coach/Facilitator at EngagedLeadership
Melissa applies a strengths-based lens to uncover, explore, and grow the potential of every individual and team.
- 1:30–1:45 pm** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 1:45–2:45 pm** **Concurrent Sessions:**
- A. Zoning:** Understanding the importance of zoning and how to protect yourself from what you don't know!
(Session repeated at 3 pm)
Dave Ptak, Former City Attorney; Former City Administrator; frequent lecturer on planning and zoning matters
 - B. (Newly Elected/Appointed Officials) LEGAL OVERVIEW**
Public Records Law and Transparency in Government: Learn how to limit your liability.
Christy Abraham, Legal Counsel, LNM
 - C. NEMA Panel:** "We have a plan...What could go wrong?" Don't miss this live tabletop example of local emergency operations planning for local officials.
(Session repeated at 3 pm)
Erv Portis, Assistant Director, NEMA
 - D. Upgrading the Good Life:** Using trends in inter-state migration to modernize Nebraska's workforce recruitment.
(Session repeated at 3 pm)
Ethan Kimbrough, Economist, Nebraska Department of Economic Development

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Monday, February 24, 2025 (con't.)

2:45–3 pm

Break: Visit Display Areas

3–4 pm

Concurrent Sessions:

- A. Zoning:** Understanding the importance of zoning and how to protect yourself from what you don't know!
(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)
Dave Ptak, Former City Attorney; Former City Administrator; frequent lecturer on planning and zoning matters
- B. (Newly Elected/Appointed Officials) LEGAL OVERVIEW**
Budgeting: Better understanding the law and the process.
Christy Abraham, Legal Counsel, LNM
- C. NEMA Panel:** "We have a plan...What could go wrong?" Don't miss this live tabletop example of local emergency operations planning for local officials.
(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)
Erv Portis, Assistant Director, NEMA
- D. Upgrading the Good Life:** Using trends in inter-state migration to modernize Nebraska's workforce recruitment.
(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)
Ethan Kimbrough, Economist, Nebraska Department of Economic Development
- E. League Insurance Government Health Team (LIGHT):** Learn more about the League's health insurance plan for municipal employees in partnership with Blue Cross and Blue Shield; Understand the challenges of "self-funded programs" like the Chamber plan.
(Session repeated Tuesday at 10:45 am)
Dennis Maggart, President, McInnes Maggart Consulting Group
Sue Warner, Strategic Account Executive, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska

4–4:15 pm

Break: Visit Display Areas

4:15–5:30 pm

Section Meetings:

Mayors and Village Board Chairs
Smaller Cities and Villages
Larger Cities
Clerks
City Managers/Administrators
Utilities Section

Tuesday, February 25, 2025

8 am

Registration: Visit Display Areas (coffee and rolls available)

8:15–9:15 am

Concurrent Sessions:

- A. Local Option Sales Tax (Requiring Approval by Local Voters):** Learn how 265 cities and villages in Nebraska use local option sales tax dollars to fund critically important projects and programs to reduce property taxes; and/or fund LB 840 plans (Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act); as well as finance infrastructure improvements for streets, roads, libraries, etc.; affordable and/or workforce housing projects; etc.
Emily Bausch, City Administrator, Plattsmouth
Jeff Hofaker, City Administrator, Sutton
Nate Schneider, City Manager, McCook

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Tuesday, February 25, 2025 (con't.)

8:15–9:15 am

Concurrent Sessions: (con't.)

B. (Newly Elected/Appointed Officials) LEGAL OVERVIEW

- 1) Tort Claims Liability
- 2) Recreational Liability
- 3) Bidding and Purchasing

Lash Chaffin, Utilities Section Director, LNM

C. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Update and NDOT Infrastructure Grant Portal:

Learn about important resources for local governments applying for grants and how to more easily access potential funding.

(Session repeated at 9:30 am)

Wayne Fedora, Nebraska Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration

Jenna Habegger, PMP, Highway Planning Manager – Nebraska Infrastructure Hub, Local Assistance Division – NDOT

Dina Harris, Highway Programs Specialist – Nebraska Infrastructure Hub, Local Assistance Division – NDOT

D. Flood Risk Awareness Project: Learn about this project and findings by UNL in partnership with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development on public risk awareness, hazard mitigation and recovery; Find out how CDBG Grants can help financial mitigation needs.

