



IDEAS SUMMIT

OCTOBER 8-10, 2024 | FORT WAYNE

#AIM2024 • FORT WAYNE, IN • GRAND WAYNE CENTER



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Monday, October 7

7:00 p.m.	Board of Directors' Dinner
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Tuesday, October 8

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Registration
8:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	Board of Directors' Breakfast and Meeting
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Aim Affiliate Group Meetings
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	Early Bird Workshops
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	IARC Advisory Council Meeting
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Workshops
4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Opening Business Session
5:45 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.	Welcome Reception in Exhibit Hall
7:15 p.m.	Evening Open
7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	AIS After Hours: Cocktails and Conversations

Wednesday, October 9

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall
8:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Exhibit Hall Open
8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Aim Affiliate Group Meetings
8:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	State Board of Accounts Resource Center
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Workshops
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Coffee Bar
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Aim Annual Awards Luncheon
1:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open
1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Workshops
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	State Board of Accounts Resource Center
3:45 p.m.	Grand Prize Giveaway and Exhibit Hall Closes
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Corporate Member Advisory Council Meeting
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Workshops
5:05 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.	Policy Platform Hearing
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Presidents' Reception
6:30 p.m.	Evening Open
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Vendor Party

Thursday, October 10

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Indiana African American Municipal Officials Meeting
8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Workshops
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Workshops
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Closing Luncheon and Business Session

Tap on the section of the program you want to jump to.
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WI-FI

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SKYWALK HOURS

**MONDAY,
OCTOBER 7**

CLOSES AT 7:00 P.M.

**TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 8**

6:30 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.

**WEDNESDAY,
OCTOBER 9**

6:30 A.M. – 9:00 P.M.

**THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 10**

OPENS AT 6:30 A.M.



Welcome

Dear Aim Ideas Summit Attendees,

Welcome to the 2024 Aim Ideas Summit! This year's conference promises to be an inspiring experience for everyone involved, whether you serve in a small town or a big city, and whether it's your first time joining us, or you've been a part of our community for years.

This week is packed with opportunities for learning, networking, and collaboration. From the Early Bird Workshops on Tuesday to the engaging sessions spread across Wednesday and Thursday, our agenda is designed to offer something for everyone. You'll find topics that address the unique challenges faced by communities of all sizes, from the basics of municipal finance to strategic planning for municipal growth.

We've also included plenty of chances to connect with peers, from our Welcome Reception to specialized roundtable discussions, ensuring that you leave with both new knowledge and new friends. For our first-time attendees, I encourage you to dive in and take full advantage of everything the Summit has to offer. This is your chance to learn from seasoned professionals and to share your own insights and experiences. For our returning participants, welcome back! Your continued engagement makes this conference such a valuable and dynamic event.

We are excited to have you here and look forward to a week of great ideas, productive conversations, and meaningful connections.

Thank you for being part of the 2024 Aim Ideas Summit. Do not hesitate to reach out to me or any member of the Aim staff if you have any questions or concerns during your time with us.



All the best,

Mark Myers

Mark Myers
Greenwood Mayor
Aim President

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Aim Leadership

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Mayor, Columbia City



Matt Greller
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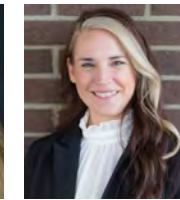
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Not Pictured:
Marilyn Morrison
Clerk-Treasurer
Warren

IN MEMORY

Tom Henry
November 8, 1951 - March 28, 2024
Fort Wayne Mayor
Aim Board of Directors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' DINNER

Monday, October 7, 7:00 p.m. Foundation Pavilion at Promenade Park

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BE A MUNICIPAL INFLUENCER

Share your conference experience on social media throughout the Aim Ideas Summit by using the conference hashtag #Aim2024 or tagging @AimIndiana. One municipal attendee will be awarded daily for excelling on social media. Want to win a Daily Influence Award? Go above and beyond informing the public about the importance of continuing education for municipal officials. To make things a little more interest-

ing, one of our Daily Influencers will be eligible to take home the title of Top Influencer if they amp up their enthusiasm on social media! Remember, you must be a municipal attendee to win prizes, keep it positive, keep it clean, and represent city and town officials at their best! Don't forget to follow the Influencer Guidelines on the next page.

Municipal Influencer Guidelines

In recent years, Aim created Influencer Awards for those who engage on social media relative to the Aim Ideas Summit. The response has been outstanding, and we expect the same will be

true for the #Aim2024 contest. Here are some ideas regarding how you can be an #Aim2024 influencer and maybe take home an awesome prize!

- 1 Posting 1-2 posts per day will certainly keep you in the game.
- 2 Using multiple platforms to post will be noticeable – after all, it’s what the big influencers do.
- 3 Pictures are fun and raise the profile of your posts. Also including language about what you are learning and new strategies for your community will make your posts even more interesting.
- 4 We are gathering for educational purposes – either in classrooms, general sessions, and specific networking opportunities – keep your posts professional so they don’t get noticed for the wrong reasons.
- 5 Demonstrate yourself drinking in the knowledge—not drinking in the merlot.

These tips will help you gain influencer status and put everyone’s best foot forward!

**Protect your community,
your career, and yourself
before it's too late!**



**PREEMPTIVE LEGAL DEFENSE FOR MUNICIPAL LEADERS
MASTERING THE ART OF KEEPING YOUR FOOT OUT OF YOUR MOUTH, PLAINTIFFS OUT OF YOUR BANK ACCOUNT, AND YOUR PUBLIC SERVICE CAREER INTACT**

What you do ... and refrain from doing ... before things begin to go sideways ... can make the difference when irate citizens, foes or injured parties take legal aim at YOU, the municipal leader. In these times it is almost inevitable that your municipality will get sued. But it does not need to be inevitable that municipal leadership has to be at the center of the litigation bullseye ... if you practice preemptive legal defense. In this seminar we will discuss topics that senior municipal leadership should consider doing ... or refraining from doing ... to reduce the chances that YOU, your personal wallet, and your reputation will be at the center of their target.

Tuesday, October 8 | Harrison D&E
1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. | 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

BLISS·McKNIGHT®

TUESDAY

108

OCT.

AIS AFTER HOURS:

Cocktails & Conversations

Hosted by Boyce Systems

Conner's Rooftop

223 W Jefferson Boulevard, 7th Floor

Located across the street from the conference on the 7th floor of the Hampton Inn & Suites

Enjoy a night out with your colleagues at a rooftop bar overlooking Parkview Field.
Join us for complimentary appetizers and drinks!

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8 | 7:30 P.M. - 9:30 P.M.

