



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION®

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For Immediate Release

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MEDIA ADVISORY

National Academy of Public Administration, The University of Texas at Austin's LBJ School of Public Affairs, and Texas State University's Hobby Center for Public Service Hold Forum on Challenges Facing Local Governments

"Governing Across the Divide" Event to Focus on Innovations in Local Government

WASHINGTON, DC – The National Academy of Public Administration, The University of Texas at Austin's LBJ School of Public Affairs and Texas State University's William P. Hobby Center for Public Service will hold a one-day forum in Austin, Texas on September 29th to examine the changing role of local governments in the U.S. intergovernmental system, with a focus on the most promising innovations in local government service delivery.

"Our last election exposed a nation of voters who are dramatically divided, with very different perspectives on the nation's path forward," said Terry Gerton, President and CEO of the National Academy of Public Administration. "Our hope is that through the Governing Across the Divide series, the Academy can identify and elevate solutions found by innovative states and communities to the toughest of our national challenges, and that by sharing these, others may find the inspiration and will they need to advance their own policy and governance solutions."

During this second of four regional *Governing Across the Divide* events initiated by the Academy, government officials, academics and thought leaders from across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors will debate the changing roles of local governments in the areas of public housing, public safety and how technology is reshaping our programmatic and governance capabilities. The forum will focus on identifying both best practices and the gaps and obstacles that hinder local governments from taking the actions they believe are necessary to meet the needs of their populations.

"We are especially pleased to host the upcoming NAPA regional forum, "Governing Across the Divide: Innovation in Local Government," in Austin, one of the nation's most dynamic and innovation-inspired cities," said Angela Evans, Dean of LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin. "As the state capital, Austin is also at the center of robust debate, dialogue and action on the many challenges that face our communities. We are pleased to join Howard Balanoff of the William P. Hobby Center

and the National Academy to help develop ‘best practices’ to meet the needs of our citizens.”

“The ‘Governing Across the Divide’ event will feature a series of excellent speakers and panels,” said Howard Balanoff, Professor and Director of the William P. Hobby Center for Public Service, Texas State University. “You will not want to miss an opportunity to hear Julian Castro, former Secretary of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) talk about events at the federal level that impact local government, while Harvey Kronberg provides an up-to-date review of Texas politics and policy with his analysis of the recent activities of the Texas Legislature that impact local governments. Also featured will be Dustin Haisler, Chief Innovation Officer, e-Republic, Publisher of Governing Magazine and Government Technology Magazine who will discuss the impact of disruptive technologies, such as Uber, Airbnb etc., on local, state, and national governments.”

The four-part *Governing Across the Divide* series seeks to draw out the governance challenges facing leaders at the federal, state, and local levels and propose a national agenda for improving the government’s effectiveness in delivering services to its citizens. The first forum took place on August 29th at the University of Southern California’s Sol Price School of Public Policy in Sacramento and focused on environmental and health care policies. Upcoming events will take place in Syracuse, New York and Arlington, Virginia.

To register to attend, please click [here](#).

WHAT: Governing Across the Divide – A look at the challenges facing local governments, with a focus on innovations in local government

WHEN: September 29, 2017
8:45 am – 5:00 pm Central Time (a reception will follow)

WHERE: LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
Sid Richardson Hall
2315 Red River Street – Unit 3
Austin, Texas

WHO: Speakers and panelists include:
Julian Castro, Former Mayor, City of San Antonio, TX; Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; Dean’s Distinguished Fellow and Fellow of the Dávila Chair in International Trade Policy, LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
Troy Gay, Assistant Chief of Police, City of Austin, TX
Sheryl Sculley, City Manager, City of San Antonio, TX
Larry Gonzales, Member, Texas State House of Representatives
Brenda Eivens, City Manager, City of City Park, TX
Jeff Travillion, Commissioner, Travis County, TX Precinct 1
Alex Briseno, Former City Manager, San Antonio, TX; Professor of

Public Service in Residence, Saint Mary's University
Will Hampton, Director of Communications, City of Round Rock, TX
Harvey Kronberg, Editor, Quorum Report
Dustin Haisler, CIO of eRepublic; Publisher, Governing Magazine and Government Technology Magazine
Christy McFarland, Research Director, National League of Cities
Randall Reid, Southeast Regional Director, International City/County Management Association
Angela Evans, Dean, LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
Howard Balanoff, Professor and Director, William P. Hobby Center for Public Service, Texas State University
Terry Gerton, President and CEO, National Academy of Public Administration
Michael Lind, Visiting Professor, LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
Bill Spellman, Professor, LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
Sherri Greenberg, Clinical Professor, LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin
Alan Bojorquez, Attorney at Law and Principal, The Bojorquez Law Firm, Austin, TX

MEDIA: Media should RSVP to bholahan@greatpointstrategies.com

About the National Academy of Public Administration

Chartered by Congress to provide non-partisan expert advice, the Academy is an independent, non-profit, and non-partisan organization established in 1967 to assist government leaders in building more effective, efficient, accountable, and transparent organizations. Learn more at www.napawash.org

About the LBJ School of Public Affairs

The LBJ School, one of the nation's top public affairs schools, makes a difference, not only within the walls of academia, but also in the public and social dialogue of the world. Contributing viable solutions to society is the LBJ School's legacy and its benchmark. Its effectiveness in channeling the purpose and passion of students into professional careers is evident in the success of more than 4,000 graduates who are the living legacy of President Johnson's bold and fearless action. For more, visit lbj.utexas.edu.

About the William P. Hobby Center for Public Service

Texas State University's William P. Hobby Center for Public Service offers the nationally accredited Certified Public Manager® (CPM) Program throughout the State of Texas. The Center is named for the Honorable William P. Hobby, Texas' longest serving Lt. Governor and is responsible for educating public and nonprofit managers in the ethical values and technical competencies associated with outstanding public service.

Since its inception in 1998, the Center has had 1700+ graduates complete the program.
For additional information go to www.txstate.edu/cpm

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