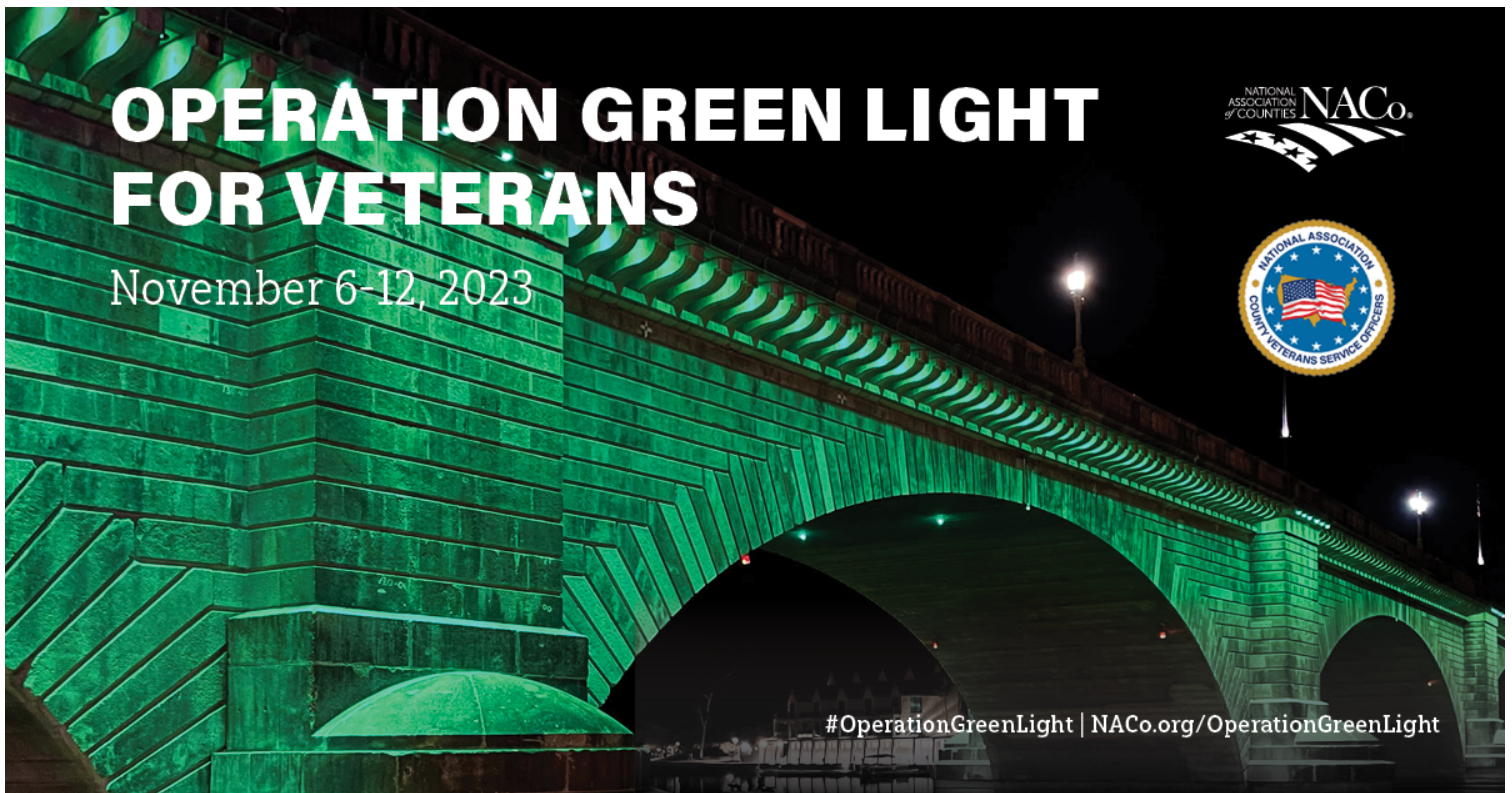




# The Ninety-Three

November 3, 2023

**Calling All 93 Counties! Join Operation Green Light for Veterans**



This coming Veterans Day, the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO) invite the nation's 3,069 counties, parishes and boroughs to join Operation Green Light and show support for veterans by lighting our buildings green from **November 6 to November 12**. By shining a green light, county governments and our residents will let veterans know that they are seen, appreciated and supported.