Tuesday, October 8 Schedule

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	<p>Registration <i>Prefunction Area</i></p> <p>Pick up your conference name badge and materials. Attendees must be wearing their conference name badge to enter conference events.</p>
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	<p>Board of Directors' Breakfast <i>Anythony Wayne B</i></p>
9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	<p>Board of Directors' Meeting <i>Anythony Wayne B</i></p>
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<p>Aim Affiliate Group Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indiana Association of City Engineers (IACE) Luncheon <i>Jefferson B&C</i> • Indiana Conference of Mayors (ICOM) Luncheon <i>Calhoun BC&D</i> • Indiana League of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers (ILMCT) Executive Committee Luncheon <i>The Gallery</i>
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Early Bird Workshop: Crisis Communications – Planning for What You Hope Never Happens (MMI) <i>Anthony Wayne A</i></p> <p>There was a time when crisis preparedness was something only the leaders of global capitals needed to concern themselves with, but no longer. In today's world, officials in every community – regardless of size or geography – need to be prepared to lead residents through a crisis. Whether a crisis is natural or manmade, effective communication with the public is imperative to navigating these challenges. In fact, timely, accurate, empathetic public engagement often determines the success or failure of a comprehensive crisis response. In this presentation, our panel of communications professionals and public servants will explore best practices in crisis communication including considerations on how you prepare, who says what and when, and what tools are most effective with specific audiences. Panelists, including Greenwood Mayor Mark Myers, will share their perspectives on leading their communities through a crisis and what lessons others can draw from their experiences. Participants will leave this session with ideas and concrete action steps they can take back to their home communities.</p>

1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Early Bird Workshop: The Latest on PFAS and PFOA Requirements and the Lead Line Replacement Rule Impacting all Water Systems (MMI, CLE) <i>Anthony Wayne B</i></p> <p>The presentation will provide a high-level review of the new national drinking water regulation of PFAS and the impact on all water systems. PFAS are a class of man-made chemicals that tend to persist in the environment. Background will be provided on what PFAS are, where they come from, and why they are regulated. The content will also include actions that all water systems need to take to comply with the new regulations: perform monitoring and reporting for PFAS and reduce the amount of PFAS in drinking water. Participants will learn about the requirements, timing, and legislation relative to lead line replacement.</p>
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Early Bird Workshop: The Future of Indiana's Legislative Landscape – Setting the Stage for Comprehensive Dialogue (MMI) <i>Harrison A&B</i></p> <p>In this panel discussion, we will explore the intricacies of proposed legislative measures in Indiana. Our discussion will center on recent talks about capping the maximum levy growth quotient, a measure that could significantly alter the financial landscape for municipalities. Speakers will explore the components of this potential legislative, including the expected impact on budgeting, taxes, and revenues, with a particular focus on local income taxes. These taxes are the essence of local funding, and understanding their utilization is crucial for informed discourse with legislators. Also, up for discussion will be the allocation of expenditure rates across different counties and the rationale behind these decisions. Finally, our panel will talk about recent candidate proposals to eliminate Indiana's income tax. This workshop will provide valuable perspectives and help you develop strategic talking points for engaging with legislators and municipal representatives on these critical issues. The goal is to foster a comprehensive understanding of the legislative proposals and their far-reaching effects on Indiana's fiscal policy.</p>

EARN MMI CREDIT!

The Municipal Management Institute (MMI) provides educational opportunities to Aim members, enabling them to sharpen their leadership skills, learn new techniques for tackling common local issues and improve services to citizens, while working towards their Certified Municipal Official status. Learn more about the MMI program at aimindiana.org/mmi.



1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Early Bird Workshop: Preemptive Legal Defense for Municipal Leaders – Mastering the Art of Keeping Your Foot Out of Your Mouth, Plaintiffs Out of Your Bank Account, and Your Public Service Career Intact (MMI, CLE) <i>Harrison D&E</i></p> <p>What you do ... and refrain from doing ... before things begin to go sideways ... can make the difference when irate citizens, foes or injured parties take legal aim at YOU, the municipal leader. In these times it is almost inevitable that your municipality will get sued. But it does not need to be inevitable that municipal leadership has to be at the center of the litigation bullseye ... if you practice preemptive legal defense. In this seminar we will discuss topics that senior municipal leadership should consider doing ... or refraining from doing ... to reduce the chances that YOU, your personal wallet, and your reputation will be at the center of their target.</p>	3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Strategic Planning for Allocation Area (TIF) Expirations (CLE) <i>Anthony Wayne B</i></p> <p>As TIF allocation areas sunset in accordance with Indiana law, the incremental assessed value is no longer captured by a unit's redevelopment commission and becomes available for general taxation by overlapping units with property tax levies. When assessed value is released in this way, it creates downward pressure on tax rates. Tax rate changes are based upon changes in the property tax levy relative to changes in the units taxable assessed value. For taxing units that are at their maximum levy, no additional tax revenue is generated from assessed value growth (except cumulative funds and circuit breaker change). Challenges can arise when large amounts of assessed value are added back to the tax rolls due to sunseting allocation areas. Many municipalities are quickly facing TIF sunsets and should plan now to navigate the assessed value, tax rate, and levy changes to ensure the best financial path forward given budget priorities and legislative hurdles prohibiting levy growth alongside tax caps. This workshop will share the administrative, legal, and fiscal strategies the Town of Plainfield is adopting in order to abrogate the potentially negative impacts of expiring TIF allocation areas, which will provide a helpful example for similarly situated communities across the state.</p>
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.	<p>Early Bird Workshop: Mobile Integrated Health – Changing the Culture of Healthcare in Your Community (MMI) <i>Calhoun A</i></p> <p>Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) is changing healthcare in communities all over Indiana and America, small and rural cities and towns, and large urban areas. One of the beautiful things about MIH is its ability to be designed for a specific community's needs, including but not limited to prenatal maternal care, mental health, and chronic disease management. Working together to find sustainable funding solutions we can make these programs viable long-term and available for everyone.</p>	3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Local Government and the AI Revolution: How to Embrace it Responsibly <i>Harrison A&B</i></p> <p>Artificial Intelligence (AI) is no longer a distant dream but a reality that local governments can use to improve operations and services. Join Google Public Sector to explore how generative AI can transform government work, with a focus on safe, responsible implementation. This workshop will offer real-world examples, practical steps for starting an AI journey, and insights into Google's approach to supporting local governments with AI technologies.</p>
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<p>Indiana Association of Regional Councils (IARC) Meeting <i>Jefferson A</i></p>	3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Preemptive Legal Defense for Municipal Leaders – Mastering the Art of Keeping Your Foot Out of Your Mouth, Plaintiffs Out of Your Bank Account, and Your Public Service Career Intact (MMI, CLE) <i>Harrison D&E</i></p> <p>What you do ... and refrain from doing ... before things begin to go sideways ... can make the difference when irate citizens, foes or injured parties take legal aim at YOU, the municipal leader. In these times it is almost inevitable that your municipality will get sued. But it does not need to be inevitable that municipal leadership has to be at the center of the litigation bullseye ... if you practice preemptive legal defense. In this seminar we will discuss topics that senior municipal leadership should consider doing ... or refraining from doing ... to reduce the chances that YOU, your personal wallet, and your reputation will be at the center of their target.</p>
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Stop Building Like it's 1899 – Innovating to Address Affordable Residential Construction Needs <i>Anthony Wayne A</i></p> <p>As The New York Times asked in a recent piece about development and the lack of affordable housing: "Why do we build houses in the same way that we did 125 years ago?" In this workshop, we'll hear from a panel of several AIM members – municipal leaders from around the state - discuss how the lack of affordable housing is stifling their economic development. The discussion will include the need to proactively plan for housing as municipalities create new jobs and how several Indiana municipalities have utilized innovative construction methods to provide desperately needed housing, such as the utilization of shipping containers, digital fabrication, and advanced manufacturing techniques. By bringing together experts in these fields, this session aims to foster discussions and collaborations that can lead to practical solutions for addressing the housing crisis and providing affordable, sustainable housing options for all.</p>		



Hackers Love Old Software—It's as Secure as Old Tires. Is Your Agency Playing it Safe with Citizen Data?

