



# COUNTY

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

### WHAT'S INSIDE

02

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MESSAGE

04

ISACO LAUNCHES  
TRANSIT REFORM  
RESOURCE PAGE

04

A LOOK AHEAD AT THE  
VETO SESSION

05

RECAP OF NACo's  
2024 ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
& EXPO



ISACO MOURNS THE PASSING OF  
COOK COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
**DENNIS DEER**



# A Message from the Executive Director



By: Joe McCoy

I hope readers of this edition of the *County Quarterly* enjoyed the summer months.

This space allows me to provide an update on ISACo activities since our last *County Quarterly* publication.

Since our last publication, Governor JB Pritzker has signed 155 ISACo-tracked bills into law. ISACo has published a comprehensive report that includes summaries and public act numbers for each of these bills. More information about this report and other legislative resources pertinent to the 2024 spring legislative session are available in the legislative update within this edition of the *County Quarterly*.

With respect to legislation, ISACo is in the process of developing our 2025 legislative agenda. Our policy committees have been meeting throughout the year and some have proposed and discussed issues for which a legislative solution may be desirable. ISACo's Wind and Solar Facility Task Force also convened several times to discuss concerns with the 2023 law (P.A. 102-1123) that restricted county authority to site wind and solar facilities. The Task Force is recommending several changes to the law that will be considered for inclusion within ISACo's 2025 legislative agenda.

In July, Illinois County officials and staff attended the National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference in Hillsborough County, Florida. ISACo and the United Counties Council of Illinois (UCCI) hosted another successful *Illinois*

*Counties Dinner* on Friday, July 12. More than 100 people attended the dinner and heard from each of the candidates for NACo 2nd Vice President.

During the NACo Conference, the Honorable James Gore (Supervisor - Sonoma County, CA), succeeded the Honorable Mary Jo McGuire (Commissioner - Ramsey County, MN), as NACo President. The Honorable George Dunlap (Commissioner - Mecklenburg County, NC) was elected as NACo's 2nd Vice President.

The next major NACo conference will be the Legislative Conference from March 1-4, 2025, in Washington, DC. We hope to see you there!

The cover of this edition of the *County Quarterly* honors Cook County Commissioner and ISACo Vice President Dennis Deer. The ISACo family was heartbroken when we learned that Commissioner Deer passed away on June 23, 2024. Commissioner Deer served on our Board of Directors from January 2023 until his passing. He was a dedicated and compassionate servant leader whose contributions benefited his community, Cook County and other counties throughout the state and nation because of his work with ISACo and NACo. Commissioner Deer will be greatly missed. We take solace knowing that his legacy of public service, compassion and decency will be carried forth by those inspired by his impactful life and extraordinary example.

As always, please feel welcome to contact me at [jmccoy@isacoil.org](mailto:jmccoy@isacoil.org) or (217) 679-3368 if I can be of service.

## Table of Contents

**02** Executive Director Message

**03** Making Counties Count!

**04** ISACo Launches Transit Reform Resource Page

**04** A Look Ahead At The Veto Session

**05** Recap of NACo's Annual Conference & Expo

# Making Counties Count!

Since its inception in 2018, the Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo) has worked for the betterment of Illinois counties. ISACo serves counties generally and does not limit assistance to any particular office or offices within county government.



## For more information about ISACo



and to inquire about membership, please visit our website at [www.isacoil.org](http://www.isacoil.org) or contact Member Services and Communications Manager Tiffani Homer via email at [thomer@isacoil.org](mailto:thomer@isacoil.org) or by phone at (217) 679-3368.

ISACo's staff looks forward to assisting your county.

## Commissioner Moore Appointed As ISACo Vice President

ISACo is pleased to announce that Commissioner Stanley Moore has been appointed to fill the vacancy for ISACo Vice President on the Board of Directors. The vacancy was created by the passing of Cook County Commissioner Dennis Deer.



Commissioner Stanley Moore

## ISACo Launches

# Transit Reform Resource Page

The Illinois State Association of Counties created a Transit Reform Resource Page to keep affected counties and other interested parties informed about what is expected to be a major legislative undertaking in 2025. The Resource page is available at [www.isacoil.org](http://www.isacoil.org).

