



THE MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE
The Association of Cities and Towns

PRESS RELEASE

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Governor Wes Moore, Mayor Todd Nock, and MML Award Winners Headline Tuesday at MML's 76th Summer Conference

(June 25, 2025) Annapolis, Md. – The [Maryland Municipal League's](https://www.mdmunicipal.org/) (MML) Summer Conference continued Tuesday in the Ocean City Convention Center, featuring a keynote address by Governor Wes Moore, the launch of Pocomoke City Mayor Todd Nock's term as MML President, and the announcement of several League award winners.



In his address to the League, Governor Moore emphasized that one's true character only emerges under pressure, and that this is one such moment for leaders in Maryland. He highlighted the anticipated impact of the budget bill Congress is currently debating, the "One Big Beautiful Bill," and stressed the importance of community and support. "It's important for us to remember that Marylanders will defend Maryland. Maryland will step in, and Maryland will step up.... If not you, then who? And if not now, then when?"

It was a sign of trust from Governor Moore, who also acknowledged the power of leaders in the room, saying "I'm so proud of this group because of all you have accomplished," and "I

could not be more thankful that in the State of Maryland we have amazing leadership. We collectively, we will fight for Marylanders.”

Later that afternoon, MML CEO Theresa Kuhns shared her thoughts on the strength and value of municipal government. “It is our municipalities in this room who are showing population growth, it is the municipalities in this room who drive, and I mean drive, the economic engines of Maryland. From tourism to business development to the state sales tax impact, and it is the municipalities in this room who are the heart of this amazing state.”

She then announced the new MML Board of Directors, and the presidency officially changed hands from Mayor Michael O’Connor from the City of Frederick to Mayor Todd Nock from Pocomoke City.



In his remarks, President Nock revealed his vision of leadership and his goal of lifting up communities across the state. He also announced the theme of his year as President would be Back to the Future, signaling his desire to reinvest in our youth.

Finally, several municipal awardees were recognized at the closing general session.

Selected by MML’s City and Town Administrators, the 2025 Employee of the Year Award was presented to Karen Monteith, Director of Finance for the Town of Denton. Her nomination highlighted Karen’s passion for financial stability, evident in everything she does and inspiring those around her to strive for excellence.

Outgoing President O’Connor also recognized MML's Municipal Officials Hall of Fame honorees alongside Lt. Governor Aruna Miller. To qualify, a candidate must be a current or former official who has held elected municipal office for at least 20 years. With the

induction of these new officials, there are now 308 MML Hall of Famers, with a cumulative 6,703 YEARS of municipal service.

The 2025 Hall of Fame Inductees:

- Chair Adrian Andreassi, Village of North Chevy Chase
- Former Councilmember Valerie Beaudin, Chesapeake Beach
- Councilmember Charles Bradshur, Laytonville
- Councilmember Bryan “Fred” Callis, Mountain Lake Park
- Councilmember Patrick Damon, Mountain Lake Park
- Councilmember Donald Sincell, Mountain Lake Park
- Councilmember David Winstead, Village of Chevy Chase

The MML Lifetime Achievement Award honors a current or former elected or appointed official who has demonstrated outstanding service to Maryland municipal government and to MML. This year’s honorees are Mayor Howard Long of Boonsboro and former Mayor Bruce Morrison of Pocomoke City. After beginning his service to the town in 1984, Mayor Long became a staple of his community and MML over 41 years. Mayor Morrison is credited with breathing life back into the downtown district of Pocomoke, including the construction of a city-owned, locally-operated restaurant which showcases the Pocomoke River.



Elected officials and staff continued to network and attend workshops on various topics, including the power of a service year, artificial intelligence, regional growth strategies, and updates on Maryland’s Time to Care Act implementation. In addition to even more great courses, members had the opportunity today to meet with numerous cabinet secretaries to discuss challenges and opportunities for collaboration in their jurisdictions.

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About The Maryland Municipal League:

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) was founded in 1936 and serves as the collective voice of 161 municipal governments and the 2 million Marylanders it represents. A voluntary, non-profit, nonpartisan association controlled and maintained by city and town governments, MML works to strengthen and support municipal government through advocacy and the development of effective leadership. Through its membership in the National League of Cities MML offers legislative representation in Washington, urban research programs, and a national municipal government information exchange. MML is the only statewide organization in Maryland composed solely of municipal officials and devoted to the promotion of all branches of municipal administration.