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Learn more about Cirrus here:

Enterprise Class Software for Local Government Agencies



<p>3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Workshop: The Collaboration Engine – Driving Success through Constructive Relationships among Municipalities and Railroads</p> <p><i>Calhoun A</i></p> <p>In Indiana, the presence of railroads plays a pivotal role in the livelihood of numerous communities, shaping their economic landscapes and influencing daily life. With countless communities feeling the impact of rail activity, it's imperative that we foster a collective understanding of challenges and collaboratively strive for solutions. Trainfo and Norfolk Southern are offering insights and guidance on how we can enhance cooperation and cohesion. Through their expertise and resources, they aim to empower communities with knowledge, equipping them to navigate the complexities of rail operations more effectively. By coming together in this initiative, we acknowledge the interconnectedness of our interests and the potential for synergy in our efforts. Through shared understanding and concerted action, we can address concerns such as safety, and infrastructure maintenance with greater efficacy, ensuring a more sustainable and harmonious coexistence with railroads. This collaborative approach transcends individual interests, emphasizing the collective well-being of Hoosier communities and the broader network of stakeholders involved. Together, we embark on a journey of partnership and problem-solving.</p>
<p>4:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Opening Business Session</p> <p><i>Convention Hall A</i></p> <p>Aim President Mark Myers welcomes you to the 2024 Aim Ideas Summit. This year's Opening Business Session will also feature a welcome from Fort Wayne Mayor Sharon Tucker and a panel discussion with Aim CEO Matt Greller and a few members of the Aim staff. Please be sure to stick around for the door prize drawing that will take place at the conclusion of the Opening Business Session. You must be present to win.</p>
<p>5:45 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Welcome Reception in Exhibit Hall</p> <p><i>Convention Hall B&C</i></p> <p>Reconnect with old friends, meet new ones, and enjoy refreshments at the Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall. Explore the many new products and services available to municipal government. Engage in conversation and gather codes for the Illumination Expedition game board with participating exhibitors.</p>
<p>7:15 p.m.</p>	<p>Evening Open</p>
<p>7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p>AIS After Hours: Cocktails and Conversations</p> <p>Hosted by Boyce Systems</p> <p>Conner's Rooftop</p>

Convention Hall B&C

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 5:45 P.M. - 7:15 P.M.

WELCOME RECEPTION

Reconnect with old friends and meet new ones while enjoying refreshments at the Welcome Reception! Explore the many new products and services available to municipal government.



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Tap on the workshops you attend to access workshop materials.

**Crisis Communications – Planning for
What You Hope Never Happens**

**The Latest on PFAS and PFOA
Requirements**

**The Future of Indiana’s
Legislative Landscape**

**Preemptive Legal Defense
for Municipal Leaders**

Mobile Integrated Health

Stop Building Like it’s 1899

**Strategic Planning for Allocation
Area (TIF) Expirations**

**Local Government
and the AI Revolution**

The Collaboration Engine

Opening Business Session

Tuesday, 4:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. | Convention Hall A

**FEATURING A WELCOME FROM FORT WAYNE MAYOR SHARON TUCKER AND
A PANEL DISCUSSION with AIM CEO MATT GRELLER AND MEMBERS OF THE AIM STAFF**



Each year since the 2016 IACT transition to Aim, CEO Matt Greller has offered attendees of the Opening Business Session an update on the transition and detailed information about what is next for the organization. 2024 is no different! Matt and a few members of the Aim staff will discuss Aim, its recent activities in the areas of advocacy, member services, the Aim Medical Trust, and what lies ahead in 2025.

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of Aim shall be to foster, promote, and advocate for the success of Hoosier municipalities as laboratories for innovation, hubs of talent, and the engines driving our state's economy.

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WEDNESDAY

09
oct.

VENDOR PARTY

Hosted by Aim Corporate Members

PARKVIEW FIELD

Join us for dinner, drinks, batting cages, and karaoke!
Grand Prize drawing will take place at 8:30 p.m.
for Colts tickets provided by Regions Bank.
MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 | 7 P.M. - 10 P.M.

Wednesday, October 9 Schedule

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration <i>Prefunction Area</i>
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall <i>Convention Hall B&C</i>
8:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Exhibit Hall Open <i>Convention Hall B&C</i> The Exhibit Hall will close following the Grand Prize Drawing at 3:45 p.m. Drop off your door prize ticket at the stage located in the Exhibit Hall. You must be present to win.
8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	Aim Affiliate Group Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Members <i>Jefferson B&C</i> • Indiana ADA and Title VI Coordinators Association (ADA) <i>The Gallery</i> • Indiana Municipal Management Association (IMMA) <i>Harrison C</i> • Indiana Women Mayors <i>Harrison D&E</i> • Redevelopment Association of Indiana (RAI) <i>Jefferson A</i>
8:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	State Board of Accounts Resource Center <i>Convention Hall Prefunction / Harrison Corridor</i> Meet one-on-one with SBOA field representatives. This is a chance to have your questions answered. Consultations available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Continue the conversation
on social media!

#Aim2024

Tap to Learn the
Municipal Influencer
Contest Rules

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Workshop: Finding Your Diamond in the Rough by Looking Closer at Problem Properties (CLE) <i>Anthony Wayne A</i> There is a critical demand for housing stock in every community across the state. While it is much more economical for a community to have developments inside the city limits where they don't have to install new infrastructure, finding land inside a city's boundary to build new housing is challenging. It is for this reason that cities should look at contaminated and dilapidated factories and brownfield sites as future sites for housing and mixed-use developments. The challenges to a city include selecting sites, taking ownership of contaminated property, understanding the environmental conditions, and finding the money to pay for the site investigations and remediation. EnviroForensics has been on the forefront of this resurgence, having remediated old manufacturing sites, while finding the funding for the clean-up costs. Find out how contaminated sites can be remediated by holding accountable the parties that caused the contamination. Learn how historical insurance policies can be used to pay for site testing and cleanup. Understand how a city can use prior insurance coverage to pay for the remediation of city property and abandoned landfills.
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Workshop: Municipal Finance 101 (CLE) <i>Anthony Wayne B</i> Ideal for individuals new to local government or anyone in need of a refresher, this workshop will cover the basics of municipal finance. Topics include an overview of tax increment finance (TIF) and other municipal revenue sources, project financial planning, the borrowing process, and types of bonds.
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Workshop: Addressing Poverty – The Role of Empathy <i>Harrison A&B</i> By delving into the lived experiences of those affected by poverty and those working alongside them, we uncover the nuanced challenges they face daily. Through empathy, we cultivate a deeper understanding of their struggles, aspirations, and resilience. We'll discuss how empathy serves as the cornerstone for designing effective interventions. By actively listening to individuals facing poverty, we can co-create solutions that are responsive to their needs and aspirations. Drawing on case studies and real-world examples, we'll showcase the impact of empathetic initiatives in breaking the cycle of poverty. From microfinance programs to community-led development projects, empathy drives innovation and fosters sustainable change. Furthermore, we'll explore how fostering empathy at individual, community, and institutional levels can dismantle stereotypes and foster solidarity.