During 2025, the General Assembly intends to consider reforming the transit agencies that provide service to the Chicago metro region. This effort is likely to include proposals exploring additional funding for, and consolidation of, the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Metra, and Pace—into a single entity. These agencies are confronted with an estimated \$730 million budget shortfall by 2026. To date, the affected transit agencies are proposing a legislative solution limited to increased funding. The General Assembly and Governor have indicated that any additional funding from the state must be accompanied by significant reforms changing how the agencies are structured and operated.

The Chicago metro region’s transit services affect several ISACo member counties. Opinions about what governance, structure and operational changes should be supported or opposed is likely to vary among the affected counties. For this reason, ISACo

will not take a formal position on the various proposals unless each of the affected counties are in full agreement on one or more of the proposals under consideration.

An initial resource provided on ISACo’s Transit Reform Resource Page is an 11-page document identifying the various provisions within the Metropolitan Mobility Authority Act. This legislation was filed as HB 5823 (Representative Buckner) in the House and SB 3937 (Senator Villivalam) in the Senate.

These bills will likely be refiled during the 2025 spring legislative session. We expect other variations to be considered as well in the form of new legislation and amendments. ISACo will undertake an active role in providing a platform, information and analysis regarding the proposals and process to ensure counties are well informed. The resource page will contribute toward these purposes.

Additional news and information will be added as it becomes available.



## A Look Ahead at The Veto Session

By: Nekya Hall, Legislative Advocacy and Research Manager

The 2024 Fall Veto Session will be held on November 12-14 and November 19-21. Governor Pritzker did not issue any vetoes or amendatory vetoes for legislation approval during the spring. ISACo will monitor legislative activity during the veto session and actively engage with legislators on issues of relevance to counties.

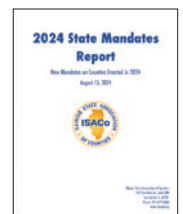
### ISACo 2024 Public Acts Report

ISACo published a comprehensive report that includes bills enacted into law in 2024 that affect or are of interest to counties. Our Public Acts Report: Legislation of Interest to Counties in 2024 document will be updated to reflect any additional legislation prior to the end of the year. The report can be viewed on ISACo’s website ([www.isacoil.org](http://www.isacoil.org)).



### ISACo 2024 State Mandates Report

ISACo published a report identifying newly enacted laws that impose state mandates on counties. Our 2024 State Mandates Report: New Mandates on Counties Enacted in 2024 document is available on ISACo’s website ([www.isacoil.org](http://www.isacoil.org)).



# Recap of NACo's 2024 Annual Conference & Exposition

The 2024 NACo Annual Conference took place on July 12 - 15, 2024, in Hillsborough County, Florida. ISACo and the United Counties Council of Illinois (UCCI) hosted another successful and well-attended Illinois Counties Dinner on Friday, July 12. Speakers for the event included ISACo President Matt Prochaska, UCCI President David Meyer, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and ISACo Executive Director Joe McCoy. ISACo was also delighted to hear from all three worthy and capable candidates vying to become NACo 2nd Vice President.

During the NACo Annual Business Meeting on July 15, the Honorable James Gore (Supervisor - Sonoma County, CA), succeeded the Honorable Mary Jo McGuire (Commissioner - Ramsey County, MN), as NACo President. ISACo wishes President Gore a successful year ahead and thank Immediate Past President McGuire for a successful term as NACo President.

The Honorable George Dunlap (Commissioner - Mecklenburg County, NC) was elected as NACo's 2nd Vice President and now lends his considerable talents and experience to the NACo leadership team.

Another notable development during the Annual Conference was the election of Cook County Commissioner and ISACo Board Member Stanley Moore as President of the National Association of Black County Officials (NABCO).

Illinois attendees and ISACo staff enjoyed the networking and professional growth opportunities offered during the Annual Conference in the form of meetings, workshops and other activities hosted by NACo.

