



METROPLAN



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**SMALL CITIES  
COUNCIL**

**SMALL CITIES COUNCIL**

July 23, 2025 • 9:00 AM

# AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions & Announcements
3. Summary of Previous Meeting
4. The Small Cities Spark
5. Metroplan Update
6. Grants & Capital Improvement Opportunities
7. Preview of Upcoming Meetings
8. Adjourn

## SCC MEMBERS

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Alexander       | 10. Keo           |
| 2. Austin          | 11. Lonoke        |
| 3. Bauxite         | 12. Mayflower     |
| 4. Cammack Village | 13. Mount Vernon  |
| 5. England         | 14. Shannon Hills |
| 6. Greenbrier      | 15. Traskwood     |
| 7. Guy             | 16. Vilonia       |
| 8. Haskell         | 17. Ward          |
| 9. HS Village      | 18. Wooster       |
|                    | 19. Wrightsville  |





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## INTRODUCTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Projects
- Updates
- Successes
- Challenges



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# SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS MEETING

June 25, 2025



**Small Cities Council  
Meeting Summary**

Wednesday, June 25, 2025, | 9:00 AM  
Pulaski County Regional Center | Little Rock  
*DRAFT*

Meeting PowerPoint slides available at [www.metroplan.org/small-cities-council](http://www.metroplan.org/small-cities-council)

**SCC Members Attending**

1. Mayor Mike Kemp, Chair
2. Mayor Charles Gastineau, Vice Chair
3. Mayor Bernadette Chamberlain
4. Mayor Wayne McGee
5. Mayor Stephani White
6. Ms. Jennifer Hill

City of Shannon Hills  
City of Ward  
City of Austin  
City of Lonoke  
City of Keo  
City of Alexander

**Additional Attendees**

1. Mayor Tom Farmer
2. Mr. Jon Plafcan
3. Judge Allen Dodson
4. Mr. Samuel Kreimeyer
5. Mr. Mike Watson
6. Mr. Tom Anderson

City of Benton  
City of Carlisle  
Faulkner County  
Jacobs  
Halff



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## THE SMALL CITIES SPARK

- Ms. Alicia Payseno PCED
  - Director of Economic Development: City of Cabot



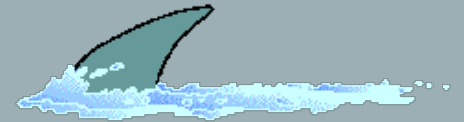
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## METROPLAN UPDATE

- Benchmarking Trip
  - Register Now!  
<https://forms.microsoft.com/r/7QsnmCyBxg>
- Website Redesign
- EEl Streetlight Replacement Grant:
  - Deadline on July 25, 2025  
<https://tinyurl.com/EELight>
- STBG / CRP/ CPRG Trail Project:
  - Funding recommendations will be presented at the Full Board Meeting





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## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- **EEl: Round 2 in Early 2026**
  - Green Networks | Get Designs Ready Now!
    - Land restoration
    - Tree planting
  - EV Fleet & Charger Rebates



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**ARKANSAS**  
INC

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- Arkansas Community Assistance Grant Program (CAGP)
  - Supports community & economic development projects
  - Max funding up to \$1.5 million per project
    - 20% match in cash/in kind : labor/ material/ land
  - Award Criteria: Determined by AEDC based on eligibility, available funds & program demand
  - Eligible Applicants:
    - Cities & Incorporated towns
    - Counties & Unincorporated communities
    - Non-Profits & Other Govt. entities in Arkansas
  - Eligible Projects:
    - Renovation/Construction of public facilities
      - Healthcare centers, libraries, city halls, police stations, jails, parks, playgrounds, etc.
    - Land or building purchase for related projects
    - Workforce training expense
  - Know more: <https://www.arkansasedc.com/community-resources/community-assistance-grant-program>





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## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

- FUN Park Grants | *Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, & Tourism*
  - Deadline: 29 August 2025
  - Max funding up to \$100,000/ project | No match required
  - Award Criteria: Determined by Outdoor Recreation Grants Advisory Committee.
  - Eligible Applicants:
    - Municipalities with population below 7,500
    - Unincorporated communities sponsored by cities or counties
    - Applicant should not have won a FUN grant within last 5 years
  - Eligible Projects:
    - Development of most outdoor recreation facilities.
  - Grant projects should be completed within One Year of contract date.
  - Learn More: <https://adpht.arkansas.gov/office-of-outdoor-recreation/arkansas-outdoor-grants/fun-park-grants/>



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# NETWORKING / LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

## Arkansas Community & Economic Development Alliance (ACEDA) :

*University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service*

- Informal network supporting Arkansas communities, nonprofits, businesses & local governments.
- Open to any organization serving Arkansas **no membership fee.**

### ○ **What ACEDA Does:**

- **Connects** local governments, businesses & orgs to technical help, funding, and resources
- **Hosts quarterly meetings** for networking, sharing ideas & collaboration
- **Shares resources** and updates between member organizations
- **Partners on projects** to better serve state and local needs
- **Communicates regularly** (calls, emails) for urgent project support

### ○ **How to Engage?**

- Attend quarterly meetings
- Collaborate on multi-agency efforts for broader community projects
- Know more: <https://tinyurl.com/ACEDAInfo>



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## PREVIEW OF UPCOMING MEETINGS

- **TODAY**
  - **10:00 AM: Board Meeting**
  
- **Wednesday, August 27, 2025**
  - **9:00 AM: SCC Meeting**
  - **10:00 AM: Board Meeting**



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5. Small Cities Roundtable
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**THANK YOU!**

**SCC Leadership:**

Mayor Mike Kemp, Chair  
City of Shannon Hills  
501-455-2003  
shannonhillsmayor@aristotle.net

Mayor Charles Gastineau, Vice Chair  
City of Ward  
501-843-2226  
mayor@cityofward.com

**Metroplan:**  
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