

TBA Local Government Forum 2024

A Virtual Event

November 1, 2024

Total Credits: 4 General



Government law is an ever-changing practice area with a unique blend of constitutional, statutory, and case law. This year's program features sessions on parliamentary procedures, 1st Amendment cases, local sustainability measures, and the Tennessee Public Records Act.

8:30am – 9:30am CT

The Lorax's Dilemma: Can Local Sustainability Measures Succeed and Avoid Preemption Risks?

While local governments face increasing constituent pressure to implement local environmental regulations (such as tree ordinances), sustainability measures can trigger challenges at the State level -- including litigation, constitutional challenges, and even threats of State preemption. This panel of attorneys and an urban forestry coordinator will review recent challenges to local sustainability efforts, the lessons to be derived, and potential alternatives to regulatory approaches.

Lora Fox, Metropolitan Government Department of Law

Mike Jameson, Metro Water Services

Tara Ladd, Metropolitan Government Department of Law

9:30am – 9:45am CT

Break

9:45am – 10:45am CT

"Signs, signs, everywhere the signs?" An Update on Recent First Amendment Jurisprudence

This presentation will offer an update, and updated guidelines, to lawyers representing local government entities on the state of First Amendment law, post-Reed v. Town of Gilbert but also post-City of Austin v. Reagan Nat'l Advertising on the barriers that the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution may or may not pose to efforts to regulate the display of signs of many kinds in local communities.

Brian Faughnan, Faughnan Law

10:45am – 11:00am CT

Break

11:00am - 12:00pm CT

Robert's Rules Refresher: Parliamentary Procedures

Parliamentary procedures at council meetings can be frustratingly opaque even to the most experienced participants. Join this session for a breakdown of how to handle motions and learn tips and tools to help you improve procedures at your own meetings.

Margaret Norris, Municipal Technical Advisory Service

12:00pm - 1:00pm CT

The Tennessee Public Records Act: A Review of the Basics

During this course, participants will be lead in a review of the basic requirements of the Tennessee Public Records Act. The review will include topics such as fees, time frame for response, the provision of copies, and who has the right to access pursuant to State law. Participants will also work through various scenarios to test their knowledge of the information discussed throughout the course.

Elisha Hodge, Public Entity Partners