

From: Cristina Pacione-Zayas <Cristina.Pacione-Zayas@cityofchicago.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 3:05 PM
To: Steve Berlin <Steve.Berlin@cityofchicago.org>
Cc: Brenda Garcia <Brenda.Garcia@cityofchicago.org>
Subject: Re: Project on Municipal Innovation: floating dates for possible in-person summer meeting

Hi, Steve.

Sending this note now that I returned from the Municipal Innovation convening last week. I attached the agenda for your records. I traveled on Monday, July 28 and returned late on Tuesday, July 29 with expenses paid by the host.

Cristina Pacione-Zayas, PhD | ella, she, her (Learn more about pronouns [here](#))

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From: Burroughs, Kaitlin
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 2:55 PM
To: Goldsmith, Stephen <stephen_goldsmith@hks.harvard.edu>; Joni Wickham <joni@wickhamjames.com>; Sly James <sly@wickhamjames.com>
Cc: kim@wickhamjames.com; Murphy, Kate <kate_murphy@hks.harvard.edu>
Subject: Project on Municipal Innovation: floating dates for possible in-person summer meeting

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[Good afternoon,](#)

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[We are in the preliminary stages of exploring securing funding for a one-day in-person meeting of the network in Cambridge this summer to allow for our members to discuss some of the more urgent and timely issues your cities are facing that were raised at the end of our convening this month, with the hopes that this will allow greater coordination for collective action/response and sharing of ideas moving forward.](#)

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[Please complete the poll below to let us know which \(if any\) dates would work for you to travel to Cambridge – while there will most likely be a small social event/informal dinner the night proceeding the final date, the agenda will prioritize the full-day discussion and will likely lean more toward a moderated open-discussion/roundtable rather than feature outside speakers.](#)

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[If for any reason the poll does not work for you, please feel free to reply with your availability for July 28th, 29th, and 30th.](#)

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[Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions!](#)

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[Best,](#)

[Kaitlin](#)

[🔊 Poll: Would the following dates work for you to travel to Cambridge for a one-day PMI meeting? \(](#)

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[Kaitlin Burroughs](#)

[Project Manager, Communities of Practice, Data-Smart City Solutions](#)

[Bloomberg Center for Cities at Harvard University](#)

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Project on Municipal Innovation

July 2025 Convening

Leading in Times of Community Vulnerability

July 28th, 2025

Russell House Tavern

14 John F. Kennedy Street

Cambridge, MA

6:30 PM Group Dinner & Networking Event

July 29th, 2025

Malkin Penthouse, Littauer Building

29 Eliot Street

Cambridge, MA

8:00 AM Breakfast available

8:15 AM Leveraging Assets, Mitigating Deficits—Framing the Day

Overview of federal reductions. A discussion of mayoral roles. Rallying community cross sector resources including for profit, nonprofit, philanthropic and volunteer. Nudging more effective social service delivery.

Context Setting:

Ana Almanzar, Deputy Mayor for Strategic Initiatives, NYC

Maia Berlow, Laura Tomasko, Urban Institute

Linda Gibbs, Bloomberg Associates

8:45 AM Facilitated Discussion: A Mayor's Role in The New Education Landscape

What are the changes to literacy, childcare, and afterschool programs in the new policy landscape? What policy levers will mayors have and how can they fill gaps in key support services? How might a mayor work with the state if education resources for Title 1 schools are block granted to the states?

Scott Palmer, Managing Partner and Co-Founder, Education Counsel

9:45 AM **Policy Brief: Work Requirements and Benefit Cuts in Medicaid**

Discussion of who will be most affected by Medicaid work requirements. A proposed role for mayors in work programs. Are there actionable proposals that cities can adopt or advocate for at the state-level? What argument can a mayor present to the state?

Wade Horn, Human Services Segment Leader, State & Local Government Practice, Deloitte

Clarence Carter, Commissioner, State of Tennessee Department of Human Services

10:20 AM **Facilitated Discussion: Work Requirements and Benefit Cuts in SNAP**

What are the most significant changes to SNAP and other nutrition benefits and what can be done to mitigate the impact of those shifts? How can cities help residents reduce barriers to access

Sara N. Bleich, Professor of Public Health Policy, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

11:30 AM **Break**

11:45 AM **Lunch Keynote: Crisis Leadership Skills**

What tools and frameworks can be adopted by senior city leaders? How to inspire action in your teams during periods of scarcity and anxiety?

Lynn Perry Wooten, President, Simmons University

12:45 PM Facilitated Discussion: Immigration and Migrant Communities

A discussion of the most critical immigrant issues? What is the role of the police department? This session will not be focused on legal advice; rather, we aim to help cities think through potential responses and scenario-plan.

Jeremy Robbins, Executive Director, American Immigration Council

2:00 PM Facilitated Discussion: Addressing Housing Vulnerabilities

What is the impact of federal policy changes in HR1 and beyond on the availability of housing assistance to city residents? How do these policy and funding changes impact Section 8, low-income housing tax credits, community development block grants, and public housing federal dollars, and what can be done at the city level to identify and assist those most impacted by these changes?

Daniel Hornung, Nonresident Fellow, Housing Finance Policy Center, Urban Institute

3:15 PM Break

3:30 PM Open Discussion

An open forum for attendees to reflect upon the day's conversation and to share perspectives, seek advice, and grow in community with their peers in city hall.

5:00 PM Adjourn