

About WCMA and OCCMA:

The Oregon City/County Management Association (OCCMA) and the Washington City/County Management Association (WCMA) are affiliates of the International City/County Management Association. The associations are dedicated to strengthening the quality of municipal government through improved professional management. The members include city and county managers, city administrators, assistants to city and county managers and administrators, department heads, students and others interested in local government.



To learn more about the city and county management profession, visit the following sites:

- International City/County Management Association at www.icma.org
- Washington City/County Management Association at www.wccma.org
- Oregon City/County Management at www.occma.org.
- NW NextGen Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Washington-CityCounty-Management-Association/862203660531668>

To take advantage of this opportunity, contact:

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Real Practical Advice



Washington and Oregon City/County Management Associations Mentoring Program



OCCMA
Oregon City/County
Management Association
A State Affiliate of ICMA



WCMA
Washington City/County
Management Association
A State Affiliate of ICMA

Make Your Mark as the Next Generation

It is a prime time for those with an interest in the profession to explore options and prepare for a career in local government management. There are just not enough people entering the profession to adequately replace the current managers who are close to retirement. The management profession faces demographic trends over the next 15 years that will be a challenge but also an opportunity to diversify the ranks. WCMA and OCCMA are committed to offering internships, mentorships and other opportunities to prepare the next generation for being the quality city and county managers that are vital for strong local communities.

Wanted: Passion for Service and Community

Are you interested in serving a community and making a difference that people see and feel every day? The Oregon and Washington City/County Management Associations are seeking students, recent graduates and early career professionals interested in city or county management. The services offered to aspiring local government leaders include mentorship, informational interviews and job shadowing opportunities.

The program matches you with a chief administrative officer or deputy chief administrative officer. This personal, one-on-one connection is customized by you and your mentor and can focus on various topics including career path exploration, job search assistance and public service roles.

Learn from the Pros: Job Shadowing

Don't be afraid to ask to job shadow a city or county manager—they love to share what they do.

And job shadowing is a great way to learn about a day in the life of a city or county manager. Attend meetings, observe top-level decision making, and be able to ask questions throughout the process to gain insights about city/county management. This first-hand experience will help put the work into perspective and allow you to get a glimpse of your future career. Job shadowing is usually a day or less, but you can discuss the length with the manager who is hosting you.



Learn from the Pros: Informational Interviews

It's important to be able to gather a variety of opinions and insight into the career. Informational interviews are a great way to achieve a great fit for a mentor and a great way to get to know other managers. By interviewing with multiple managers you are in the driver's seat. You get to ask what you want, whether that's what they love about the profession, what they've accomplished and how, what it takes to become a manager or all that and more.



Local Managers: Serving Communities

Cities and counties provide an amazing array of essential public services—from law enforcement and recycling to emergency response and services for the needy. While we often see the people who deliver these services—police officers, sanitation workers, paramedics and homeless shelter providers—we may not see others behind the scenes who help ensure that those services operate smoothly every day. You may know these public servants by various titles: city manager, county administrator, town manager or chief administrative officer. Today's complex local government operations require a combination of strong political leadership, innovative policy development, a relentless focus on execution and results, a commitment to transparent and ethical government, and a strategy for representing and engaging every segment of the community. That is the role and the calling of the local government manager.

