

# 2023 STATE OF THE LEAGUE



**League**  
**Executive Director**  
**John Brenner**

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The State of The League in 2023 is one of growth and change. Key accomplishments include:

- Engaged Board of Directors and members in updated committee structure.
- Increased League membership to 140 municipal members.
- Local Public Procurement Program (joining PELRAS, GrantFinder and MJJ+) is now a member benefit included in League dues.
- Capitol Conference convened virtually and included presentations from leading state officials regarding

public safety, municipal finance, and community development/ infrastructure.

- Educated state officials, including new Administration and numerous new members of the PA General Assembly regarding our legislative priorities.
- Through input from our Board of Directors, members, and partners, developed new three-year strategic plan.
- Quality sessions and keynote speaker, with increased attendance in Bethlehem during the Municipal Leadership Summit with our partners the Pennsylvania State Association

of Township Commissioners and the Pennsylvania Career Fire Chiefs Association.

- Delivered high quality training and professional development opportunities including the PA Construction Codes Academy, PA Training Hub, and the Public Employer Labor Relations Advisory Service. Sustainable Pennsylvania software was upgraded, and a successful conference convened. Awarded new state contract -- Building Resilience in Communities.

 [Watch State of The League Video Message](#)

## ADVOCACY

### 2023 By the Numbers

**630+**

bills tracked through 2023

**9**

Policy Resolutions adopted during the 2023 Municipal Leadership Summit

**12**

Take Action recommendations for grassroots advocacy

### 2023 Legislative Highlights

- Developed Local Taxation Toolkit to help members utilize the study, *It's Not 1965 Anymore – State Tax Laws Fail to Meet Municipal Revenue Needs*, in their advocacy efforts.
- Hosted the Capitol Conference Webinar Series with an average of 40 attendees per webinar on various topics, including: a legislative priorities review; local taxation reform; blight and the Whole Homes Repair Program; stormwater fees; transportation funding opportunities; and DCED discussion of the state's economic development strategy.
- Hosted a Governmental Affairs Intern to conduct research and aid in our advocacy efforts.
- Advocated for our members on a variety of topics including:
  - Local preemption
  - Local use of radar
  - Right to Know Law
  - Advertising modernization
  - Uniform Construction Code
  - Blight remediation
  - Local taxation modernization
  - Local government impacts of implementing OSHA
  - Post-traumatic stress injury
  - Public meetings
  - Unfunded mandates
  - 911 Reauthorization
  - Retention of fire and EMS personnel

2023

# STATE OF THE LEAGUE



Strength Through Engagement.

## We Are **140** Members Strong.

**1**

1<sup>st</sup> Class City

**1**

2<sup>nd</sup> Class City

**1**

2<sup>nd</sup> Class A City

**46**

3<sup>rd</sup> Class Cities

**48**

Boroughs

**14**

1<sup>st</sup> Class Townships

**24**

2<sup>nd</sup> Class Townships

**5**

Municipalities

**LEADERSHIP**  
Elected for 2023-24



League President  
**Mayor Douglas Baker**  
City of Franklin



League 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
**Mayor Derek Slaughter**  
City of Williamsport



League 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
**Centrice Martin**  
Manager, Ferguson Township

## SIGNATURE PROGRAMS



sustainablepa.org

**131** Certified Sustainable PA Communities

**55** are League Members

**11** Platinum    **53** Silver  
**50** Gold        **17** Bronze

**Public Employer Labor Relations Advisory Service**  
PELRAS – our labor and employment law advisory service provides training, a labor newsletter and expert legal help at discounted rates. PELRAS membership currently stands at 327 members.

### Your Key to PA Local Government

This free eBook, available at [PML.org](http://PML.org), is designed to help Pennsylvanians understand how their government is organized and how they can participate as a citizen to support their municipality and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

### GrantFinder

The League is pleased to provide members with a no-cost, value-added benefit called GrantFinder. GrantFinder, powered by Lexipol, is a real-time, online searchable database of more than 16,000 federal, state, foundation, and corporate grants available to municipalities and local non-profits.

### Municipal Utility Alliance

The MUA has successfully enabled local governments to take every opportunity to benefit from the energy markets through competitive pricing.

### Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust

PLGIT is a financial management trust designed exclusively for local governments, offering a wide array of investment options and cash management services.