**The Nebraska Association of County Officials is inviting all 93 counties in Nebraska to participate in Operation Green Light.**

## How to Join

- Click the link below to visit [www.naco.org/operationgreenlight](http://www.naco.org/operationgreenlight) to access the Operation Green Light for Veterans County Toolkit.
- Coordinate with your county Director of Facilities or Building & Grounds to light our county courthouses in green. Options include using projections, flood lights, or green filters for existing lights.
- Support veterans year-round by purchasing supplies from veteran-owned businesses on Amazon Business at [www.amazon.com/veteran-owned](http://www.amazon.com/veteran-owned).
- Email photos of your courthouse to Riley Sigler at [riley.sigler@nebraskacounties.org](mailto:riley.sigler@nebraskacounties.org) by November 13th to be featured on our Facebook page. The county whose photo has the highest likes by November 20th at 5 PM CST will be declared the Operation Green Light winner, and earn a special prize.

[Click Here for the County Participation Toolkit](#)

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## Pre-Register for the Annual Conference Now



## 2023 NACO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

DECEMBER 13-15, YOUNES CONFERENCE CENTER NORTH, KEARNEY, NE

# PRE-REGISTRATION OPEN NOW

Register at [www.nebraskacounties.org](http://www.nebraskacounties.org)

Registration Deadline: November 22, 2023

**JOIN US IN DECEMBER**

Conference registration will also open on August 1, 2023. The cost is \$150.00 per attendee and \$100.00 per guest. A spouse is considered a guest.

The registration deadline is November 22, 2023 at 11:59 P.M. CT.

All cancellations after November 22, 2023 are subject to a \$50.00 administrative fee.

[Click Here for Registration and More](#)

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## Annual Conference Agenda

*\*\*Full Agenda and Mobile App Link Coming Soon\*\**

**Wednesday, December 13 - 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

- Exhibit Hall Opens at 8:00 A.M.
- Affiliate Groups may start as early as 9:00 A.M. and end as late as 4:00 P.M.

- **Assessor Session**
  - Session begins at 9:00 A.M.
  - Education to include topics on consumption tax and updates from PAD.
- **Clerk of the District Court Session**
  - Session begins at 9:00 A.M. Business Meeting is at 3:00 P.M.
  - Education to include topics on ethics, electronics, and JUSTICE.
- **Clerk, Election Commissioner, and Register of Deeds Session**
  - Session begins at 8:30 A.M. and ends as late as 4:00 P.M.
  - Education to include topics on record retention, going paperless, and open meetings.
- **County Board Session**
  - County Board session starts at 10:00 A.M. and ends at 3:00 P.M.
  - Education to include topics on consumption tax, broadband, transportation, and open meetings.
- **Emergency Managers Session**
  - Session begins at 8:30 A.M. and ends as late as 4:00 P.M.
  - Updates from NAEM, NEMA, CISM, including a WEB EOC exercise with NEMA staff.
- **Highway Superintendents Session**
  - Session begins at 8:00 A.M. and ends as late as 4:00 P.M.
  - Updates from NACE, NDOT, NIRMA, NE LTAP, State Bridge Engineer, NACO.
- **Planning and Zoning**
  - Session begins at 9:00 A.M. and ends as late as 3:30 P.M.
  - Education to include topics on economic development, by-laws and rules of procedure, and flood plains.
- **Public Health Session**
  - All-day closed meeting.
- **Sheriffs Session**
  - Business meeting to begin at 10:00 A.M.
- **Treasurer Session**
  - Session begins at 9:00 A.M. and ends at 3:00 P.M.
  - Education to include topics on motor vehicle fraud, tax sale updates, and investments.
- **Weed Superintendents Session**
  - Roll Call begins at 8:15 A.M., and sessions end around 3:30 P.M.
  - Updates from NAISMA, Platte River Recovery Program, USFWS, Nebraska Forest Service, Twin Valley WMA, Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Lower Platte Weed Mgt.
- **Veteran Service Officer Session**
  - Session starts at 9:00 A.M. and end as late as 4:00 P.M.
  - Education to include topics on VBMS, SHARE, DPRIS training, post 9/11 GI Bill, Chapter 35 Education, VA Home Loans.
- Sponsored Dinner and Hospitality Suites will be at Younes Center South in the evening.

## **Thursday, December 14 - 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

- Exhibit Hall Opens at 8:00 A.M.
- General Session begins at 9:00 A.M.
  - Speaker - Richard Hight
- Morning Breakout Session begins at 11:00
  - TIF (Tax Increment Financing) 2.0
  - Long Term Care Crisis in Rural Communities

- Strategies to Address Mental Health in the Workplace
- Be Successful: Disaster Response and Recovery. The Chief Executive's Role.
- The Demand for Early Childhood Care Across Nebraska
- Lunch at 12:00
- Afternoon Breakout Session begins at 2:00
  - Tips on Effective State Legislative Advocacy
  - Planning for a Cybersecurity Incident
  - Grid Up, Power Down
  - Navigating Public Financing and Bonds
  - Housing Challenges and Solutions in Nebraska
- Door prizes in Exhibit Hall at 3:30 P.M.
- Sponsored Dinner and Hospitality Suites will be at Younes Center South in the evening.

