

2024 Art of Management
April 17, 2024
8:30 am - 2:30 pm

AGENDA

8:30 - 8:45 am Welcome & Introductions

This workshop is designed for you! Senior Managers with diverse backgrounds will share practical skills and advice for becoming a manager, as well as how to navigate your new position as a city or county manager.

Presenter: Russ Forrest, Town Manager, Town of Vail and Travis Machalek, Town Administrator, Town of Estes Park

8:45 - 9:45 am Understanding Ourselves & Our Differences

Self-awareness is the key leadership skill that separates good leaders from excellent leaders. This topic will give insight to your own personality and communication style, as well as understanding and valuing the different styles of others that you relate with. ***Please be sure to complete the DISC assessment tool sent via email in advance!***

Presenter: Demetrius Parker, Trust Leadership Collective

9:45 - 10:00 am Break

10:00 - 11:00 am Healthy Commitment

Being a City and/or County Manager requires a level of commitment that can often feel like you are on 24/7. Managing and leading your - City Council/Commissioners, staff, community stakeholders, and community (business/resident) is at times overwhelming. Working professionals develop emotional detachment. It's the only way to thrive in the work.

Emotional detachment helps us remember that we are not our work, and that feedback is useful, not an attack. Commitment permits us to keep going (especially when we're asked to provide more effort than we planned). It's easy to confuse the two.

Being detached doesn't mean you don't care. It simply means you're focusing on the work and those you serve, not on your own narrative. And being committed comes from a professional decision, not from an existential crisis.

Facilitator: Jennifer Hoffman, City and County Manager, City and County of Broomfield

Panelists:

- Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, City Manager, City of Boulder
- Doug DeBord, County Manager, Douglas County
- Jason Rodgers, City Manager, Commerce City

11:00 - 12:00 pm The Value of a Healthy Mayor/Manager Relationship

Hear from Grand Junction Mayor Anna Stout on the value and importance of the Mayor/Manager relationship. Mayor Stout began her term with little trust and connection with the City Manager. Over time, the relationship grew, and Mayor Stout learned the value of having a solid relationship with the City Manager. Join us for an honest and open discussion with Mayor Stout, sharing the transition from minimal trust to an effective and powerful partnership with her City Manager.

Facilitator: Michael Penny, City Manager, City of Castle Pines

Presenter: Mayor Anna Stout, City of Grand Junction

12:00 - 12:30 pm Lunch

12:30 - 1:30 pm Go Ahead, Ask Us Anything

Are you new to the profession and want to better understand why some crazy decisions come before you, or are you a hardened veteran and want to bounce an idea off of a colleague not in your organization? Either way, we have assembled a top notch panel of experts from front range big cities, to west slope small towns, who hope to offer some insights into how our jobs actually should function in our communities and why we love our profession (and otherwise answer any questions you want to ask). This will be a highly interactive session taking questions from the audience. Go ahead, try to stump them.

Facilitator: Clint Kinney, Town Manager, Town of Snowmass Village

Panelists:

- Kelly DiMartino, City Manager, City of Fort Collins
- Drew Sanders, City Manager, City of Cortez
- Matthew Birnie, County Manager, Gunnison County
- Shannon Haynes, Town Manager, Town of Breckenridge
- Elyse Ackerman Casselberry, City Manager, City of Delta
- Jenn Ooton, Senior Project Manager, City of Aspen
- Clint Kinney, Town Manager, Town of Snowmass Village

1:30 - 2:30 pm Why Pick Local Government Management?

Facilitator: Frank Lancaster, Senior Advisor

Panelists:

- Jason Damweber, Deputy Administrator, Town of Estes Park
- Kady Doelling, City Manager, City of Lafayette
- Shane Hale, Town Manager, Town of Windsor
- Joanne Spina, Senior Advisor and former LaPlata County Manager

2:30 pm Adjourn