

MTAS Research and Information Center
 New Materials | August 2020



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Title	Format	Get it
<p>A snapshot of water and sewer affordability in the United States, 2019. Manuel P. Teodoro, Robin Rose Saywitz. In the past two years, US water and sewer service has become less affordable. The pricing structures vary due to location and who owns the utilities. This is driven by increasing water and nonwatery pricing. <i>(In Journal AWWA - Vol. 112, no. 8 (August 2020), p. 10-18.)</i></p>	Article	Request
<p>An ordinance adopting an unclaimed property policy. Melissa Ashburn. A sample ordinance that can be used by any city or town in Tennessee that details how officials can dispose of unclaimed property.</p>	Ordinance	Download
<p>Atoka LED conversion project. Daniel Lovett. In 2017, the public works staff of Atoka, Tennessee began work on a sustainability project for the city. One of the focuses of this project had to with the streetlights. The team investigated converting them to LED. With the new streetlights, the Town of Atoka is saving money and doing their part to promote sustainability. <i>(In APWA Reporter - Vol. 87, no. 7 (July 2020), p. 8-10.)</i></p>	Article	Request
<p>Balancing the budget in bad times: reducing costs and enhancing revenues in the next 12-18 months. Shayne G. Kavanagh. After covering resources for local governments to use during the COVID-19 pandemic, Government Finance Review follows up with 12 steps to help local governments recover from financial distress, including near-term treatments. <i>(In Government Finance Review - Vol. 30, no. 4 (August 2020), p. 34-65.)</i></p>	Article	Request

<p>City manager salary for selected Tennessee cities. Frances Adams-O’Brien. The MTAS Research and Information Center staff surveyed thirteen Tennessee cities to gain information on city manager compensation and whether or not that job is a contracted position.</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>Download</p>
<p>County to city dispatch charges survey. Frances Adams-O’Brien. MTAS surveyed eighteen cities whose E-911 communications are handled by the county they are located in. Representatives of each city were asked about the service cost and the formula used to determine the charge for each city.</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>Download</p>
<p>Cut the fat: use lean learning to demonstrate business impact. Ajay M. Pangarkar, Teresa Kirkwood. People mistakenly believe that lean thinking or learning is used when budgets are going to be cut back. This is not the case; the lean practice is about performance improvement and cutting waste where necessary. <i>(In TD - Vol. 74, no. 6 (June 2020), p. 46-49.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>Evaluating and responding to calls for defunding the police. Cities and towns throughout the US are receiving requests to “defund the police.” This article provides information on how to respond to and evaluate calls to defund local police departments. <i>(In Municipal Lawyer - Vol. 61, no. 4 (July/August 2020), p. 18-23.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>Evolving utility practice and experiences with corrosion control. Roger B. Arnold, Becki Rosenfeldt, et al. This article reports the results of a survey conducted to find out how those in the field of utilities were handling lead and copper reduction in their facilities. <i>(In Journal AWWA - Vol. 112, no. 7 (July 2020), p. 26-40.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>From sleepy to chic: the importance of place-making for small towns. Laura Allen. The author of this article recaps her travels to see how other communities use open spaces and facilities and how they don’t. <i>(In Public Management - Vol. 102, no. 7 (July 2020), p. 15-18.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>

<p>Good enough. Rick Rittmaster. In this article, the author introduces leaders to the 80 percent solution. This is the idea that you and your team are searching for progress, not perfection on a task but also keeping the most important work in view. <i>(In TD – Vol. 74, no. 3 (March 2020), p. 28-33.)</i></p>	Article	Request
<p>How do we share the right-of-way? Carla P. Anderson. In the last 20 years or so, cities have begun working on designs to reduce crashes, slow down speeding and reduce delays in traffic. Solutions have included roundabouts and Road Diets. As technology changes, so do the definition of pedestrian and technology, such as e-scooters. <i>(In APWA Reporter – Vol. 87, no. 7 (July 2020), p. 68-69.)</i></p>	Article	Request
<p>How much is it worth? An overview of valuing water utilities. John Mastracchio, Andy McCartney, et al. The author provides information on the state of water facilities as well as the methods for showing value and increasing value. <i>(In Journal AWWA – Vol. 112, no. 8 (August 2020), p. 32-43.)</i></p>	Article	Request
<p>“I can’t breathe” – the case against neck restraints. Jack Ryan. The purpose of this article dealing with restraint is to identify the competing studies and to recognize that the courts accept the fact that positional asphyxia, mechanical asphyxia, and prone restraint may impair breathing and cause death. <i>(In Municipal Lawyer – Vol. 61, no. 4 (July/August 2020), p. 6-11.)</i></p>	Article	Request
<p>Implications of the rise and decline of golf. John L. Crompton. In the 1950s, there were almost 5,000 golf courses across the United States. The majority of them were private and came about with the real estate boom following World War II. By the 1970s, the number of citizens playing golf went from 3.4 million to 11.2 million as families had time and income to put toward recreational activities. Since 2003, that number has fallen once again and golf courses are needing to find ways to go forward. <i>(In Parks & Recreation – Vol. 55, no. 7 (July 2020), p. 18-19.)</i></p>	Article	Request

