

TENNESSEE COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS
ASSOCIATION

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TCCA News

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Public Meetings on Building Codes to be Held

At the conclusion of the legislative session this year the General Assembly passed a sweeping energy bill which included a provision to establish minimum statewide building codes for one and two family residences. The bill became Public Chapter 529. Effective July 1, 2010, the codes will go into effect statewide for new residential construction unless a governing body of a city or county votes by a 2/3 margin to opt out of the new law. Cities and counties may continue to adopt and enforce their own residential building codes so long as such codes are current within at least 7

years of the code adopted by the state. The Department of Commerce and Insurance has not yet selected the code which will go into effect next year. The Department is holding public meetings across the state to answer questions regarding the new requirements and to also get feedback from the public and local governments. For the convenience of county officials, one of these meetings is being held in conjunction with the TCSA annual fall conference in Chattanooga. Below is a list of all the places and times of these public meetings. If you have any questions re-

garding these meetings you may contact Patrick Merkel with the Department of Commerce and Insurance, Division of Fire Prevention at (615) 741-2199 or by emailing him at Patrick.merkel@tn.gov.

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, October 8 th	1:00 pm (EST)	UT Conference Center, 4 th Floor Dining Room 600 Henley Street Knoxville, TN 37902
Friday, October 9 th	9:00 am (EST)	Chattanooga Marriott at the Convention Center Ballroom H/I/J Two Carter Plaza Chattanooga, TN 37402
Tuesday, October 13 th	1:00 pm (CST)	West TN Ag Research and Education Center, Room 150 605 Airways Boulevard Jackson, TN 38301
Thursday, October 15 th	1:00 pm (CST)	Davy Crocket Tower, Room 160 500 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243

ARRA Compliance for Tennessee Counties

The Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury has released a memo entitled "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Ten Steps to Compliance for Tennessee Counties." This three page memo is in pdf. format (like this newsletter) and may be accessed [HERE](#). The memo includes links to important websites related to ARRA funds and has a compli-

ance checklist. If you have not already heard, ARRA funds, which your county, or one particular office in your county, may have applied for and received, come with a series of accountability and transparency provisions. This helpful memo from the Comptroller's Office can be used to guide your county toward compliance with these requirements. Compliance with

the checklist does not guarantee compliance with ARRA or other monitoring or auditing, however, it will help your county become informed about new requirements and responsibilities. If you have questions about these requirements, the UT County Technical Assistance Service has been working with county governments to help them comply.



Upcoming CTAS Training Classes for County Officials

Five Essentials of Leadership

September 22 – Knoxville (UT Conference Center, 600 Henley Street)

September 23 – Johnson City (Carnegie Hotel, 1216 W. State of Franklin Road)

September 29 – Franklin (Franklin Marriott, 700 Cool Springs Blvd)

Giving and Receiving Feedback

October 14 – Jackson (West TN Research and Education Center, 605 Airways Blvd)

October 15 – Franklin (Williamson county Ag Expo Park, 4215 Long Lane)

October 20 – Knoxville (UT Conference Center, 600 Henley Street)



For more info on these classes or to register, contact CTAS at 615-532-3555 or see their website at www.ctas.tennessee.edu

August State Revenue Projections Now Available

State tax collections again fell below budgeted estimates for the month of August with sales tax collections now having shown negative growth for 18 of the last 20 months. State collections for August 2009 were 5.74% less than collections for August

2008. The August revenue figures for sales tax reflect consumer spending in July, the first month of the new fiscal year. Total state collections from all sources for the month were \$28.2 million below budget with the bulk of those deficiencies coming from

sluggish sales tax collections. On a more positive note, gas and motor fuel tax collections increased by over 9% and were \$5.2 million above the budgeted estimate of \$68.2 million. For more detailed figures on these collections, [link to the full report here](#).

