



May 15, 2020

Statement from MACo's President Regarding the 2020 Summer Conference:

Dear MACo Members and Conference Participants,

These are challenging times. Our ways of life have been uprooted and we are all working together to keep ourselves, our families, and our vulnerable community members safe. To that end, my colleagues and I on the MACo Board of Directors feel that the most responsible and respectful decision available to us is to cancel this year's MACo Summer Conference.

This decision was not made lightly – the value that comes out of our traditional in-person event is incalculable. The understanding gained around county governance issues, the relationships built, the cost-saving partnerships formed, and the solutions discovered are hard to replace or replicate virtually. However, we're going to try.

MACo's staff is working diligently to evaluate the possibility of a virtual educational offering to help county, state, and commercial leaders explore the top issues of the moment in the safest way possible.

If you had already signed on to the Summer Conference as an attendee, sponsor, or exhibitor, please give us a couple of weeks to contact you regarding options for your commitment to the conference. Full refunds will absolutely be an option, but other options might include a transfer to next year's event or a partial refund along with a lower-priced registration for a virtual event.

Your patience as we create these options would be greatly appreciated – MACo's staff will be in touch with you directly very soon. If you have urgent questions, please reach out to MACo's Member Services Director, Virginia White, at 410-269-0043 or ywhite@mdcounties.org.

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Counties, thank you for your understanding and your continued support of the work of county governments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sharon H. Middleton'.

Sharon Green Middleton
President, MACo
Council Vice President, Baltimore City