<p>Interruptions: how to tame one of the worst office productivity killers. Shayne C. Kavanagh. A recent study found that the average worker experiences seven interruptions per hour, they spend five minutes dealing with the typical interruption, and about 80 percent of these interruptions were described as adding little or no value. <i>(In Government Finance Review - Vol. 30, no. 4 (August 2020), p. 108-115.)</i></p>	Article	Request
<p>Making the switch: this six step audit process will help you convert in-person training to a virtual course. Melissa Grey Satterfield, Tracy Montano. In this article, the authors provide steps for trainers to take their programming from in-person training to virtual learning. <i>(In TD - Vol. 74, no. 6 (June 2020), p. 26-31.)</i></p>	Article	Request
<p>Mount Carmel mayoral analysis report. Pat Hardy. MTAS was asked to weigh in on the possibility of Mount Carmel changing the term of the mayoral office from the current 4 years to 2 years.</p>	Report	Download
<p>MTAS guide to water systems for Tennessee municipal elected officials. Steve Wyatt. These six guides are part of a series created by MTAS for elected officials in Tennessee municipalities. Each guide is an overview of the tools used and the some of the requirements as specified by the State of Tennessee. Topics covered are corrosion, turbidity, microbiological issues, disinfection, disinfection byproducts and cross-connections.</p>	General	Download
<p>Municipal government intern job description. Pat Hardy. A job description to be used by any city or town when creating a position and recruiting for a municipal government intern.</p>	Job Description	Download
<p>Navigating mental health as a local government leader: a retired city manager's journey through mental illness. Bill. The author tells the story of dealing with lifelong mental illness while serving in local government. <i>(In Public Management - Vol. 102, no. 8 (August 2020), p. 22-26.)</i></p>	Article	Request

<p>Not your ordinary government training. B.J. Whetstine, Mary Lu Schweitzer. The authors report on how the material was taught in the Experienced Supervisor Applied Workshop. <i>(In TD – Vol. 74, no. 7 (July 2020), p. 56-61.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>Ordinance for disposal of animal waste. Angie Carrier. A municipal ordinance to amend Title 10, Chapter 2 of the Niota code regarding the disposal of animal waste.</p>	<p>Ordinance</p>	<p>Download</p>
<p>Payment of “hazard pay” during COVID-19 pandemic in selected cities in Tennessee. Frances Adams-O’Brien. Seven Tennessee cities responded to a request for information regarding whether or not their employees are eligible for hazard pay during a crisis or emergency declaration.</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>Download</p>
<p>Public transit in a pandemic. Derek Prall. In the wake of the pandemic in 2020, leaders of public transportation agencies throughout the country are working to keep public transit systems sustainable. The effects of the pandemic will be felt going forward for years to come. <i>(In American City & County – Vol. 135, no. 5 (June 2020), p. 19-21.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>Reimagining workers’ compensation: Tennessee’s journey. Randy Escobar, Shellie Evans. The State of Tennessee has started on a path to re-invent the workers’ compensation program. Those working on the project came to find out that one of the largest pieces of the puzzle had to do with technology and an integrated platform. The state adopted an advanced technology and integrated risk management system to begin. <i>(In Public Risk – Vol. 36, no. 4 (July/August 2020), p. 11-14.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>Sample municipal airport minimum standards. Sample municipal airport minimum standards shared by Rockwood, TN, Elizabethton, TN and Greeneville, TN.</p>	<p>General</p>	<p>Download</p>
<p>Sample ordinance to change board meeting dates. Pat Hardy. An ordinance that can be used by a city or town to authorize the Board of Mayor and Aldermen to set the date for their regular meetings.</p>	<p>Ordinance</p>	<p>Download</p>

<p>Sample ordinance to increase number of beer permits. Pat Hardy. An ordinance for use by a city or town in Tennessee to amend their municipal code by adding additional beer permits.</p>	<p>Ordinance</p>	<p>Download</p>
<p>Sewer tap connection fees survey. Frances Adams-O'Brien. Ten Tennessee cities were surveyed to find out what their sewer tap/connections fees are inside the city.</p>	<p>Survey</p>	<p>Download</p>
<p>Stronger together: making the case for consolidating rural fire services. Jeremy Mitchell. The author makes a case for fire service consolidation in Champaign County, Illinois. He describes the process and obstacles to consolidation. <i>(In Public Management - Vol. 102, no. 7 (July 2020), p. 31-35.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>The electric mayhem: what local governments must do to integrate electric vehicles into their fleets. Peter McDevitt. Due to the 2020 pandemic, climate change has fallen off the radar in cities and towns across the US. In this article, the author explains how cities can integrate electric vehicles into their fleets. <i>(In Public Management - Vol. 102, no. 8 (August 2020), p. 28-32.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>The link between animal cruelty and public safety: defining the role of the animal control officer. Julie Palais. The author provides an explanation of where the animal control officer may fit in the city or county's organizational structure and how this role interacts with law enforcement officers. <i>(In Public Management - Vol. 102, no. 8 (August 2020), p. 16-21.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>The year of innovation: new technology for MRF equipment in response to China's National Sword. Carol Brzozowski. A recycling company's main objective is to be sustainable and to protect its employees. In this article, the author explains what one recycling plant is doing to assure safety for their workforce. <i>(In MSW Management - Vol. 30, no. 4 (June 2020), p. 37-41.)</i></p>	<p>Article</p>	<p>Request</p>
<p>Tennessee Open Meetings Act violation. Elisha Hodge. MTAS was asked how a governing body can cure a violation or alleged violation of the Open Meetings Act (TOMA).</p>	<p>Legal Opinion</p>	<p>Download</p>