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<p>Workshop: What's Going On? Efficiently and Effectively Communicate with Your Community <i>Harrison D&E</i></p> <p>Used by local governments, public safety organizations, and more, Reach Alert is a notification service that provides real-time communication to individuals via text messages, voice calls, or emails. This workshop will explore the benefits and implementation of Reach Alert and will discuss its application in various scenarios, including emergency response coordination, regional communications, and active shooter training. With insights from successful deployments in Aurora and Lawrenceburg, attendees will learn best practices, sample alert templates, and strategies for expanding their communications network using social media to enhance community engagement and response efficiency.</p>	10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<p>Coffee Bar <i>Sponsored by Crawford, Murphy & Tilly</i> <i>Prefunction Area</i></p>
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<p>Workshop: Futureproofing Your Healthcare Budget – Insights, Approaches, and Working with the Aim Medical Trust <i>Calhoun A</i></p> <p>Budgeting for employee benefits, especially healthcare coverage, can be intimidating and overwhelming, especially for those that have unstable, fluctuating costs. This workshop will explore the financial impacts and budgeting for employee insurance, along with the components of health insurance spend, fully insured versus self-funded plans, plan administration, claims expense, stop loss, and other key factors. In addition, attendees will learn about the additional services provided by the Aim Medical Trust, why pooling healthcare makes sense for almost seventy municipalities, and how joining the Trust has stabilized the budget.</p>	11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<p>Aim Annual Awards Luncheon Presented by Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC <i>Convention Hall A</i></p> <p>Placemaking and Program Innovation winners will be honored during this popular event. Aim will also recognize the Aim Green Project of the Year. Don't miss this chance to get transferable ideas to take back to your community for implementation. Please be sure to stick around for the door prize drawing that will take place at the conclusion of the Annual Awards Luncheon. You must be present to win. Learn about award winners on page 47!</p>
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<p>Vendor Solutions Workshop: Economic Development and Quality of Life Enhancements – A Data Driven Approach to Accomplishing Community Goals <i>Calhoun B&C</i></p> <p>This workshop will cover community enhancement initiatives that fuel economic development and some of the quality-of-life investments municipal leaders choose from based upon the needs of their communities (e.g., recreational centers, plazas, complete streets, trail connectivity, downtown redevelopments, housing, etc.). In this presentation, speakers will discuss the data city and town leaders need to compile to achieve these goals. Following the formal remarks, a panel discussion will allow municipal leaders to engage directly with subject matter experts. Additionally, presenters will showcase the methods our multidisciplinary design practice employs to help municipalities swiftly evaluate the feasibility of their ideas through what we call a rapid response team.</p>	1:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	<p>Exhibit Hall Open <i>Convention Hall B&C</i></p>
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<p>Workshop: Futureproofing Your Healthcare Budget – Insights, Approaches, and Working with the Aim Medical Trust <i>Calhoun A</i></p> <p>Budgeting for employee benefits, especially healthcare coverage, can be intimidating and overwhelming, especially for those that have unstable, fluctuating costs. This workshop will explore the financial impacts and budgeting for employee insurance, along with the components of health insurance spend, fully insured versus self-funded plans, plan administration, claims expense, stop loss, and other key factors. In addition, attendees will learn about the additional services provided by the Aim Medical Trust, why pooling healthcare makes sense for almost seventy municipalities, and how joining the Trust has stabilized the budget.</p>	1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Breaking Down the Discussions and Recommendations of the State & Local Tax Review Taskforce (CLE) <i>Anthony Wayne A</i></p> <p>The General Assembly has been debating property taxes longer than anyone can remember. It seems like an idea or bill comes up during nearly every session, especially the last few years. Several years ago, it was the possible elimination or substantial reduction of business personal property tax. Then, investigations regarding assessments, particularly for individual homeowners, leaping closer to market value in 2022 Pay 2023, which resulted in an increase to the Supplemental Homestead Deduction for 2024 and 2025 via HEA 1499. This workshop will touch upon the history of these legislative moves and highlight potential changes discussed in meetings of the State and Local Tax Review Task Force, through the lens of how those proposals would impact cities and towns, and their constituents.</p>
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	<p>Vendor Solutions Workshop: Economic Development and Quality of Life Enhancements – A Data Driven Approach to Accomplishing Community Goals <i>Calhoun B&C</i></p> <p>This workshop will cover community enhancement initiatives that fuel economic development and some of the quality-of-life investments municipal leaders choose from based upon the needs of their communities (e.g., recreational centers, plazas, complete streets, trail connectivity, downtown redevelopments, housing, etc.). In this presentation, speakers will discuss the data city and town leaders need to compile to achieve these goals. Following the formal remarks, a panel discussion will allow municipal leaders to engage directly with subject matter experts. Additionally, presenters will showcase the methods our multidisciplinary design practice employs to help municipalities swiftly evaluate the feasibility of their ideas through what we call a rapid response team.</p>	1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Water and Wastewater Workforce Development - Strategies for Recruitment and Training the Next Generation <i>Anthony Wayne B</i></p> <p>The challenges facing our water and wastewater professionals are growing every day. These challenges range from proper staffing of certified operators for the community served, recruitment and retention of talent, and succession planning. Recognizing the impending workforce challenges within the industry, AIRW embarked on a collaborative journey with NRWA and other state affiliates in 2017 to create the apprenticeship standards. With half of the dedicated water professionals set to retire over the next decade, AIRW spearheads efforts to address this gap through its nationally recognized Apprenticeship Program. This workshop is focused on providing a preliminary look into these challenges, and explaining all facets of the program including cost and funding opportunities.</p>

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Understanding Municipal ADA Requirements and how to Create a Community for all Abilities <i>Harrison A&B</i></p> <p>The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention’s Division of Human Development & Disability reports that 1 in 4 Americans have a type of disability. The City of Fishers has been empowering awareness and encouraging belonging for people with disabilities. It is a community that strives to be smart, vibrant and entrepreneurial, “for all.” The City of Fishers received the Champions of Inclusion Award in 2017 by the Governor’s Council for People with Disabilities and was most recently recognized by the Indiana State Legislature for its disability inclusion efforts in 2023. The City of Fishers, through the Fishers Advisory Committee on Disability, has assisted other municipalities with information about disability inclusion. The speakers will share the story of how the City of Fishers formed the Fishers Advisory Committee on Disabilities. Participants will learn how to engage disability stakeholders and establish priorities and strategies to address the various challenges and needs facing the disability community. Attendees will leave feeling empowered and inspired to create a life without limits for all in their own communities.</p>
1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Small Communities Roundtable Discussion (under 1,000 population) <i>Harrison D&E</i></p> <p>This time is set aside for municipal officials representing a town of less than 1,000 population to discuss some of their greatest needs, biggest wins, or toughest questions with one another. Time will also be reserved for small town attendees to share with Aim precisely the kinds of educational content and member services Aim could provide to help them serve their community more effectively.</p>



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1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Workshop: An Effective Execution Option for Municipal Construction Projects (CLE) <i>Calhoun A</i></p> <p>This workshop will provide mayors, town managers and their staff the knowledge required to build mission critical facilities. We will discuss different types of delivery models, how to acquire financing if needed, and what to watch for during the construction process.</p>
1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Strategies for Communities to Successfully Engage Developers <i>Calhoun B&C</i></p> <p>Relationships are hard, and fostering an effective collaboration between local communities and real estate developers can be even more difficult. Through a panel discussion, this workshop will explore Cumberland’s success with developer roundtables, Yorktown’s use of public-private partnerships for downtown revitalization, and Greensburg’s strategic approach to transforming a downtown parcel through its Redevelopment Commission. Attendees will gain insights into the challenges, lessons learned, and actionable strategies for building productive community-developer relationships that drive economic growth and enhance community engagement.</p>
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	<p>State Board of Accounts Resource Center <i>Convention Hall Prefunction / Harrison Corridor</i></p> <p>Meet one-on-one with SBOA field representatives. This is a chance to have your questions answered. Consultations available on a first-come, first-served basis.</p>
3:45 p.m.	<p>Grand Prize Giveaway and Exhibit Hall Closes <i>Convention Hall B&C</i></p>
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Corporate Member Advisory Council Meeting <i>Harrison C</i></p> <p>Open to all Aim Corporate Members</p>
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Navigating Free Speech and Social Media in the Municipal Workplace (CLE) <i>Anthony Wayne A</i></p> <p>A deep dive in social media and speech. Whether via watercooler discussions, graphics on pins or clothing, or social media postings shared with colleagues, employees’ beliefs and opinions about current events are spilling over into the workplace as never before. Through the use of real-world examples, guidance for public employers will be provided on how to handle (and how not to handle) the challenges posed by employees’ social media accounts and workplace speech.</p>

