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LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Improve your leadership through curiosity and novelty

Seek diverse opinions, learn new skills and experiment with different approaches to disrupt how you've always done things as a leader and create new possibilities, write Jefferson Yu-Jen Chen and Anne Duggan, co-authors of "Courageous Invitations." "By embracing a mindset of curiosity and exploration, you can uncover new insights and opportunities that you might have otherwise missed," they write.

Full Story: [CEOWorld Magazine](#) (4/11)

Your roadmap to EV fleet conversion

As state and local governments plan to transition their fleets to electric vehicles (EVs), they need to think about more than just replacing older vehicles with new electric ones. It's also necessary to consider new infrastructure requirements, cost considerations, timetables and more.

Wherever you are in your changeover journey, download our guide to navigate the road to your own successful EV fleet conversion.

[Download the guide](#)

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BUDGETING AND FINANCE

Va. city weighs stormwater utility fee increase

The Alexandria City Council in Virginia is considering a 5% increase to its stormwater utility fee and will host a public hearing on the proposal on Saturday. The fee has been increased every year since 2021 to help fund leaf removal, street sweeping and other stormwater efforts.

Full Story: [ALXNow \(Alexandria, Va.\)](#) (4/10)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Wastewater sampling may help allocate health resources

A public health pilot program in Marin County, Calif., is using programs developed to track COVID-19 levels to analyze wastewater samples for cocaine, fentanyl, methamphetamines and nicotine. Spikes in the substances could help local health authorities allocate resources, such as drugs to reverse opioid overdoses.

Full Story: [Reuters](#) (4/12)

Mich. city to hear from public on police drone plans

City Commissioners in Grand Rapids, Mich., will hear from residents at a public hearing on a police department proposal to purchase and use drones for search and rescue operations, crime scene reconstruction, investigations and in cases of civil unrest or large public gatherings. The department is seeking \$100,000 for the acquisition of six drones, plus additional funding for training and video storage.

Full Story: [MLive \(Michigan\) \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (4/11)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, RESTORATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

Cleaning up River Seine for 2024 Olympics a heavy lift

(Ludovic Marin/Getty Images)

The iconic River Seine in Paris, like many rivers in urban areas, has become so polluted that it's no longer safe for swimming or most fish species, but efforts are underway to change that with the 2024 Paris Olympics around the corner. Officials have implemented new wastewater disposal rules for moored boats and invested more than \$500 million in new storage basins and other infrastructure to help capture and treat stormwater runoff.

Full Story: [The Associated Press](#) (4/11)

Fla. county to spend \$50M to buy park land

Manatee County, Fla., is preparing to spend \$50 million to acquire undeveloped land for parks, protection of water resources and preservation of fish and wildlife. About 80 sites are under consideration.

Full Story: [Bradenton Herald \(Fla.\)](#) (4/10)

LEGISLATION, POLICY AND GRANTS

Ordinance ends low-level traffic stops in Memphis, Tenn.

Memphis, Tenn., City Council members have unanimously approved an ordinance that will eliminate police officers' authority to pull drivers over for secondary violations that include expired tags or broken tail lights. The ordinance, which takes effect immediately, is the sixth police reform measure passed in the city since the beating death of Tyre Nichols in January.

Full Story: [WHBQ-TV \(Memphis, Tenn.\)](#) (4/11)

PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

St. Paul, Minn., working to improve ADA access

The Sunken Garden in the Como Park Conservatory in St. Paul, Minn., has been inaccessible for people in wheelchairs for years because of broken wheelchair lifts. The city's Parks and Recreation Department has a plan for upgrades to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and is awaiting funding in May.

Full Story: [Star Tribune \(Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.\)](#) (tiered subscription model) (4/10)

ICMA NEWS

Are you ready to join a group of over 5,000 city and county leaders who've benefited from high performance leadership training?

The next cohort of the ICMA High Performance Leadership Academy starts on April 24, 2023. This 12-week, online program helps equip city and county government professionals with the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively lead and manage thriving organizations and communities. ICMA members who register for any of the 2023 ICMA Local Government Reimagined Conferences are eligible to receive a 2 for \$3,000 enrollment promotion. [Register today!](#)

Submit your ideas for sessions for the 2023 ICMA Equity Summit

The [call for presentations](#) for the 2023 ICMA Equity Summit is open! The Equity Summit, July 20-21, is a virtual event for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officers (and those doing the work without the title), as well as local government professionals interested in ideas to deepen strategies, shape actions, and create solutions. [Submit your session ideas by April 21](#). (A [downloadable copy of the submission form](#) is available online; however, all submissions must be submitted through the [online portal](#).)

Upcoming events ([see a full calendar of events](#))

- * April 19: [Webinar Series] [2023 Effective Supervisory Practices](#)
- * April 20: [Workshop] [Data-Driven Decision Making - An ICMA University Certificate Program](#)
- * April 24: [Leadership Development Program] [April 2023 Cohort: ICMA High Performance](#)

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[James A. Michener](#),
writer, Pulitzer Prize winner

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