

## Note from the Editor

MICHAEL MCGRATH

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## Essays

### Everyday Heroes: A View from the All-America City Awards Jury

SHARON METZ

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Everyday heroes are the people who volunteer to make it better each and every day. When ordinary people decide to unite and improve their communities it is a powerful force for good.

### Problem Solving and Innovation: The 2010 All-America City and Finalist Projects

KRISTIN SEAVEY, GLORIA RUBIO-CORTÉS

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From downtown revitalization to youth leadership programs, the 2010 All-America Cities and finalists teach us important lessons about the art of making communities better.

### Chandler, Arizona: Telling Our Story

DAVID BIGOS

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An Arizona community that views challenges as opportunities found a way to address several needs at once—water conservation, public safety, environmental education, and parks and recreation.

### Fiscal Sustainability and Local Government

DEREK OKUBO

34

City and county managers share their insights, frustrations, surprises, and hopes about the fiscal challenges facing local communities.

### How Our Cities Can Constructively Resolve Their Critical Problems

SOL ERDMAN

40

Some ideological adversaries *outside* of government have resolved controversial problems fairly, wisely, and cost-effectively. How can we get our local governments to do the same?

### Democratic Governance and Civic

### Health in Newark, Delaware: A Case Study

EZRA J. TEMKO

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To evaluate the civic health of his community, a Newark City Councilmember administered a civic health survey to a cross-section of stakeholders. Based on the National Civic League's Civic Index, the survey was tailored to reflect local civic infrastructure needs.

## Book Review

### *The Power of Collaborative Solutions: Six Principles and Effective Tools for Building Healthy Communities*, by Tom Wolff

REVIEWED BY BILL BERKOWITZ

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