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Prioritizing Happiness as both a Quality of Place Strategy and a Method in Personal Fulfillment <i>Anthony Wayne B</i></p> <p>Happiness...seems like a simple concept, right? Think again. In this workshop, HWC Engineering's Brian Sheehan will introduce you to the science of happiness, challenge you to think about what makes you happy, and share some simple intentional activities that he has used to help him be a happier person. As the founder of the City of Rushville's Smile Fund, a fund designed in 2013 to literally to put the "smile" back on the face of the community by improving downtown buildings on Main Street, Brian's goal for this workshop is to prioritize your happiness to have a healthier and happier career and life.</p>
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Fire Territories and Fire Districts - What are they and is One of them Right for You? (CLE) <i>Harrison A&B</i></p> <p>As the cost of fire protection services continues to outpace revenue growth, and the availability of volunteers continues to decline, there is an increasing need for additional funding. Establishing a fire territory or district can provide additional property tax dollars to support fire operations, increase staffing and provide funding for capital needs. In this session, the panelists will walk through the process to establish a fire territory or district, explain the analysis needed to request a maximum levy from the State and key considerations attendees need to know before starting the process.</p>
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Building a Five-Year Budget Sustainability Plan <i>Harrison D&E</i></p> <p>During the pandemic, many communities saw their reserve balances increase. Now, as federal dollars are not available, it is imperative that communities establish reserve and long-term budget policies to ensure that planned expenditures will meet long-term sustainability. This workshop will provide a case study on how to implement a working model with input from a Mayor and town CFO.</p>

Continue the conversation
on social media!

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4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Workshop: Feeding the Community – The Role Farmers Markets Play in Empowering Entrepreneurs, Addressing Food Insecurity, and Building Community <i>Calhoun A</i></p> <p>In essence, a farmers market is a place for local farmers, producers, and artisans to sell produce, goods, and other products. However, a farmers market can become so much more. This workshop examines how farmers markets serve as crucial platforms for fostering entrepreneurship, supporting small businesses, and addressing food insecurity in public spaces. By providing a low-barrier entry to local commerce, markets empower marginalized communities and promote inclusive economic growth. Participants also will explore innovative programs and gain practical strategies to leverage farmers markets as vital tools for community development and resilience.</p>
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	<p>Vendor Solutions Workshop: Test Your Knowledge with Municipal Jeopardy <i>Calhoun B&C</i></p> <p>Bring your mobile devices and take an active role in an engaging and entertaining session of Municipal Jeopardy! See how you stack up against your peers on a potpourri of topics from public records to the First Amendment to project delivery methods. Bring your A game to join the ranks of Ken Jennings and James Holzhauer as Jeopardy champions!</p>
5:05 p.m. – 5:20 p.m.	<p>Policy Platform Hearing <i>Jefferson B&C</i></p> <p>Aim's Policy Platform represents the association's positions on important municipal government issues. Aim members can participate by attending the Policy Platform hearing, where recent changes and additions to the Policy Platform are discussed.</p>
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	<p>Presidents' Reception <i>Convention Hall A</i></p> <p>Join conference attendees to honor Aim presidents, past and present, and for the presentation of the Russell G. Lloyd Distinguished Service Award, Ivan H. Brinegar Municipal Management Award, and Financial Management Award.</p>
6:30 p.m.	<p>Evening Open</p>
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	<p>Dinner, Batting Cages, and Karaoke Hosted by Aim Corporate Members <i>Parkview Field</i></p> <p>The Aim Corporate Members have planned an exciting evening event open to all Aim Ideas Summit attendees. Please join us for dinner, drinks, batting cages, and karaoke. Parkview Field is within walking distance of the Grand Wayne Convention Center.</p>

Tap on the workshops you attend to access workshop materials.

**Finding Your Diamond in the Rough by
Looking Closer at Problem Properties**

Municipal Finance 101

**Addressing Poverty –
The Role of Empathy**

**Efficiently and Effectively
Communicate with Your Community**

**Futureproofing Your
Healthcare Budget**

**Economic Development and Quality
of Life Enhancements**

**Breaking Down the Discussions and
Recommendations of the State**

**Water and Wastewater
Workforce Development**

**Understanding Municipal
ADA Requirements**

**Small Communities Roundtable
Discussion (under 1,000 population)**

Tap on the workshops you attend to access workshop materials.

**An Effective Execution Option for
Municipal Construction Projects**

**Strategies for Communities to
Successfully Engage Developers**

**Navigating Free Speech and
Social Media in the Municipal Workplace**

Prioritizing Happiness

Fire Territories and Fire Districts

**Building a Five-Year Budget
Sustainability Plan**

Feeding the Community

**Test Your Knowledge with
Municipal Jeopardy**

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Exhibition Hall

Exhibition Hall Schedule: Tuesday, October 8

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Conference Registration <i>Prefunction Area</i>
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Exhibitor Move-in and Set-up
5:45 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.	Show Open - Welcome Reception in Exhibit Hall

Exhibition Hall Schedule: Wednesday, October 9

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Conference Registration <i>Prefunction Area</i>
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall
8:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Exhibit Hall Open
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Aim Annual Awards Luncheon
1:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Open
3:45 p.m.	Grand Prize Drawing and Exhibit Hall Closes
3:45 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Exhibitor Move-out

Illumination Expedition

Your journey around the exhibit hall will be entertaining and interactive with Illumination Expedition! Think “Hide and Seek” for lightbulbs. Visit participating booths speak with vendors and hunt for a QR code inside a lightbulb, scan, and complete your game board. Once you have completed the game board, hand in your card at the exhibit hall stage to be eligible for the prize drawing! Participating exhibitors are noted with an asterisk on the Exhibitor Listing and can be found on the following two pages.

BOOTH	COMPANY
105	A&Z Engineering, LLC
125	Abonmarche Consultants, Inc.
108	Acrisure LLC
139	* Aim Medical Trust
42	Align CEC, Inc.
24	Alliance of Indiana Rural Water
79	<i>American Fidelity Assurance Company</i>
100	<i>American Legal Publishing Corporation</i>
17	Asphalt Materials, Inc./J-Band
96	Asphalt Pavement Association of Indiana
114	Astra Insurance
69	Baird
89, 90	Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC
11	Ball State University
72	* Banning Engineering
46	BCA Environmental Consultants, LLC
48	Best Equipment Company, Inc.
127	BIS Digital, Inc.
35, 56	<i>Bliss McKnight, Inc</i>
78	<i>BMO Harris Bank N.A. (Aim pCard Program)</i>
91, 92	* Boyce Systems
TT	BW Construction
TT	Catails
20	Center for Energy Education
57	<i>CGI Digital (Community Showcase Video Program)</i>
138	Christopher B. Burke Engineering, LLC
15	Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.
27	Clark Dietz, Inc.
116	Colonial Life
7	Commonwealth Engineers, Inc.
52	Context Design
28	* CORE Construction
29	Crawford, Murphy & Tilly
117	Crews & Associates, Inc.
61	Crowe LLP
131	Davey Resource Group, Inc.
19	DebtBook
112, 113	* DLZ Indiana, LLC