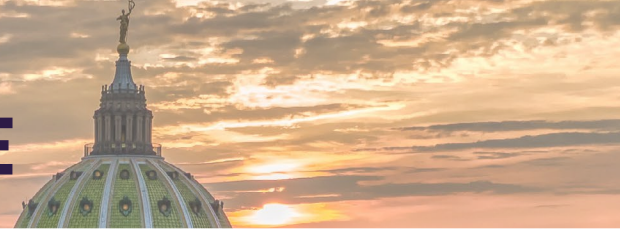
## League Strategic Planning

Over the past three years, The League completed several key initiatives through our Strategic Plan 2021-2023. We grew League membership to 140 municipal members. We released our ENVISION 2023 publication, looking to the future as we share innovative practices from our communities and offer long-term solutions to many challenges impacting local government. We completed the "It's Not 1965 Anymore" report with the Pennsylvania Economy League highlighting revenue options for municipalities. We advocated for our legislative priorities including the American Rescue Plan Act, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, reforming the state fireworks law, educating legislators about the impact of a potential Post Traumatic Stress Injury benefit, pushing for reforms in public safety, municipal finance, and community development & infrastructure. For the next three years, we are setting our sights even higher.

2025 marks the 125th Anniversary of The League as an association serving those who serve municipalities in Pennsylvania. We have updated our mission, vision, and core values statements. We have six major goals in advocacy, training & education, services, member engagement, awareness, and organizational excellence. Special thanks to League members, officers, executive committee, business leaders and staff who helped develop our new plan. The final document will be released in January 2024.

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# STATE OF THE LEAGUE



## TRAINING & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### League Training (Participants)

- PELRAS Conference – 493
- District Meetings – 178
  - Southwest - 25 | Southeast - 15
  - Southcentral - 25 | Northwest - 40
  - Northeast - 28 | Northcentral - 45
- Municipal Leadership Summit – 366
- Annual Sustainable PA Conference – 79

### APMM Training (Participants)

- Annual Conference – 222
- Executive Development Conference – 73

### Contract Training (Events / Participants)

- PCCA – 75 / 1,103  
(718 archived webinars sold)
- Floodplain – 10 / 218
- PATH – 17 / 166  
(222 archived webinars sold)

## Municipal Leadership Summit

2022-23 League President Mayor Michael Lombardo presided over the largest Summit in a decade of the Pennsylvania Municipal League, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners and Pennsylvania Career Fire Chiefs Association, October 6-9, in the City of Bethlehem. Tim Shriver, Founder of UNITE/New Dignity Index and Chair of the Special Olympics International Board of Directors presented a very meaningful keynote address. We thank all of our sponsors, exhibitors and advertisers for supporting the Summit. [Click here](#) to view the Summit program book.

[Click here](#) to watch the Municipal Leadership Summit video and plan to join us next year in Scranton!

On October 4, together with the City of Bethlehem, The League and KABOOM!, along with the generous support of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Infradapt, Bethlehem Parking Authority, Highmark, Lehigh Valley Health Network, The GIANT Company, and Peron Development., we built a playground at Fairview Park!

[Click here](#) to watch the playground build video!



## Information & Technology Upgrades

This past year has been very busy for The League as it relates to our Information and Technology upgrades which allow us to serve our members with greater efficiency. Upgrades include:

- Migrated from an old file system to SharePoint, which gives The League more readability in accessing files and keeping them backed up along with stronger security measures.
- Migrated from a legacy email system to Office 365 which provides uniformity and consistency.
- Set up computers on a domain and enabled a better security system for The League to protect all of our financial, membership and administrative data.
- Upgraded WiFi within our building that also enhanced our security, while creating a guest network in the process.
- Upgraded our legacy computers and older copiers.

## INSURANCE TRUSTS

### PennPRIME Insurance Trusts

Members of both Trusts receive personalized support from attorneys, claims adjusters, loss prevention representatives, underwriters, and other professionals experienced in municipal operations. Both Trusts include a loss control grant program, designed to financially assist our members with safety and risk management initiatives they choose to prioritize. We also develop comprehensive claims reviews and work with our members to facilitate optimal claims management every step of the way. With the depth and array of coverages and services PennPRIME offers, we are truly a one-source provider.

### PennPRIME Liability Trust

There are 54 members of the PennPRIME Liability Trust for 2023. The PennPRIME Liability Trust has dealt with a significant challenge for the 2024 renewal that all Insurers of Property are struggling to address: the significant increase in excess insurance rates. The large jump in excess insurance rates has been attributed to major losses in California, Texas, Florida and Hawaii resulting in Excess Carriers raising rates to cover those losses.

