

September 14-16, 2022
Savannah, Georgia

Wednesday, Sept. 14

Morning – Those who arrive early will have the morning to get out and see Savannah on their own

12:00 Noon – Lunch on your own

1:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Introductions, CSCA Reset, Goal-setting for Conference

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. The Post-COVID (?) Association
Moderator: Shellie Hampton, Kentucky Association of Counties

Association staff will discuss, roundtable style, the changes they have made to personnel/staffing, meetings/conferences, and member engagement arising from the pandemic. What practices are we putting behind us even after COVID? Where will we be smarter, better, cheaper, or just different? Bring your reflections, best practices, and frustrations for a peer group discussion.

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Modern Challenges in Housing
Moderator: Kevin Kinnally, Maryland Association of Counties

Governments and communities have been shocked by the curious housing market through the pandemic years. A surprisingly hot real estate market has created pressure on prices and affordability. Meanwhile, short term rental platforms and corporate interest in properties has burgeoned a new build-to-rent subculture of third-party owners with different motivations than ever before. Meanwhile, many communities face YIMBY pressures, seeking to end zoning and limitations on multi-unit housing, accessory dwellings, and other higher density tools that may promote a “missing middle.” Buckle up, as this policy debate is likely just getting started.

3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. – NACo Update

NACo CEO/Executive Director Matt Chase and staff colleagues will update CSCA attendees on policy and implementation issues relevant to the southeastern states, and organizational issues that may affect the state associations within the region.

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. – Sponsor Presentation

5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. – Tour of Savannah (by open bus, Gray Line Savannah)

6:30 p.m. – Group Dinner at Garibaldi’s (verbal presentation by sponsor(s) during dinner)

Thursday, Sept. 15

8:00 a.m. – Breakfast

8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

Rural and Urban, Red and Blue, the Split Association
Moderator: Chris Villines, Association of Arkansas Counties

Every state faces some variation on this theme – differences in politics, attitude, and participation within its membership, breaking down in some way on geography or demography. How is your Association navigating the choppy waters of an increasingly divided political world? Where are you feeling pressures, and... if you have them... what tools are you finding effective in bringing members together, and/or appealing to their own sub-group’s interests? We’ll discuss regional offerings, caucuses and affinity groups, and other association-level efforts targeting this every-present challenge below the surface.

9:45 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Tour of Port of Savannah (bus pickup at and return to hotel location)

12:00 noon – Lunch (at hotel; opportunity for sponsor presentation during lunch)

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The Big Download: Legislative Issues, A to Z
Moderator: Todd Edwards, ACCG Advancing Georgia’s Counties

CSCA attendees have shared their top issues from their 2022 legislative sessions, and as always themes and common topic emerge. We’ll run down the main topics that have come up and faced counties across the region – share resolutions, wins and losses, new opposition, and emerging trends. Don’t miss this anchor element of each CSCA conference, and prepare to share your war wounds from the legislative front lines.

3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. - Break

3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Policy Development - Before, During, and After the Session
Moderator: Steve Gray, Mississippi Association of Supervisors

What process does your state association use to identify and adopt top issues? How engaged are rank-and-file members in this process? Do you rely on broad, topic-based resolutions or statements, or do you adopt specific bills to be introduced proactively on your counties’ behalf?

How do you gain grass-roots engagement during the legislative session? Can you get deep engagement from individual county elected officials... e.g. “call your Senator

today!” What tools help you find the right message at the right time, including after the legislative action is completed?

5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – Open

6:30 p.m. – Group Dinner at The Chart House (verbal presentation by sponsor(s) during dinner)

Friday, September 16

8:30 a.m. – Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. – CSCA Business Session

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. A Strategic Look Forward
Roundtable discussion, all participants

We’ll wrap with a look at the initial objectives set for the conference, some framing of what elements would make future events even more successful, and share “next steps” at both the CSCA level and for individual state associations.