January 20, 2017

Financial Health Indicators released to counties

Thursday Auditor of State Dave Yost’s Office released information to your county auditor/county fiscal officer about the financial well-being of your county demonstrated through their newly developed Financial Health Indicators. The Auditor of State spent the last five years developing this benchmarking data, which has been compiled for all 88 counties as well as cities throughout Ohio.

We encourage you to contact your county auditor/county fiscal officer to obtain a copy of your county’s Financial Health Indicators, if you have not already.

The Financial Indicators seek to identify cities and counties that may be experiencing fiscal stress and provide them the opportunity to be proactive, rather than a reactive, in addressing these potential concerns.

Data used is the same information that is publicly available in your annual financial reports for 2015 and the previous seven years, and it relates to the following:

- All Governmental Funds
- General Fund
- Governmental Type Activities (GTA)
- Sales Tax Revenue
- Property Tax Revenue
- Intergovernmental Revenue
- Condition of Capital Assets
- Debt Service Expenditures
- And many other factors and conditions

The Financial Indicators largely analyze the performance and trends of the items listed above.

The Auditor of State will release information for all counties and cities next week on January 25th. You will be able to access such on their web site. We anticipate much discussion within your courthouse, around the statehouse and in the media as well as in your communities following this roll-out.
For more information, the Webinar is available [here](#) or to email questions to the Auditor of State use this [address](#). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either of us at 614-221-5627 or at csubler@ccao.org or at bcole@ccao.org.

**Regional legislative briefing sessions being planned**

As the 132nd General Assembly convenes, the need for state legislators to understand the issues confronting county government is more important than ever. We must stress to them the critical need for ensuring fiscal stability and the impact that the resolution of the Medicaid Managed Care Organizations sales tax will have upon our ability to maintain that fiscal stability and meet the needs of our mutual constituents.

In order to better introduce ourselves to the members of the 132nd General Assembly, CCAO is again organizing Regional Legislative Briefings throughout the state designed to allow commissioners to meet with their legislators away from Columbus and in their districts to discuss the counties’ major policy issues and share with them the importance of the state/county partnership.

Current plans call for holding 20 different briefing sessions over a two and a half month period from the middle of February through the end of April. The briefing sessions will be broken out by state senate district boundaries. The map above shows Ohio’s senate districts and the chart outlines the current assignment of senate districts to briefing sessions being planned. Where the senate district geography is great we have attempted to provide briefings for individual senate districts. Where the senate districts are in a fairly compact area we are concentrating on scheduling sessions for individual counties. We anticipate providing definitive plans to you by the end of next week.
In the meantime, we encourage you to contact your legislators to let them know that CCAO is currently scheduling our legislative briefing sessions and ask them to watch for information regarding the briefing sessions which will be coming to them from CCAO in the near future.

Recognizing that legislators’ schedules can be quite challenging, we will be extending an open invitation to the legislators to attend any of the scheduled events. However, we expect that you will be personally inviting your legislators to the briefing session being planned for your area.

**CCAO bids farewell to Mead**

Today the CCAO Board of Directors expressed their appreciation to former CCAO Policy Analyst Brian Mead for his service to the Association from 2014-2017. Earlier this month Brian left to become the director of the Licking County Board of Elections. Brian attended the CCAO Board meeting where he was presented a memento from the Board. Pictured to the left is Licking County Commissioner and CCAO Executive Committee Member Tim Bubb and CCAO Managing Director of Policy Cheryl Subler with Director Mead.

**Statehouse, Etc.**

The House and Senate hit the new year running. The wheels are in motion for the new legislature. Both the House and the Senate have announced their leadership teams and caucus retreats are taking place. The House has released its new slate of committees and the legislators who will serve as Chair and Vice Chair (full committee membership will be released soon). The first half of the year’s session schedule was announced, committees will begin meeting in the next couple weeks and the Governor’s biennial budget will be released by the end of this month.

**Hearing Schedule**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25**

**House Session**
(Chr. Rosenberger, C., (614) 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 pm

**Senate Session**
(Chr. Obhof, L., (614) 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 pm