Aim Strategic Partners are in **bold**

TT Table Top Display

Aim Endorsed Programs are in *italics*

* Illumination Expedition Participant

BOOTH	COMPANY
115	Egis Group
12	Engineering Resources, Inc.
54	eScribe Meetings
135	ESL Spectrum
60	Exos
3	F.A. Wilhelm Construction
103	Financial Solutions Group, Inc.
87	First Financial Bank
126	First Internet Public Finance Corporation
128	Fleis & VandenBrink
102	* ForeverLawn Northeast Indiana / Indy
47	Fortify Life
49	Frontier Geospatial, LLC
37	G6 Military Grade IT
TT	Garmong Construction Services
70	Gibson Teldata, Inc.
76, 77	Google Cloud
66	Green Sign Company
81	GRW Engineers, Inc.
101	<i>Henriott Group, Inc. (HGI Solutions Senior Health)</i>
14	HIS Constructors, Inc.
45	Horizon Bank
41	Hospitality Depot
67	HWC Engineering
111	Indiana American Water
129	Indiana Arts Commission
2	Indiana Association of Regional Councils (IARC)
75	Indiana Bond Bank
5	Indiana Chapter - American Concrete Pavement Association
25	Indiana Department of Labor
1	Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC)
53	Indiana Education Savings Authority - Indiana529
106	Indiana Geographic Information Office
38	Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (IHDA)

BOOTH	COMPANY
TT	Indiana League of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers (ILMCT)
6	Indiana Local Technical Assistance Program (INLTAP)
TT	Indiana Mayors Assistants (IMA)
TT	Indiana Municipal Management Association (IMMA)
51	Indiana Municipal Power Agency (IMPA)
119	Indiana Office of Technology
62, 63	Indiana Public Employers Plan, Inc. (IPEP)
TT	Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS)
TT	Indiana Workforce Board Alliance
98	Information & Records Associates / SBS Portals
21	Jones & Henry Engineers, LTD
32	Jones Petrie Rafinski
44	JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA
30	Kokosing Industrial
33	Krieg DeVault LLP
39	Language Matters
118	Lawson-Fisher Associates, PC
55	LEAP Managed IT
93	Local Government Services LLC
36	Lochmueller Group
86	LWG CPAs & Advisors
13	Marathon Health
88	Meyer Najem Construction, LLC
26	Midwestern Engineers, Inc.
10	ms consultants, inc.
64	New Focus HR, LLC
124	<i>NLC Service Line Warranty Program</i>
107	Northpoint Engineering & Surveying, Inc.
120	O.W. Krohn & Associates LLP
121	Office of Community and Rural Affairs
94	OneIndiana
74	Performance Services
40	Peters Franklin, LTD
43	* Professional Lighting Services
132	RATIO Architects LLC

BOOTH	COMPANY
34	<i>REACH Alert</i>
85	Recreation inSites
16	Reedy Financial Group, P.C.
8	Regions Bank
9	RQAW DCCM
80	Rundell Ernstberger Associates
97	Schmidt Associates
134	Schneider Electric
TT	Solential Energy
84	Springbrook Software
TT	Staples Advantage
137	Stifel
50	Surf Internet
TT	T&H Investments
TT	T&M Associates
68	Taft Law
130	Taylor Siefker Williams Design Group LLC
99	Telamon Energy
TT	Televic Conference US Corp
18	The Heritage Group
71	TheGovApp.com
22, 23	Thieneman Construction
4	Tonn & Blank Construction Company, LLC
73	Triad Associates, Inc.
82	TrustIndiana
122	TWG Development, LLC
104	Tyler Technologies, Inc.
109	United Consulting
110	US Hydrovac Inc.
95	USI Consultants, Inc.
31	Utility Pipe Sales
58	VC3
65	Veregy
123	Veridus Group, Inc.
83	Wessler Engineering
59	Workday

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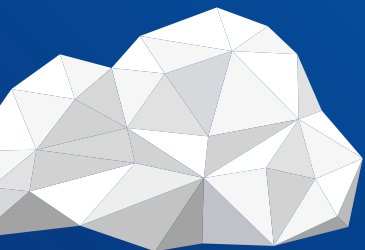
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THURSDAY

OCT.

10

Thursday, October 10 Schedule

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast <i>Convention Hall A</i>
8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Indiana African American Municipal Officials Meeting <i>Harrison C</i>
8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Registration <i>Prefunction Area</i>
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Workshop: Defining the Economic Development Plan <i>Anthony Wayne A</i> <p>Increased business retention, expansion, and attraction activity within the State of Indiana is further highlighting the need for collaboration within all counties and municipalities, and across the different economic development roles. Presenting a cohesive team as economic development leaders work with businesses and site selectors will further raise the profile of Indiana as the premier place to locate or expand a business. A unified voice can also push back against headwinds facing local communities in their economic development efforts. This panel will discuss best practices and challenges to municipal economic development efforts from the perspectives of economic development leaders at the state and local level, as well as a key utility partner.</p>
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Workshop: How to Ensure Your Government Agency is Using the Web to Engage Its Constituents <i>Anthony Wayne B</i> <p>Local governments play a crucial role in serving and engaging with their communities. This presentation will provide actionable strategies for municipal governments to improve their online visibility and accessibility. We will focus on the critical importance of adopting a .gov domain for credibility and security, implementing responsive web design for mobile accessibility, and adhering to web accessibility standards to ensure inclusivity for all users. Additionally, we'll highlight how analytics can guide website improvements by understanding user behavior. No advanced expertise needed, all attendees will appreciate this concise session, focusing on practical steps that can be immediately applied to make town and city websites more effective and user-friendly. Attendees will leave with a clear action plan for elevating their digital presence, making their websites more accessible, and engaging for their communities. A Q&A session will allow for further clarification on these topics. The workshop concludes with a summary of key takeaways, encouraging implementation of the discussed strategies, and provides information on additional resources and support.</p>

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Workshop: Revolutionizing Accounts Payables – The Town of Schererville's Quest to Eradicate Paper Processes <i>Harrison A&B</i> <p>Like many offices, the Schererville clerk-treasurer's office was struggling with inefficient paper processes, leading to burdensome inefficiencies. By identifying the need for improved purchasing controls and increased visibility of town-wide spending, the town successfully transitioned to a fully automated solution, streamlining accounts payable processes. This session will share Schererville's journey, focusing on how they built consensus among key stakeholders, eliminated paper processes, and leveraged technology to enhance department efficiency.</p>
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Attorney Peer Networking: Taking a Build-Operate-Transfer Project from Idea to Reality (CLE) <i>Calhoun A</i> <p>Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) is a project financing model commonly used for large infrastructure projects. This session will give a detailed exploration of the BOT process, focusing on a major project in Noblesville, involving the construction of an event center, roads, utility infrastructure, and a parking garage. The presenters will explore how the idea went from infancy to completion through the use of BOT.</p>
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Vendor Solutions Workshop: Vision to Execution – A Guide to Community Development and Project Execution through Strategic Planning, Analysis, and Implementation <i>Calhoun B&C</i> <p>Envoy Companies will provide a comprehensive guide to community development and project execution through strategic planning, analysis, and implementation. Participants will learn how to craft effective strategies for community growth, conduct thorough analyses to inform decision-making, and execute projects efficiently. The session will offer practical insights and tools for aligning community goals with actionable plans, ensuring successful project outcomes and sustainable development.</p>

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<p>Workshop: Indiana LTAP – Transportation Funding Complexities and Nuances <i>Anthony Wayne A</i></p> <p>Year 2035: Paved or Pothole? Does the future of your road network include paved roads or streets littered with potholes? In this session, Indiana LTAP will review the impact of previous road funding initiatives and discuss what estimated future funding levels are required for the maintenance and improvement of the local transportation system. Come learn about the trends in local agency network conditions and the local road funding sources used to support these efforts.</p>
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<p>Workshop: Code Enforcement for Small Towns (CLE) <i>Anthony Wayne B</i></p> <p>In larger communities, having a code enforcement office and staff is not uncommon. Most small communities, however, do not have the resources to support an in-house code enforcement department. What options do small communities have for regulating unsafe buildings, loose or aggressive animals, unkempt lots, and more. Attendees will learn code enforcement strategies for small towns struggling to keep their town looking as great and feeling as safe as possible. Bring your town code enforcement questions for the closing Q&A.</p>

