

Annual County Gov't Day Set For March 13-14

This year's County Government Day, March 13-14 at the Downtown Doubletree Hotel in Metro Nashville-Davidson County, will include a new opportunity for county officials to meet with their legislators and observe the legislative process.

County Government Day is an annual meeting hosted jointly by COAT and TCSA.

Here's what you need to know as you plan to attend the 2017 version of County Government Day.

- Monday, March 13, will be a session day for both the Senate and House. County officials are urged to finish a day of association meetings with a trip to the chambers of both houses. A strong showing of county officials in the Capitol that evening while sessions are proceeding will have a positive impact on state lawmakers who are expected to be entering their busiest time of their annual session.

The balconies of the Senate and House are open to visitors, who are often recognized from their respective legislator(s) during the course of session. Just make sure you let your legislator know ahead of time that you will be present.

- Association meetings are tentatively scheduled to begin as early as 9 a.m. Monday, March 13. County commissioners serving on their association's committees will work 9-11:30 a.m., ahead of their board meeting at 1 p.m.

Similarly, county highway officials

start meeting at 11 a.m., while members of the COAT board also begin at that time. Breakout sessions will follow beginning at 1 p.m. for COAT associations, and then at 1:30 p.m. for TCSA associations.

A more detailed agenda will be posted closer to the conference.

- Registration ahead of time for the conference is being done differently from the past, as COAT and TCSA members will be using separate forms to plan their attendance. TCSA-related members should go to www.tncounties.org to register online or print a form to be returned to the TCSA office. Those registering with TCSA can also pay online.

Likewise, COAT members should go to www.coatn.com, where a printable form is available for your use.

- This year's breakfast and general session on Tuesday morning will break from tradition. The Governor's Tennessee Prayer Breakfast was recently scheduled for that same morning. As a result the governor, his state commissioners and members of the General Assembly would unlikely to attend the County Government Day event that morning.

A program for that morning is still in the works. It is hoped that county officials will take advantage of a more brief breakfast meeting and attend Senate and House committee meetings beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday morning are traditionally filled with committees that have a direct



impact on county government. Some of those include:

- Senate Finance, 8:30 a.m.
- House Local Government, 9 a.m.
- Senate State & Local Government, 10:30 a.m.
- House Finance, 1:30 p.m.
- House Criminal Justice Sub, 1:30 p.m.
- House Transportation, 1:30 p.m.
- House Local Government Sub, 3 p.m.
- House Civil Justice Sub, 3:30 p.m.
- Senate Judiciary 3:30 p.m.

Questions about registration or any other aspect of about the conference should be directed to TCSA by calling (615) 532-3767 or COAT by calling (615) 253-6700.