DAY 1 - Wednesday, October 7
9:00 AM - 9:40 AM
Opening Session
• Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance – VML President Thomas Smigiel (Council Member, City of Norfolk)
• A “Norfolk State of Mind” – VisitNorfolk
• Address on Equity – Dr. Susan T. Gooden (Dean and Professor, L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs at VCU)

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM
Concurrent Section Elections & Meetings
• City Section – Charlie Frye, Chair
• Town Section – Lisa Merkel, Chair
• Urban Section – John Rowe, Chair

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM
Break

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
General Session
• Remarks by Mark Herring (Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Virginia)
• “Better Than Before” – Rebecca Ryan (Founder & CEO, Next Generation Consulting)
• State Budget Update – Neal Menkes (VML) and Jim Regimbal (Fiscal Analytics, Ltd.)

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM: Break

1:00 PM - 2:00 PM:
Concurrent Breakout Sessions
• COIA – Rebekah Stefanski (Attorney, Virginia Conflict of Interest and Ethics Advisory Council)
• Community Development – Rebecca Rowe (Associate Director Community Revitalization Office, DHCD)
• Technology and Crisis Management – Hanno Hesse (Vice President Business Development & Sales, Speridan)
• Education – Holly Coy (Assistant Superintendent of Policy, Equity, and Communications, Virginia Department of Education)
DAY 1 - Wednesday, October 7

2:00 PM - 2:10 PM  
Break - Find out if the USS Wisconsin is haunted.

2:10 PM - 3:10 PM:  
Concurrent Breakout Sessions
- FOIA – Alan Gernhardt, Esq. (Executive Director, Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council)
- Transportation in Virginia – Nick Donohue (Deputy Secretary of Transportation, Commonwealth of Virginia)
- Innovative Factory Built Housing Initiatives – Chris Thompson (Director of Strategic Housing, Virginia Housing)
- Practicing Civility to Promote Trust in Local Government – Thomas Bullock (Director of Education & Training, VRSA)

3:10 PM - 3:15 PM  
Short Break - Thanks to our Sponsors.

3:15 PM - 3:30 PM:  
Q&A with VML Policy Committee Chairs
Videos of proposed changes were made available ahead of the conference. During this time, VML members may visit the policy committee virtual rooms to ask questions of the committee chairs.
- Community and Economic Development – Jennifer Baker (Council Member, Town of Herndon)
- Environmental Quality – Jon Stehle (Council Member, City of Fairfax)
- Finance – John Rowe (Mayor, City of Portsmouth)
- General Laws – Nancy Bailey (Vice Mayor, Town of Big Stone Gap)
- Human Development and Education – Hector Cendejas (Council Member, City of Manassas Park)
- Transportation – Mike Barber (Mayor, Town of Christiansburg)

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM:  
Proposed Legislative Statement - General Session
VML Legislative Committee Chair Roger Fawcett (Council Member, City of Suffolk) will present the revised Legislative Statement followed by Q&A.

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM:  
Day One Wind Down - General Session
- Join Jimmy Cirrito (Proprietor, Jimmy’s Old Town Tavern in Herndon) as he concocts “Mermaid Water” and other libations.

4:30 PM - 4:35 PM:  
Close out of Day One / Preview of Day Two

DAY 2 - Thursday, October 8

9:00 AM - 9:10 AM  
Welcome to Day Two - General Session

9:10 AM - 10:10 AM:  
Roundtable Presentations & Discussions
Attendees will be informed of appropriate times during the hour to cycle to a different roundtable.
- Data Sharing – Carlos Rivero (Chief Data Officer, Commonwealth of Virginia)
- Emergency Management – Ted Costin (Director Regional Support West Division, VDEM)
- DHCD Programs: COVID and Beyond – Erik Johnston (Director, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development) & Kristen Dahlman (Senior Policy Analyst)
- HR During COVID – Sarah Struckmann (Client Relations Specialist, Pierce Group Benefits)
- Childhood Hunger in the Wake of the Coronavirus – Catherine Spacciapoli (Program Manager, No Kid Hungry Virginia)
- A Closer Look at the VCEA – Preston Bryant (Sr. VP Infrastructure and Economic Development, McGuireWoods Consulting)
- Police Reform – Maggie DeBoard (Chief of Police, Town of Herndon & President of the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police)
- Dominion Energy Services for Localities – Katherine Bond (Vice President of Public Policy, State and Local Affairs, Dominion Energy)
- VML/VACO Finance Services Overview – Beau Blevins (Director of Business Development, VML/VACO Finance)

10:10 AM - 10:15 AM:  
Short Break

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM:  
2020 Local Champion Awards Highlights

10:30 AM - 11:25 AM:  
VML Annual Business Meeting
- Executive Directors Report
- President’s Message
- Report of the Nominating Committee
- Election
- Vote on Proposed Amendments to VML Constitution
- Adoption of Policy Statements
- Adoption of Legislative Statement
- Remarks by new President
- Invitation to the Towns of Loudoun
- Affirmation of 2021 Conference

11:25 AM - 12:00 PM:  
General Session
- Introduction of closing speaker - Thomas Smigiel
- Closing Keynote Address – Governor Ralph Northam

Conference concludes

*Note: If the activities of the Annual Business Meeting are not concluded prior to 11:25 AM, attendees will return to the meeting following Governor Northam’s remarks.