

Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities Summer Conference 2018!

**July 25-27, 2018 at the
Verizon Center in
Mankato**

Co-hosted by the cities of:
Mankato
North Mankato
Saint Peter

Register today!

Register online at:
greatermncities.org/summer18

Venue Information

Unless otherwise indicated on the agenda,
conference activities will be held at:
Verizon Center
1 Civic Center Plaza,
Mankato, MN 56001

Hotel

Hilton Garden Inn (next to Verizon Center)
20 Civic Center Plaza
Mankato, MN 56001
Call: (507) 344-1111

*Attendees are responsible for making their
own hotel reservations. The CGMC has a
block of rooms at a discounted rate of \$119
(plus tax). The block closes July 4.

Questions?

Contact Julie Liew at 651-259-1917 or
jlliew@flaherty-hood.com



**DISCOVER
CONNECT
GET INSPIRED**



Dedicated to a Strong Greater Minnesota

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Wednesday, July 25

10 a.m.-12 p.m. – Registration at Verizon Center

10:30 a.m. – CGMC Board of Directors Meeting

12 p.m. – Conference Begins – Welcome Remarks from CGMC President Dave Smiglewski and Host Cities

12:05-1:30 p.m. – Lunch presentation: “Session 2018: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly” CGMC Executive Director Bradley Peterson will provide in-depth analysis on the 2018 legislative session, including negotiations (or lack thereof) between legislative leaders and the Governor, controversial vetoes, bonding bill drama and what it all means for Greater Minnesota priorities. He will also preview some of the key races in the upcoming 2018 election, including the gubernatorial race and the fight for control of the Minnesota House.

1:30-2 p.m. – Presentation: “Enhance Your Community with a Community Foundation” Dayton Soby, a trustee with the J.A. Wedum Foundation, will explain why the foundation is eager to share its knowledge, efforts and money to help cities start their own community foundations.

2-2:30 p.m. – BREAK

2:30 p.m. – Board bus for Saint Peter and learn about Saint Peter’s history and recovery from the 1998 tornado as we travel to the city

2:55-3:55 p.m. – Explore Innovative Child Care Partnerships at the Saint Peter Community Center Learn about the city’s efforts to assist private businesses and individuals in providing more day care slots in the community and tour the child care centers currently operating out of the Community Center.

4-4:45 p.m. – Housing, Health Care, Historic Sites: A Guided Bus tour of Saint Peter Hop back on the bus for a short tour of Saint Peter including the hospital, development areas, historic sites and the city’s newest housing development – Traverse Green Subdivision. City staff will provide information on development of the “building better neighborhoods” design used for the subdivision. If available, a tour of one of the spec homes will be provided.

4:45 – Enjoy Downtown Saint Peter The bus will head to historical downtown Saint Peter for a tour of the local Arts Center and free time to partake of the one of a kind downtown shops offering everything from authentic Swedish products to upscale kitchen and home furnishings to locally sourced foods and refreshments.

5:30 p.m. – Board bus at Art Center



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5:45-7 p.m. – Cities-sponsored Social Hour and Entertainment at Chankaska Creek Ranch & Winery A toast to good food and wine! Networking social includes wine and spirits sampling, live entertainment from the Lost Walleye Orchestra, lawn games and a bonfire.

7 p.m. – Cities-sponsored Dinner at Chankaska Creek Ranch & Winery Enjoy dinner and conversation at the beautiful, brand-new events center.

8 p.m. – Board bus and head back to hotel

8:30 p.m. – Downtown Mankato Walking Pub Crawl *(optional)*

Thursday, July 26

Breakfast on own

8:00-10:30 a.m. – City Tours

- **Option 1: CityArt Walking Tour** – See and enjoy art out in the open on a guided CityArt Walking Sculpture Tour. The tour includes a stop-taste along the way at Tandem Bagels and Friesen's Family Bakery & Soup Bar.
- **Option 2: Mankato/North Mankato Bus Tour with "Echo the Eagle"** – This guided bus tour highlights North Mankato and Mankato renaissance redevelopment projects; sustainable projects that include solar energy, water quality wastewater treatment and economic development.
- **Option 3: Golf at North Links Golf Course** – Enjoy nine holes of golf at North Links Golf Course, 41553 520th Street, North Mankato. Cost is \$27, includes golf cart. *(Must provide your own transportation to the course; first tee time is 7:30 a.m.)*

11 a.m.-noon – Exhibitor Break Visit the more than two dozen businesses and organizations that will be showcasing their products and services.

11 a.m.-noon – Greater Minnesota Partnership Membership Meeting *(optional)*

Noon-1 p.m. – Keynote Luncheon with speaker Kevin Lindsey, Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Human Rights

1-2 p.m. – Panel Discussion: "Farm to (Water) Table: Agriculture's Role in Protecting Clean Water" To find solutions to our state's water-quality woes, cities must work hand-in-hand with farmers, businesses, state agencies and other stakeholders. This panel discussion will touch on agriculture's role in water quality efforts and ways in which cities and farmers can find common ground and work together to address these issues. The discussion will be moderated by Ted Suss, a former state legislator and current member of the Minnesota River Congress Action Board.



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2-2:30 p.m. – Exhibitor Break Visit the more than two dozen businesses and organizations that will be showcasing their products and services.

2:30-3:30 p.m. – Legislative Panel Discussion: “From North Minneapolis to the North Shore (And Everywhere in Between): Cultivating Economic Growth Statewide” Much has been said about the rural-urban divide, but when it comes to economic development Minnesota communities have far more in common than you might expect. Although they may manifest in different ways, the child care shortage, job training needs and the demand for more housing impact all corners of the state. This panel discussion featuring rural, suburban and urban legislators will explore the top economic concerns facing their districts and how finding common ground on these issues can lead to legislation that will move Minnesota forward.

3:30 p.m. – BREAK

4 p.m. – Cocktail Reception Join legislators and your fellow community leaders for a cash bar and light hors d’oeuvre.

5 p.m. – Legislative Awards Dinner Enjoy a delicious meal as the CGMC honors the legislators and city officials who worked tirelessly to advance Greater Minnesota’s interests over the past year.

7:30 p.m. – Gubernatorial Candidate Forum The CGMC, Greater Mankato Growth and the Greater Minnesota Partnership will co-host a gubernatorial candidate forum that focuses on the top issues that impact Greater Minnesota communities.

9 p.m. – Post-debate Dessert and Discussion

Friday, July 27

8 a.m. – Continental Breakfast

8:30-9:30 a.m. – Labor & Employee Relations Update Brandon Fitzsimmons, a labor attorney with Flaherty & Hood P.A., will discuss the CGMC Labor and Employee Relations Committee's proposed work plan, budget and policies for 2018-19 and provide an update on labor laws and settlements.

9:30 a.m. – Membership Meeting The full CGMC membership will adopt the annual budget and assessments, elect officers and discuss other business as needed.

11:15 a.m. – Adjourn

**Please note that this is a tentative agenda. Agenda items and speakers may change.*