



Research and Information Center
New Acquisitions List
January 2018

You may download this item from the MTAS Knowledgebase:

Sample resolution adopting a public records policy (as updated 11/2/2017). MTAS created a sample resolution for Tennessee municipalities to use in order to adopt a public records policy that will provide economical and efficient access to public records as provided under the Tennessee Public Records Act (“TPRA”) in Tenn. Code Ann. § 10-7-501, et seq. by July 1, 2017. The sample resolution adopting a public records policy includes a public records policy, a public records request form, and a public record request response form. ([More](#))

You may request these items from the MTAS Library:

2014 and 2016 Stormwater Utilities Survey. The survey instrument was mailed to 237 cities and counties in Florida. One hundred and twenty-four completed surveys were collected. The Report summarizes the results of the data collected through the survey process. ([More](#))

Advances in impervious surface mapping lead to fairer assessments. As technology improves, municipalities are able to calculate more accurate and defensible stormwater utility fees. ([More](#))

Bicycling means business: bike lanes and other infrastructure draw more cyclists and spur rising property values. What is the fastest-growing means of transportation in the United States? The bicycle, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. This article explores the impact that bicycling has on the economy in the United States. ([More](#))

Body of work: criteria to consider when selecting a new collection vehicle. Reliability, service, and weight distribution are the keys to the right collection vehicle. However, the right specs depend on the customer’s needs and the application. This article provides a framework for determining the unique needs of your city and provides a broad view of what is available to meet those needs. ([More](#))

Building high caliber [sic] city data: a critical tool to drive economic development and inclusive property in cities. This article explores the importance of leveraging high caliber, internationally comparable and standardized city data as a tool to make wise investment decisions, driving economic development. ([More](#))

City charter revisions: how citizen surveys can help. Article looks at the charter revision in Plainwell, Michigan and how citizen survey input was critical the review process. ([More](#))

Compare trenchless methods for water main rehab. Every day, water utilities face major challenges of renewing aging underground infrastructure. Trenchless technologies offer several approaches for rehabilitating and renewing old, crumbling underground water pipelines. ([More](#))

Competitive negotiation: the source selection process. This book discusses all phases of the competitive negotiation process from the inception of the requirement for goods or services to the award of the contract and notification and debriefing of unsuccessful offerors. ([More](#))

Cultural economies: what they are and how do we build them? This article explores the contribution of cultural assets to local and regional economic development. ([More](#))

Decisive: how to make better choices in life and work. Research in psychology has revealed that our decisions are disrupted by an array of biases and irrationalities: We're overconfident. We seek out information that supports us and downplay information that doesn't. We get distracted by short-term emotions. When it comes to making choices, it seems, our brains are flawed instruments. Unfortunately, merely being aware of these shortcomings doesn't fix the problem, any more than knowing that we are nearsighted helps us to see. The real question is: How can we do better? ([More](#))

Digital disruption: jobs and social policy in the new economy. Industrialized economies around the world are facing increasing pressure to modernize their understanding of the world of work and associated social programs. Despite the many economic benefits of technological advances, rapid innovation could accelerate income inequality, the rise in "precarious work" and declining unionization rates. ([More](#))

Driving a prosperous future: economic analysis of the lasting impact of Ontario universities. This article explores the contribution of Ontario universities to the provincial economy of Ontario according to an analysis of the following three indicators: impact of spending, impact of human capital, and the impact of research. ([More](#))

Drought-proofing water pump stations for critical infrastructure. Five strategies can help water utilities protect their water pump stations against drought. ([More](#))

Eyes in the back of your head: the causes of backing accidents and available systems to help deter them. The causes of backing accidents and how to prevent them from happening. ([More](#))

Facilitation at a glance!: your pocket guide to facilitation. "Facilitation is fast becoming a core competency for anyone who leads a team, manages a project, heads up a committee, or manages a department. To get the most from people today, leaders have to know how to create buy-in, generate participation, and empower people. To keep pace, today's leaders need to be coaches, mentors, and teachers. At the core of each of these new roles is the skill of facilitation."--Author's introduction. ([More](#))

Facilitation basics (2nd ed.) A how-to guide to help you enhance your skills as a facilitator, create supportive and effective learning environments, and ensure learning is transferred to the job. ([More](#))

Fleet management in the IoT era: technology is changing the way fleet managers do business. An article discussing technology's effect on fleet management and what those in charge can learn from the data obtained by using new products. ([More](#))

Guide for charter commissions (6th ed.) This publication helps communities decide when and how to draft or review their home rule charters. It provides useful information on how to set up a charter review commission, who should serve on it and how to engage community members in the process. ([More](#))

In the line of fire: an intimate look at PTSD and the role of employers. A fire battalion chief shares his personal experience with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). ([More](#))

Is your website accessible to people with disabilities? As municipalities continue to develop, expand, and improve municipal websites, it's important that they ensure that those websites are accessible to those with disabilities. ([More](#))

Key metrics for reliability-centered fleet maintenance. Which metrics are the right metrics for your fleet maintenance operations? This article examines some key metrics such as fleet availability, mean time between failures and more. ([More](#))

Kill the distractions, save your employees. This article presents four steps to risk prevention related to distracted driving through policies, education, technology and enforcement. ([More](#))