(Session repeated at 9:30 am)

Jenny Mason, Director – Community Development Disaster Recovery Divisions, NDED

Zhenghong Tang, Program Director, UNL Community and Regional Planning Program

9 am–4 pm

Fire Chiefs Section Meeting

9:15–9:30 am

Break: Visit Display Areas

9:30–10:30 am

Concurrent Sessions:

A. Emotional Support Animals (ESAs): Learn what can and cannot be required by municipalities.

(Session repeated at 10:45 am)

Madison Wurtele, Staff Attorney, Disability Rights Nebraska

B. (Newly Elected/Appointed Officials) LEGAL OVERVIEW

- 1) Public Works/Utilities
- 2) Environmental Requirements
- 3) Code Enforcement

Lash Chaffin, Utilities Section Director, LNM

C. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Update and NDOT Infrastructure Grant Portal:

Learn about important resources for local governments applying for grants and how to more easily access potential funding.

(Repeat of 8:15 am session)

Wayne Fedora, Nebraska Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration

Jenna Habegger, PMP, Highway Planning Manager – Nebraska Infrastructure Hub, Local Assistance Division – NDOT

Dina Harris, Highway Programs Specialist – Nebraska Infrastructure Hub, Local Assistance Division – NDOT

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Tuesday, February 25, 2025 (con't.)

10:30–10:45 am Break: Visit Display Areas

10:45–11:45 am Concurrent Sessions:

- A. Emotional Support Animals (ESAs):** Learn what can and cannot be required by municipalities.
(Repeat of 9:30 am session)
Madison Wurtele, Staff Attorney, Disability Rights Nebraska
- B. (Newly Elected/Appointed Officials) LEGAL OVERVIEW
Open Meetings Act**
L. Lynn Rex, Executive Director, LNM
- C. League Insurance Government Health Team (LIGHT):** Learn more about the League's health insurance plan for municipal employees in partnership with Blue Cross and Blue Shield; Understand the challenges of "self-funded programs" like the Chamber plan.
(Repeat of session at 3 pm on Monday)
Dennis Maggart, President, McInnes Maggart Consulting Group
Sue Warner, Strategic Account Executive, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska
- D. AmeriCorps NCCC/ServeNebraska:** Learn how to access personnel assisting your community, free of charge!
Audra Piotti, Assistant Program Director, AmeriCorps NCCC

11:45 am–12 pm Break: Visit Display Areas

12 pm Designated Delegates with White Ribbons on Their Name Badges: Greet your State Senator.

12–1:10 pm Senator Appreciation Luncheon

1:10 pm Adjournment – Thank you for coming! Please drive safely!

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Conference Information

Designed for elected or appointed officials, the focus of the **2025 Midwinter Conference** will be current and proposed legislation and how it affects local governments. A highlight of the two-day conference will be the Senator Appreciation Luncheon, which offers municipal officials an opportunity to meet and visit with their State Senators.

Hotel Reservations

- ❑ All conference sessions will be held at the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, 333 South 13th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.
- ❑ To make room reservations at the Cornhusker, call 1-866-706-7706 or 402-474-7474 or [book online](#). When calling to reserve a room, please state that you are attending the League's conference to obtain the special room rate. The deadline for reserving a room is **Feb. 4**.
- ❑ The room rate is \$112 for a single or double room with Government ID card. If you need an ID card, contact the League office. Individual guest accounts are payable at check out by cash or credit card.
- ❑ Check in time is approximately 4 p.m.; check out time is 11 a.m.
- ❑ The preregistration deadline is **Feb. 7**. Registrations received after this date will incur higher registration costs. Advance registrations not cancelled by this date or "no shows" will be billed since the sessions will be recorded and sent to registered delegates for viewing through May 31, 2025.
- ❑ If you need special accommodations or equipment at this conference, contact the League office by **Feb. 7**.
- ❑ To meet printing schedules for the conference materials, sponsor fund or display table information must be returned by **Feb. 7**.
- ❑ For your comfort, we recommend that you wear layered clothing or bring a jacket because heating and cooling conditions may vary.