



# Civic Action

*A monthly update from the National Civic League*

October 2015

## NCL Releases New Tool to Engage Residents and Identify Civic Strengths

Download our newest tool - the Civic Index Quick Quiz - and identify your civic strengths and challenges.

For more than 25 years, the National Civic League's Civic Index has helped communities assess their civic infrastructure. Now we have created a shortened version - [the Civic Index Quick Quiz](#) - that enables residents to easily identify key civic assets and areas in need of additional focus. The tool is incredibly versatile - use it at staff meetings, with partners, and with any group in the community. And best of all you can **gain meaningful insights in 30 minutes**.

**Civic Index Quick Quiz**

Based on more than 25 years of testing and refinement, the National Civic League's Civic Index is an effective tool to measure the infrastructure and resources that make for strong, healthy, innovative communities. This quick quiz - based on the more detailed Civic Index - is a powerful and fun way to identify areas for focus, strength and areas in need of improvement. Use this tool with residents, leaders and decision-makers to identify strengths and areas in need of focus and to identify areas that you want to identify areas for focus, strength and areas in need of improvement.

Has been well-developed each of the 10 infrastructure categories. It is a tool to identify areas for focus, strength and areas in need of improvement.

Category	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor
<b>Community Leadership</b>					
1. A group of individuals who represent various different sectors, areas and the community that...					
2. Community leaders have a clear vision of the community...					
3. Community leaders are committed to the community and its future...					
<b>Public Participation and Civic Engagement</b>					
4. A culture of engagement where diverse residents and organizations actively participate in public decision-making and problem-solving efforts...					
5. Community organizations that represent various sectors and are committed to the community and its future...					
6. A leadership structure where community members and organizations actively participate in public decision-making...					
<b>Community and Infrastructure</b>					
7. A culture of innovation that encourages and supports residents to find creative solutions to public issues, such as safety, health, economic, and social challenges...					
8. Community organizations that represent various sectors and are committed to the community and its future...					

Civic Index Quick Quiz  
www.ncl.org/civindex

[Download the NCL Civic Index Quick Quiz](#)

## Save 50% on Your Application for the All-America City Award

Simply submit a [letter of intent](#), indicating your community's interest in applying for the 2016 All-America City Award, (by November 4, 2015) and receive 50% off the application fee. [Click here to download a letter of intent](#). Email the completed letter to [aac@ncl.org](mailto:aac@ncl.org) by Nov. 4th to get 50% off the application fee.

*Letter of intent is not required to submit an application.*

**NCL Partnering with ICMA to Recognize Community Innovation Around Solar Energy**

## In This Issue

[Get NCL's newest tool for free](#)

[Save 50% off AAC Application Fee](#)

[New Partnership Around Solar Energy](#)

[Become a member today!](#)

**Monthly AAC Support & Learning Calls**

Talk to 2015 All-America City winners about their innovative projects, why they applied, and get useful, practical advice about applying for AAC.

**Oct. 13, 10a-11am MT**

*[Register for the October call](#)*

[Visit the AAC Conf. Call Archive to listen to the Sept. call and others](#)

## Quick Links

[National Civic League](#)

[All-America City Award](#)

[Apply for AAC 2016](#)

The National Civic League is proud to announce a new partnership with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) to help establish a national recognition program to energize local solar marketplaces. The SPARC program - [Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities](#) - will award local governments with a "stamp of approval" for their efforts in building stronger solar environments around the country, encouraging others to follow suit and ultimately helping to make it faster, cheaper, and easier for communities across the country to go solar.

[Read more...](#)

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### Become a Member of NCLToday!

Your membership in the National Civic League helps ensure that the All-America City Award continues to inspire, support and recognize civic innovation and excellence - [become a member today.](#)

Members of the National Civic League support AAC, and ***get access to an online database of more than 450+ innovative projects from All-America City finalists.*** Members also receive four issues of the *National Civic Review* full of the latest research, case studies and insights into emerging practices within communities. [Become a member today!](#)

National Civic League | 303-571-4343 | [aac@ncl.org](mailto:aac@ncl.org) | 6000 East Evans Avenue  
Suite 3-012  
Denver, CO 80206

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