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<p>Workshop: Investing in Public Safety using Feasibility Studies and Existing Facility Assessments <i>Harrison A&B</i></p> <p>In our ever-evolving society, ensuring public safety stands as a primary concern for community leaders. This presentation will illuminate the transformative act of investing in comprehensive feasibility studies and facility assessments. By adopting a multi-faceted and innovative approach, this workshop will empower communities to enhance public safety improvements with data, collaboration, and strategic implementation. Feasibility studies serve as the cornerstone of informed decision-making, providing invaluable insights into the viability and sustainability of public safety initiatives. Design, implementation cost, site feasibility, operational costs, and life cycle analysis are all things that are considered during a comprehensive approach to feasibility studies. Through meticulous analysis and strategic planning, communities can identify areas of improvement and allocate resources effectively. Facility assessments offer a lens into the current state of public safety infrastructure, highlighting areas in need of refurbishment or expansion. By investing in modernization efforts, communities can bolster emergency response capabilities, promote proactive crime prevention strategies, and cultivate a safer environment for all. Together, these initiatives form a cohesive strategy to elevate community well-being and foster a sense of security among residents. Join and explore the tangible benefits of investing in public safety infrastructure, paving the way for a brighter, safer future for generations to come.</p>
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<p>Workshop: Growing your Municipal Utilities Responsibly and Strategically (CLE) <i>Harrison D&E</i></p> <p>This session will highlight strategies for using municipal utilities for growth with an emphasis on water and sewer utilities. The presenter will cover growing responsibly, protecting, operating, and financing the municipal utility. Recent statutory and regulatory changes will also be integrated into the foregoing topics.</p>



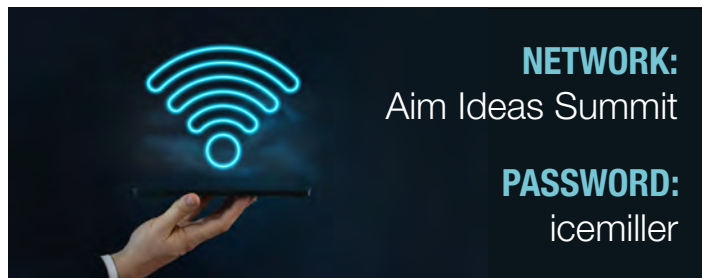
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10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<p>Workshop: Strategies to Assist Unsheltered Persons and the Recent Supreme Court Ruling Regarding Homelessness <i>Calhoun A</i></p> <p>Fortunately, many of us will never know what it's like to be without a safe, sheltered place to keep our things or fall asleep. This panel will review current data and available resources relative to Indiana's unsheltered population. Also planned is an overview of the challenges municipal leaders face when addressing the needs of these vulnerable citizens, as well as the perceptions and realities about the unsheltered population that also exist. Finally, participants will also receive a information on a recent Supreme Court decision making it easier for communities to fine, ticket or arrest homeless individuals, regardless of available shelter space.</p>
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	<p>Vendor Solutions Workshop: Empowering Innovation – Unleashing Potential with Microsoft Power Platform <i>Calhoun B&C</i></p> <p>Discover the Microsoft Power Platform's ability to transform the Indiana government's operations through data, AI, and connectivity! This session will demonstrate how Power BI, Power Apps, Power Automate, and Power Virtual Agents enable even non-technical staff to create apps, automate processes, and analyze data efficiently. Success stories will highlight the platform's impact on efficiency, citizen engagement, and innovation.</p>
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<p>Closing Luncheon and Business Session <i>Convention Hall A</i></p> <p>Join us as Aim President Mark Myers presides over the Closing Business Session. Meet the members of the 2025 Aim Board of Directors. Officers will be elected, and the newly elected Aim President will address conference attendees. Aim will present officials who have earned designation as a Certified Municipal Official (CMO) in the Aim Municipal Management Institute with their awards. Please be sure to stick around for the door prize drawing that will take place at the conclusion of the Closing Luncheon and Business Session. You must be present to win.</p> <p><i>*Gubernatorial Candidates Invited</i></p>



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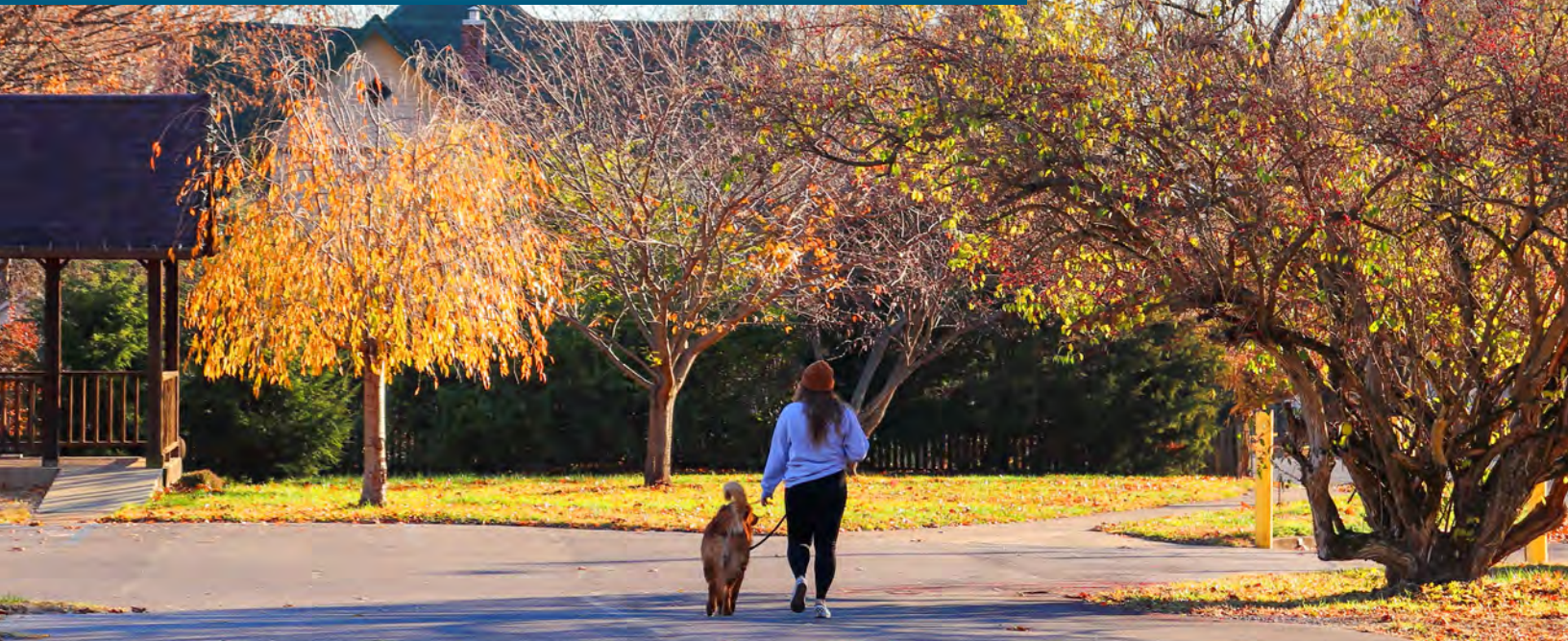
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AWARDS



Aim Annual Awards Presented by:
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The Aim Awards Program honors communities and individuals for outstanding achievement, successful innovation, and steady leadership in municipal government. The program provides Aim members the opportunity to receive well-deserved recognition for their work and offers examples for projects and leadership in other communities.