**Friday, December 15 - 7:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.**

- NACO Business Meeting (Breakfast Provided)

We have arranged for a single bus to provide transportation services for hotel guests in the Younes campus area. The bus will be available for pick up and drop off between 8:00 A.M. and 11:30 P.M. on both Wednesday and Thursday.

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## CONFERENCE KEYNOTE EVENTS



**Richard Hight**

Keynote Speaker

Thursday, December 14th



**Lunch with State Senators**

Younes Center Gold Ballrooms

Thursday, December 14th



**Bryan Tuma**

Nebraska Crime Commission

Friday, December 15th



## NACO West Update

Over the next week, the concrete foundation will be poured.



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## Don Harpst Sr. Leadership Nebraska Award

NPA has revamped one of its annual awards in hopes of it becoming one of the most highly coveted honors among Nebraska community newspapers.

It is the Don Harpst Sr. Leadership Nebraska Award -- established by the Harpst family to encourage and reward leadership by newspaper publishers or employees in the communities they serve.

One of the key changes made is to seek nominations from outside of the Nebraska newspaper industry. It is the local people, the local elected officials who know best if someone from their local newspaper is deserving of the award. Also, the annual award will now come with a \$1,500 grant with those proceeds to be gifted back into one or more community organizations of the recipient's choice.

The information and nomination form is all available through this link:

<https://nebpress.com/harpst-award/>

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## NACo High Performance County Leadership Academy



The **NACo High Performance Leadership Academy**: An **online, 12-week** program to empower frontline county government professionals with fundamental, results-oriented **leadership skills**.

Course information is available for the NACo High Performance County Leadership Academy for sessions starting in January and April.

January 2024 Course Overview

April 2024 Course Overview

Learn more about the program here:

<https://www.naco.org/page/high-performance-leadership-academy>

<https://www.pdaleadership.com>

Contact Luke Afeman, [lukea@pdaleadership.com](mailto:lukea@pdaleadership.com).

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## Live Healthy Prescription, Health & Dental Discount Program







The [Live Healthy Prescription, Health & Dental Discount Program](#) is available at no cost to all NACo member counties, providing relief to uninsured and underinsured Americans who face growing prescription drug costs.

**Millions saving millions:** Currently, half of all NACo members participate in the program and have saved residents millions of dollars on prescription drug costs.

**Learn more:** [Visit our program page](#) to see if your county is participating, enroll in the program or update your program contacts.

[Live Healthy U.S. Counties | National Association of Counties \(naco.org\)](#)

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## Nebraska Broadband Office Invites Comment on Initial Proposal Volume 2

The Nebraska Broadband Office (NBO) is moving to the next phase of efforts to ensure access for all Nebraskans to reliable broadband.

As part of this effort, there will be ongoing public engagements across the state including a series of nine public meetings and an open comment period from Nov. 13 to Dec. 13. During the open comment period the public will be asked to provide comments on NBO's long-term goals and objectives to deploy broadband and plans to coordinate with local representatives. Meetings and comments will also focus on NBO's plan to ensure that an equitable and highly-skilled workforce is utilized throughout the buildout process, the subgrant process and NBO's low cost affordable and middle-income plans.

Opportunities will be available to submit public comments online <https://ndot.info/community>, or in-person at one of the following meetings hosted by the Nebraska Broadband Office:

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**Sidney, Nov. 7, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Western Nebraska Community College, 371 S College Dr., Room 1516

**Chadron, Nov. 8, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Holiday Inn Express, 247 Ash St.

**O'Neill, Nov. 9, 5:30-7 p.m.**

The Evergreen, 300 Jeanette Way

**Fairbury, Nov. 13, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Union Bank, 1313 K St.

**Springfield, Nov. 14, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Springfield Community Center, 170 N 3rd St.

**Lincoln, Nov. 15, 5:30-7 p.m.**

NDOT Headquarters, 1500 Nebraska Parkway

**Columbus, Nov. 16, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce, 753 33rd Ave.

**Kearney, Nov. 20, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Holiday Inn Express, 110 2nd Ave.

**Ogallala, Nov. 21, 5:30-7 p.m.**

Holiday Inn Express, 206 Pony Express Lane

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Meetings are open to the public and will include a subgrant discussion, as well as provide an opportunity to learn about broadband programs and buildout across the state and provide input into digital access, affordability and need for technical skills to create equitable distribution of resources.

For those who are unable to attend the meetings or open comment periods and want to learn more about high-speed internet access in Nebraska, visit <https://ndot.info/community> to review information and provide feedback.

# NEBRASKA

## **Rural Broadband Task Force** Findings and Recommendations October 2023



[Click Here to Read the Report](#)

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**NACO Sponsor Spotlight**



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## NACO RESOURCES

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[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)



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