The Trust will be continuing its relationship with Lexipol for Police and Administration online training (LocalGovU).

### PennPRIME Worker's Compensation Trust

The PennPRIME Worker's Compensation Trust has added new members, the Borough of Blairsville and the Borough of Shippensburg. The Worker's Compensation Trust remains stable. There are 42 members of the Trust.

**U•COMP** is a group Unemployment Compensation Trust for public entities across Pennsylvania. The Trust is comprised of cities, townships of various classes, boroughs, municipalities, housing and redevelopment agencies and transit authorities. It assists the members in lowering their unemployment liability and also educates its members on the latest unemployment legislation.

U•COMP provides great opportunities for dividends, low annual rates and works closely with a third-party claims administrator to assist you with the risks and burdens of an unemployment claim. Our staff provides prompt, personalized, and professional service from the submission to the completion of an unemployment claim.

There are 128 Member of the Unemployment Compensation Trust. Member rates continue to be reduced through prudent management and prompt handling of claims. We continue to work with our third-party claims administrator Experian Employer Services to reduce claims against members.

**Corporate Partnerships: 21** Business Leaders Network Members  
**27** Associate Members



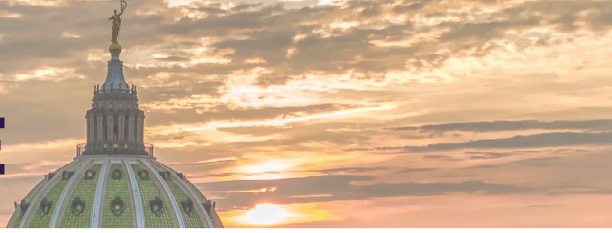
**Cornerstone Wealth Advisory & Insurance Services, LLC** was presented with the **2023 Community Partnership Award** during the Municipal Leadership Summit Awards Breakfast on October 6. Congratulations to Cornerstone for this well-deserved achievement. Patrick Geary accepted the award on behalf of Cornerstone.

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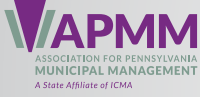


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# STATE OF THE LEAGUE



## SECRETARIAT SERVICES



The Association for Pennsylvania Municipal Management is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association of professional municipal managers and administrators working in Pennsylvania local government.

APMM is dedicated to the promotion of professional and effective local government management in Pennsylvania. There are currently 243 full-time municipal managers and 50 assistant municipal managers and administrators among its membership.



The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners represents Pennsylvania's first class townships and their elected governing officials before the Pennsylvania General Assembly and the Commonwealth's various agencies. PSATC is comprised of 60 member townships.

## ONLINE PRESENCE • PML.org

### Daily Newsfeed

2,700 articles posted | 44 League mentions

### Monthly Executive Director Video Reports

### Member Dashboard

### Civility Pledge for Elected and Appointed Officials

### Municipal Job Junction+ - FREE to Members

175 classifieds posted | 103 League member ads

### Social Media Channels

Boosted social media posting, engagement and reach

X 3,545 followers

f 627 followers

9,090 views

in 492 followers

## EXCLUSIVE PUBLICATIONS

### Legislative Locator

### League Link

### Membership Directory

### PELRAS UPDATE

### PELRAS SCOOP

### Municipal Reporter

- » First year publishing 6 editions
- » 37.5% open rate (4,121 total opens)

### Edition Themes

- » Infrastructure
- » Municipal Finance
- » Equity and Civic Engagement
- » Community Development
- » Sustainability and Economic Vitality
- » Public Health and Safety



## NATIONAL AFFILIATE



13 Direct League Member Municipalities

1 Pennsylvania representative served on the NLC Board of Directors

» Philadelphia Councilmember Brian O'Neill - Past President

Allentown Altoona

Carlisle Easton

Harrisburg Lancaster

New Castle Norristown

Philadelphia Pittsburgh

Pittston State College

Wilkes-Barre

## FINANCE

The League continues to utilize member-contributed funds to enhance programs and services, focusing on elevating the overall membership experience. Major revenue sources include trust and program fees, training contract reimbursements, and dues. In 2023, The League hosted several well-attended live events, projecting a 20% increase in registration fees compared to pre-pandemic levels. Ongoing monitoring of expenditures reveals a moderate expected increase over the prior year, primarily influenced by economic shifts. Notably, The League's net assets have steadily grown, experiencing an approximate 17% increase since 2019.

## 2023 PROJECTED REVENUES