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PLACEMAKING



PLACEMAKING AWARDS

The Placemaking Award highlights programs or projects that have been implemented and demonstrate new approaches for solving municipal challenges. Placemaking projects also exemplify the positive impact of planning, regeneration, or economic development work on the physical quality of a place, as well as the economic and social well-being of a community. Nominations must have a physical aspect. Awards are presented in multiple population categories based on nominations received.

Town of Remington

Downtown Revitalization

Over the past decade, the Town of Remington has undergone a significant transformation to revitalize its downtown area. Once marked by boarded-up windows, unwalkable sidewalks, and safety concerns, the town embarked on a comprehensive effort to renovate the streetscape, restore the Train Depot, and create a new Town Hall. These projects, funded in part by a Downtown Master Planning Grant, were completed in 2023, bringing new life and energy to the community's heart.

Today, Remington's downtown boasts improved navigation, enhanced pedestrian access, and inviting spaces for community events. The revitalization has sparked a resurgence in local activities, including the return of the Farmer's Market after a decade-long hiatus. The newly renovated Town Hall, donated by the Regions Corporation, now complements the updated downtown, making Remington a vibrant and welcoming space that reflects the spirit and resilience of its community.



City of Greensburg

Building Bridges Inclusive Park

Greensburg's Building Bridges Inclusion Park was inspired by Police Chief Brendan Bridges after his son Jaxon, who is autistic and nonverbal, experienced the benefits of an inclusive playground in Ohio. Recognizing the need for a similar space in Greensburg, the community rallied to create a park where children of all abilities can play together, fostering social and cognitive skills in a safe environment.

The park, completed three years ahead of schedule thanks to \$800,000 raised through crowdfunding, private donations, and local government support, opened in fall 2023. Designed for children aged two to fourteen, it serves as both a playground and a symbol of the community's commitment to inclusivity, raising awareness of disabilities and inspiring the creation of more welcoming spaces.



City of Franklin

Young's Creek Park & Amphitheater

On June 7, 2008, a historic flood devastated Franklin's downtown, leaving the community struggling and businesses shuttered. In response, the city collaborated with local businesses and residents to envision a brighter future, leading to the creation of Youngs Creek Park to be a space designed to manage floodwaters while serving as a vibrant community hub.

Opened in 2022, Youngs Creek Park features an amphitheater, splashpad, playground, and trails, all shaped by community input. The park has become the heart of social activity in Franklin, hosting events, festivals, and more. The park's innovative design, including flood resilience features and a new pedestrian bridge connecting neighborhoods, symbolizes Franklin's journey from tragedy to triumph.



City of Indianapolis

SPARK on the Circle

Launched in 2023 as part of the city of Indianapolis' Downtown Resiliency Strategy, SPARK on the Circle has quickly become a popular destination, attracting over 78,000 visitors with nearly 250 unique events in its first season. This park-like space on Monument Circle, created by Downtown Indy, Inc., Big Car Collaborative, and the Indianapolis Department of Metropolitan Development, was designed to offer a safe, active, and engaging environment for all.

SPARK features green spaces for play, relaxation, social connection, and performance, with contemporary seating, vending services, and free weekly programming. By temporarily closing parts of Monument Circle to traffic, the city transformed it into a vibrant public space, reinvigorating the area and inviting residents and visitors to experience this iconic landmark in a new and dynamic way.





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INNOVATION



PROGRAM INNOVATION AWARDS

The Program Innovation Award honors communities that introduced and executed new ideas and methods to carry out municipal activities. Awards are presented in multiple population categories based on nominations received.

City of Union City

Vision Corner Learning Center

The Vision Corner Learning Center in downtown Union City opened in April 2024 and is the result of a collaboration between the local school corporation and city leadership. Transforming a former blighted building into a beacon of innovation, Vision Corner is designed to boost economic development by providing career-focused education. It offers students hands-on experiences in various fields, including business, healthcare, and media, while showcasing the opportunities available within their hometown.

Key features include a student-run enterprise, KISS Communications studio, and a pioneering esports program. The center also hosts a medical pathways curriculum in collaboration with Ivy Tech and Reid Health, addressing the area's need for healthcare professionals. Vision Corner not only revitalizes a historic structure but also serves as a catalyst for community growth and educational excellence, symbolizing a new chapter of opportunity for Union City.



City of New Haven

TRAINFO Technology

The collaboration between the City of New Haven and TRAINFO showcases New Haven's commitment to urban infrastructure innovation, particularly through the installation of a solar-powered message board on Landin Road, which enhances safety and mobility at rail crossings using cutting-edge technology.

The TRAINFO signage system significantly reduces traffic congestion, with a 35% decrease in delay hours at rail crossings and improves safety by alerting motorists to incoming trains. It also provides real-time information to Emergency Responders, cutting response time delays by 90%. This initiative exemplifies forward-thinking urban planning for its impact on public safety and transportation infrastructure.



City of Elkhart

TOLSON COMMUNITY CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE

The Tolson Community Center for Excellence in Elkhart serves as a dynamic space that fosters cultural engagement, social inclusion, and offers a wide array of programs for residents of all ages. The center, located in South Central Elkhart, aims to be a cornerstone for future economic investment in a marginalized area, providing a safe recreational hub, and connecting to neighboring communities and downtown.

In 2018, the Tolson Center faced closure, but strong public concern led to the formation of a task force that reimagined the center's future. By 2020, the Elkhart City Council approved \$5 million for capital improvements and committed

\$700,000 annually for ten years to support operations. The Community Foundation of Elkhart County and the Lilly Foundation also contributed significant funds.

Community conversations regarding the Tolson Center also prompted broader discussions regarding collective impact efforts to improve housing conditions, kindergarten readiness, literacy, safety, parenting efficacy, and economic development. Since its reopening in November 2023, the Tolson Center has seen remarkable success, with 3,600 members and growing, symbolizing a revitalized community hub that brings people together and enriches the lives of all who visit.



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The Green Project of the Year spotlights a program or project that has been implemented in the past year and demonstrates green programs, sustainable development, energy conservation, or environmentally conscious decisions.

City of Fort Wayne **Utilities Microgrid**

Led by Fort Wayne City Utilities, the city's innovative Microgrid Project addresses climate change, energy costs, and resilience by integrating renewable energy sources like solar and battery storage with natural gas generation to power critical water and wastewater facilities.

In response to Fort Wayne's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, the city developed a strategy to reduce dependency on

traditional utilities and increase energy resiliency. By modeling over 25,000 scenarios and partnering with experts, Fort Wayne implemented a 5-megawatt solar array, additional natural gas-driven generation, and battery storage. This project secures the city's utilities against future energy cost increases while enhancing sustainability and service quality.



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2024

Aim Roundtables for Town and Small Cities

October 23 (CDT) - Boonville

Quail Crossing Golf Club
5 Quail Crossing
Boonville, IN 47601

October 29 - Speedway

Speedway Municipal Center
5300 Crawfordsville Road
Speedway, IN 46224

October 30 - Middlebury

Das Dutchman Essenhaus
240 US 20
Middlebury, IN 46540

November 6 (CDT) - Schererville

Teibel's Family Restaurant
1775 US Highway 41
Schererville, IN 46375

November 20 - Oldenburg

The Brau Haus
22170 Water Street
Oldenburg, IN 47036

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