Lead in drinking water: past, present, and future. Recent events involving lead in drinking water have eroded the public's trust in drinking water supplies in some communities. Restoring this trust requires water utilities to improve their understanding of the complex nature of lead in drinking water. This article is the first in a series to look at the issue from the perspectives of regulations, water quality, operations, infrastructure and communication. ([More](#))

Learning investment hours & hours are on the rise. Compared to last year, ATD's 2017 "State of the Industry" report shows gains in learning expenditure and learning hours used. ([More](#))

Millennials, safety and ergonomics. Millennial employees often adopt high-risk slouching postures due to growing up with mobile technology that be used anywhere, anytime, in any sitting position. Unhealthy work postures require attention from employee and employer to reduce the risk factors commonly associated with poor posture in the workplace. ([More](#))

Parliamentary procedure for local officials. This article provides the basics of Robert's Rules of Order for the newly elected official: how to make a motion, amend a motion, vote, and protect a member's right to participate. Includes a table of 20 basic parliamentary motions. ([More](#))

Personnel management in government: politics and process. A thorough examination of political and historical aspects, "Personnel Management in Government: Politics and Process, Seventh Edition" provides students with a comprehensive understanding of human resource management within its historical and political context in the public sector. It discusses the development of public sector human resource management, the present status of best practices, and important insights from current scholarship on all three levels of government: federal, state, and local. ([More](#))

Public entity risk managers speak out: results of the 2017 public entity employee safety & loss control survey. Results summary of a survey co-sponsored by PRIMA and PMA Companies to look at safety-related risk management and loss control conditions and practices among public entities. ([More](#))

Regulating drones: what municipal lawyers need to know. This article addresses current categories of drone operators as defined in Part 107, best practices for municipal lawyers charged with crafting ordinances, and brief look at the "regulatory horizon." ([More](#))

Religious speakers' access to public spaces. This article addresses some of the issues that arise when citizens seek to use public spaces to convey a religious message. ([More](#))

Solar 4 all: turning landfills and brownfields green with solar power. PSE&G's Solar 4 All program is a 158 megawatt-dc universal solar initiative that utilizes rooftops, parking lots, utility poles, and landfills/brownfields for large-scale, grid connected solar projects that provide solar power to all PSE&G electric customers. ([More](#))

Solar flair: how three TVPPA members serve up the sun. TVPPA members across the footprint are coming to terms--some more quickly than others--with solar's ever-growing appeal. TVPPA News asked three members on the tip of the solar spear--Appalachian EC, New Market, TN; Duck River EMC, Shelbyville, TN; and Middle Tennessee EMC, Murfreesboro, TN--to tell their stories. ([More](#))

Tales for change: using storytelling to develop people and organizations. Showing how and when to use stories to maximum effect, Tales for Change helps managers, trainers, educators and coaches reinforce key messages or stimulate fresh thinking. The book includes 50 tried and tested tales that can be used in the boardroom, office, training room, or conference center to help people and organizations through a change or transition. Stories are organized under five heading: dealing with change, being creative, leaders and teams, dealing with stress, and emotional intelligence. ([More](#))

Teaching for critical thinking: tools and techniques to help students question their assumption. Drawing on thousands of student testimonies, the books identifies the teaching methods and approaches that are more successful when teaching students to think, read, and write critically. ([More](#))

Tennessee cities lead by example to encourage economic investment. Cities in Tennessee are working to be business friendly through incentives such as PILOT and site development. Union City and Bristol, Tennessee are highlighted in this article. ([More](#))

The collection revolution. Cities in Tennessee are working to be business friendly through incentives such as PILOT and site development. Union City and Bristol, Tennessee are highlighted in this article. ([More](#))

The drone dilemma. "Caught between federal rules, legal ambiguity and public service, local governments struggle to find their places in governing private and commercial drone activity." Article explores the case of legal challenges to a local town ordinance that attempted to regulate drone activity in the town of Newton, Mass. ([More](#))

The evolution of the transfer station. Public perception and changing government regulations have led to more complex transfer stations. ([More](#))

The lure of the strong mayor. Cities have been turning to professional managers for the past 80 years to try to get the politics out of local government. Now a few of them are wondering whether it is time to put some politics back in. ([More](#))

The time to act is now: meeting the challenges of short-term rentals in a digital economy. In 2017, the Virginia legislature passed legislation to affirm that local governments have the authority to address issues of short-term rentals. This article provides some tools for local governments to manage short-terms rentals in their communities. ([More](#))

The trainer's tool kit. In this second edition of "The Trainer's Tool Kit" you'll find here's-how-to-do-it information on need-to-know training topics including: * the principles of learning * budgeting for training * when to use case studies * handling difficult participants * icebreakers * facilitation tips * flipchart do's and don'ts * learning contracts * overcoming resistance * rewards and recognition. ([More](#))

Urban economic development in a rural context: preparing for the future in Orillia. This article provides a case study of a smaller city which is part of a rapidly growing metropolitan area and how it built connections to the larger economies and focused on the "quality of place." ([More](#))

Urban tech sector: growth drives economic resilience. Economic resilience is improved by diversification, decentralization, and proportional income inequality, all factors which are positively influenced by the growth of tech sectors. ([More](#))

UT Institute for Public Service Annual Report - 2017. ([More](#))

What are the top 10 cybersecurity mistakes water utilities make? Water utilities often make mistakes that can expose their systems to cyberattacks. Following a few simple guidelines can improve security substantially. ([More](#))