

SPGE GOVERNANCE GAZETTE

YOUR SOURCE FOR
ADMINISTRATIVE AND
SYSTEM UPDATES

DEPARTMENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CITIES AND SPECIAL DISTRICTS BRANCH



[PHOTO BY TOLGA AHMETLER](#)

Welcome to the SPGE Governance Gazette! As we embark on this journey through the realm of Special Purpose Governmental Entities (SPGEs), we will explore the latest updates, enhancements, and news. Our aim is to foster transparency and accountability in governmental operations. Stay tuned for exciting developments that will shape the future of our great state! Happy reading!

GOVERNOR'S LOCAL ISSUES CONFERENCE (GLIC)

- DLG will be hosting its 45th Annual Governor's Local Issues Conference August 16 - 18 at the Galt House in Louisville, KY.
- The CSD branch has a session Thursday, August 17 at 8:30am to provide a demo on the SPGE website.
- Please visit the DLG [website](#) for more information.

IMPORTANT UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- Same requirement type, four-year audit trend. A system fix will occur August 14.
- The 30-day noncompliant letters will be mailed to SPGEs who report for the fiscal year cycle from July 1 through June 30. You will have 30 days to become compliant, but your record will show late submission because it was received after the due date. To prevent this from happening in the future, ensure you submit your requirements on or before the due date to demonstrate compliance in all reports and on the public portal.

- SPGEs who report on fiscal year cycles from January to December, April to March, and October to September and are non-compliant have been reported to the Finance Cabinet, Auditor of Public Accounts (APA), and the operations newspapers, per KRS [65A.040](#).
 - If non-compliant for two or more consecutive years, the new system will initiate the dissolution process per KRS [65A.050](#).
- DLG will notify the Finance Cabinet, APA, and the Newspaper of any Audit noncompliance by the end of the year. Make sure you submit your required audit requirements to avoid potential consequences and ensure compliance with reporting requirements.
- New bill passed in 2022, now codified to KRS [65.037](#), allows for an affidavit in lieu of lost, damaged, or destroyed local government records. To learn more, contact dlg-csd@ky.gov. Ensure your local government makes a good faith attempt at replacing or re-creating records for compliance.
- Board Members added terms reminder: Implemented in July 2023; this feature serves as a reminder for board members regarding their terms. Never delete a board member. Use the term end date instead.

WEBSITE FEATURES COMPLETED IN FISCAL YEAR 2024

- The first phase is adding the new audit feature to the SPGE Dashboard. This feature includes the audit requirements and their due dates.

NEW FEATURES AND FIXES APPLIED IN JULY 2023

- Experience the new era of transparency with our game changing SPGE Public Portal! Discover real-time updates, user-friendly navigation, and a searchable format for effortless information retrieval. Stay informed, explore new functionalities, and be part of our mission to promote transparency and accountability in governmental operations. Join us in shaping a more transparent and responsible governance system. To [learn more](#) and visit, click the "New SPGE Public Portal" button to the right.
- Fixed the seesaw audit issue: This issue involved changing requirements multiple times within the same four years, now requiring a more stringent submission to be required.
- The grant exemption feature was added, automatically adding approved grants to the budget form under cash and receipts, reducing the registration fee.

UPCOMING AUGUST 2023 UPDATES

- The compliance notification button will include audits and attestation engagements. The compliance notification button will show noncompliance for missing audits and attestation engagements. Currently, the button does not show noncompliance if an audit is missing.
- The audits and attestation engagements submitted on the DLG legacy website and emailed to the Cities and Special Districts (CSD) branch during the website shutdown will be transferred to the SPGE website. Please do not resubmit those audits and attestation engagements on the SPGE website. SPGEs can submit any audits and attestation engagements not previously submitted to DLG.
- The audit and attestation requirement task will be available for Municipal Utilities. SPGEs can then see when audits and attestation engagements are required.
- The first release for Fire Department administration will show compliance correctly. Fire departments created under KRS [273](#) and KRS [75](#) reported to DLG in Fiscal Year 2015.

From 2016, those with annual receipts or expenses below \$100,000 reported to the Fire Commission. If their receipts or expenses were equal to or greater than \$100,000 for two consecutive years, they would return to DLG for administration.

UPCOMING FEATURES AND UPDATES

- Grant appropriations field will be added to budget forms.
- New software will be added to increase the Public Portal loading speed.
- A new training video will be available, covering all the abovementioned changes.
- A two-way message center will be introduced for better communication.
- Board Member Expiration Notifications will be implemented before archiving.
- Uploading "More Stringent" Ethics Ordinances will be allowed.
- An Online Training Facility will be launched.
- An Alternative Financial Review Process will be introduced.
- Noncompliant Newspaper Fees will be added to Registration Fees or sent via invoice.
- Online Tax Rate Calculations will be provided.
- Oversight Agency Administration will be available.
- An all-new SPGE User Manual will be released.
- And many more

CREDITS

Department for Local Government's (DLG) Leadership Staff (Commissioner Dennis Keene, Chief of Staff Eddie Jacobs, Executive Director Wil Rhodes, General Counsel Matt Stephens): The SPGE Gazette owes its success to the invaluable guidance and steadfast support provided by DLG leadership, whose vision and expertise have been instrumental in its development.

Commonwealth of Technology (COT) SPGE Project Team (Kari Welch, Kristi Kays, Debra Weber, Arindam Guha, Kat Estes, Patrick Levier, Charles Philpot, Stephen Caudill, Shanmuga Rajabather, Sandeep Mittapalli, Brandon Gibson, Tammy Vernon, Rebecca Morton): The tireless efforts and innovative thinking of the COT SPGE Project Team have led to the creation of the all-new SPGE system and its efficient functioning.

Thank you for taking the time to review the SPGE Governance Gazette for August 2023. We hope these changes and new features will enhance your experience and promote transparency in your governmental operations. If you have any questions or need further information about these updates, please don't hesitate to contact our dedicated support team. We value your continued engagement and collaboration as we strive to create a more accountable and responsible governance system. Your commitment to compliance is crucial to the success of our shared mission. Thank you once again for your attention to these important updates!

The Cities and Special District's Team