Illinois counties are well-represented throughout the NACo leadership structure. Please visit our website at [www.isacoil.org](http://www.isacoil.org) for a list of Illinois county officials and staff serving on the NACo Board of Directors, policy steering committees and standing committees.

The next NACo conference is the Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. from March 1-4, 2025. ISACo will share registration information as the event approaches.



# NACo AI Leadership Academy

Empowering County Government Leaders for the Future

## About the Program

The NACo AI Leadership Academy is an innovative program designed to equip frontline county government leaders with the knowledge and tools to understand and utilize AI, enhancing operational efficiency, organizational effectiveness, and value for their constituents.

## Six Practical Modules

**Introduction to AI:** Explore AI's history, technologies, societal impact, and an AI playbook for leaders.

**The Promise & Peril of AI:** Understand AI's unique opportunities and challenges in the digital transformation era.

**Your AI Roadmap:** Navigate AI's potential and pitfalls, set expectations, and measure stakeholder impact.

**Leading People & AI:** Lead digital transformation by focusing on people, not just technology.

**AI Optimization, Meaning & Purpose:** Ground AI optimization in ethical awareness, regulatory compliance, customer safety, and workforce impact.

**What's Next - Three Horizons:** Plan, operationalize, and leverage projects, programs, and progress over three horizons.

## Program Features



**Expert Leadership Coaches:** Keeps participants on track.



**World-Class Faculty:** Includes prominent leaders from public, private, and academic sectors.



**Practical, Actionable Insights:** Immediate application to real-world challenges.

## Enhance Your Leadership

**November 4th - December 20th**

Demystify AI with practical cases, frameworks, and tools. Increase your confidence to lead with AI for good governance.

This program offers lessons from highly effective government leaders, proven industry executives, researchers, professors from top universities, and subject matter experts. An online Leadership Coach will guide participants through pressing issues such as understanding the power of AI, mitigating its risks, and navigating the complexities of change brought by AI.

- ✓ **6 Weeks Long**
- ✓ **Fully Facilitated Online**
- ✓ **Made for Current and Emerging Leaders**

## Enroll Today

Visit [NACo AI Leadership Academy](#) or email [lukea@pdleadership.com](mailto:lukea@pdleadership.com)

News & Views  
e-Newsletter Subscription



Are you receiving our  
**ISACO NEWS & VIEWS**  
e-newsletter?

If not, please check your  
spam folder to make  
sure our newsletter is  
not being blocked.  
Otherwise, please e-mail  
Tiffani Homer at  
thomer@isacoil.org  
with a request to  
be added.

Don't miss out  
on these valuable  
ISACo updates!

Follow ISACo on  
**SOCIAL MEDIA**



@isacoil



@IsacoTweets

[www.isacoil.org](http://www.isacoil.org)

ISACo Corporate Partners  
Thanks for Your Support!



AT&T



Ascendant App, Inc.



Comcast



Constellation Telecom



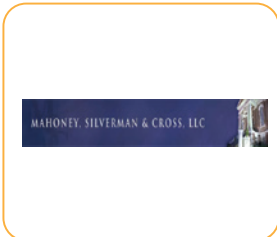
Illinois State Treasurer's  
Office



IPBC



Linebarger



Mahoney, Silverman  
& Cross, LLC



Nationwide®



PMA iPrime™



Public Surplus™



UnitedHealthcare

**Become an ISACo Corporate Partner!**

ISACo's Corporate Partner Program was established to provide a forum for companies and organizations to build relationships with county officials while supporting the important work of ISACo.

The program offers five options for corporations and organizations to become associate members of ISACo while receiving benefits for this status.

Please contact the ISACo Member Services and Communications Manager, Tiffani Homer at [thomer@isacoil.org](mailto:thomer@isacoil.org) to learn more.

Illinois State Association of Counties  
427 E. Monroe  
Suite 200  
Springfield, IL 62701



★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
OCTOBER 2024

Counties Count!



## County Quarterly Newsletter

### CONTACT US

Email [jmccoy@isacoil.org](mailto:jmccoy@isacoil.org)

Address 427 E. Monroe  
Suite 200  
Springfield, IL 62701

Phone (217) 679-3368