

September 18, 2026



The Ninety-Three

Reflecting on the 2026 Federal-State Policy Exchange

At the beginning of September, NACO staff had the chance to join state association leaders, the NACO team, and partner organizations in Chicago for the 2026 Federal-State Policy Exchange. Head to our blog to read Deputy Director Candace Meredith's reflections and key takeaways.

[NACO Blog](#)

2026 Annual Conference Registration and Hotel Reservation Now Open

Both the hotel reservation form and attendee registration for the 132nd NACO Annual Conference are now open!

County officials planning to attend the Annual Conference **must complete the [online form](#) to request a room in the NACO block at the Younes Conference Center Campus**. The form will be available until Friday, October 9th at 5:00 PM CT. Please direct all questions about hotel reservations to the Younes staff at 308-237-8813 or by **email youneshotels@gmail.com**.

Conference Registration is also now open on the [NACO website](#). The cost is \$165.00 per attendee and \$100.00 per guest. A spouse is considered a guest. The pre-registration deadline is November 20th, 2026, at 11:59 PM Central Time. All cancellations after November 20th are subject to a \$75.00 administrative fee.

[Click here for an agenda overview](#). Please note that this is subject to change. We

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Interim Study Special Hearing Schedule

The Legislature's standing committees have begun scheduling public hearings on issues designated for study over the interim. The legislative resolutions are introduced by senators during the regular session. Ideas generated from the studies are often introduced as legislation in the following session. A full list of the resolutions can be found [here](#), and hearings are [here](#).

Here are some of the hearings of interest to counties. Note that other studies may be heard at the same hearing. Hearings held at the State Capitol are generally livestreamed on [Nebraska Public Media](#).

September 21st, 1:00 PM

Judiciary Committee, Room 1525

[LR403](#) (Rountree) Interim study on the use of shackling on juveniles

Invited testimony only

October 2nd, 10:00 AM

Urban Affairs Committee, Omaha location to be determined

[LR441](#) (Andersen) Interim study relating to the applicability for residential versus commercial building codes and the implications of enacting LB1227, introduced in the One Hundred Ninth Legislature, Second Session

[LR417](#) (Urban Affairs Committee) Interim study to examine innovative approaches to housing development, financing, and ownership in Nebraska

[LR418](#) (Urban Affairs Committee) Interim study to examine inland port authorities, how inland port authorities currently operate, and the progress of inland port authorities in developing land, infrastructure, and opportunities in the areas of the authorities

October 9th, 9:00 AM

Appropriations Committee, Room 1524

[LR452](#) (Spivey) Interim study to examine funding sources, fee structures, service types, oversight structures, reimbursement structures, and appropriations for cross-system services between child welfare and juvenile justice

November 6th, 10:00 AM

Urban Affairs Committee, Room 1510

[LR415](#) (Conrad) Interim study to examine current practices under Nebraska law related to the designation of real property as blighted and substandard

[LR407](#) (McKinney) Interim study to examine revitalization of urban areas and how cities and villages may utilize the role of culture as a driver of economic development, workforce attraction, tourism, and community revitalization in Nebraska

[LR419](#) (Urban Affairs Committee) Interim study to examine volunteer burnout on municipal boards and commissions and identify specific municipal boards or commissions that could effectively function with a reduced number of members

[LR467](#) (McKinney) Interim study to examine strategies, policies, and investments that cities, villages, and the State of Nebraska may use to make the state more attractive to young people

November 19th, 1:30 PM

Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee, Room 1524

[LR372](#) (Nebraska Retirement Systems Committee) Interim study to examine the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board

December 2nd, 1:00 PM

Appropriations/Transportation and Telecommunications Committees, Room 1023

Special hearing to receive Department of Transportation Highway Needs Study Report

Invited testimony only

Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, Room 1023

2:00 PM or at the conclusion of the above hearing

Special hearing to receive a report from the Nebraska Broadband Office on the status of Broadband in Nebraska

Comprehensive Plan and Regulation Essentials Webinar

Please join us for a Comprehensive Plan and Regulation Essentials Webinar on Wednesday, October 7th, 2026, at 2:00 PM Central Time. This two-hour webinar is available for two credit hours for county boards, county attorneys, and planning commissions.

The webinar will assist in the understanding of essential elements of

regulations. We will also examine how LB663's land-use application timelines are affecting Nebraska counties.

Click the link below to register.

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Z4A_sWWfQmeN-GLuIdmAcw

Register for the 2026 NACO Legislative Conference in Burwell

Registration for the 2026 NACO Legislative Conference is [open on our website](#). The conference will be held on Friday, October 16th at Nebraska's Big Rodeo Fairground and Event Hall in Burwell, NE.

Tentative Agenda:

8:00 - 9:00 AM - Registration/Networking/Breakfast
9:00 - 9:15 AM - Pledge of Allegiance and Welcome
9:15 - 10:00 AM - Land Use Forum
10:00 - 10:30 AM - Senator Tanya Storer
10:30 - 10:50 AM - Networking Break
10:50 - 11:45 AM - Property Tax Forum
11:45 AM - 12:30 PM - Lunch
12:30 - 2:30 PM - NACO Platform and Legislative Proposals
2:30 - 2:45 PM - Break
3:30 PM - Conclude

[Register for the Legislative Conference](#)

Submit Your Nominations for Annual County Official Awards

Every year, county officials have an opportunity to nominate their peers for the Next Generation, Lifetime Achievement, and County Official of the Year awards, which are presented to the winners at the Annual Conference. Award nominations are now open, and we encourage you to submit your nomination as soon as possible. The deadline for nominations is Friday, October 16th.

- [Next Generation Award](#)

- [Lifetime Achievement Award](#)

From NACo - 2030 Census: Toolkit for Counties

The U.S. decennial census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and conducted every 10 years to determine the number of people living in the United States. It shapes political representation and drives the distribution of over \$2.8 trillion in annual federal funding across hundreds of programs.

Funding allocations for county-administered programs and services depend heavily on census data. The 2030 Census will impact vital county functions, from transportation and infrastructure to public health, public safety, and social services. Counts affect federal resources flowing to county residents for a full decade.

County officials are uniquely positioned to drive preparation through participatory opportunities and tools such as the [Local Update of Census Addresses \(LUCA\) Program](#), creation of Complete Count Committees (CCCs), the [2030 Census Planning Timeline](#), and more.

NACo's 2030 Census Toolkit focuses on information, key intergovernmental partners, and new developments, with step-by-step guidance and case studies on implementation of best practices. Click the button below to learn more and download the full toolkit.

2030 Census Toolkit for Counties

Go All-In on Excavators with Murphy Tractor

Join Murphy Tractor for a hands-on experience with the newly redesigned John Deere 210, 230, and 260 P-Tier Excavators. Learn how the latest excavator technology can help improve safety, boost productivity, reduce downtime, and shorten operator learning curves. Participants will have the opportunity to operate the machines, see technology demonstrations, and speak directly with Murphy Tractor experts.

Locations:

September 16 & 17 – Des Moines

September 30 & Oct. 1– Omaha

October 7 – Grand Island

See the flyer below for reservation details!

ALL IN

The Invite



SEP 16 & 17 — DES MOINES, IA
SEP 30 & OCT 1 — OMAHA, NE
OCT 7 — GRAND ISLAND, NE

John Deere built its new P-Tier Excavators alongside hundreds of customer test pilots. **Now it's your turn.**



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Douglas County Assessor to Host IAAO Course 101 - Fundamentals of Real Property Appraisal

Course Information:

Instructor: Scott Barnes

Dates: December 7–11, 2026

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Location:

Douglas County Assessor's Office
1819 Farnam Street, 4th Floor
Omaha, NE 68102

Registration Fee: \$355.00 per participant

Registration Deadline: October 23, 2026

Class Size: Limited to 15 participants. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Continuing education hours have been approved by the NRPAB Board for this course.

Course Description: This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles and practices of real property appraisal. It is designed for assessors, appraisers, and assessment professionals seeking a strong foundation in mass appraisal concepts and assessment practices.

Registration Instructions: To register, please [complete the registration](#) form and submit it along with payment by the registration deadline of October 23, 2026.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

2026 NACO Business Members

Support provided by our generous business members helps NACO expand our educational programming for Nebraska county officials. Business members enjoy a number of benefits, including features on our website and social media pages. We also offer our business members discounts on sponsorships and 15% off the cost of booking our NACO West Training Center in Ogallala.

2027 NACO Business Memberships are now open on our website! [Click here](#) to learn more.

20 BUSINESS 26 MEMBERS



ELITE MEMBERS



PREMIUM MEMBERS



RESOURCES

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[August 2026-August 2027 Legal Calendar](#)

[2026 Election Calendar](#)

[Property Assessment and Taxation Calendar](#)



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