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## **Cox begins NACo presidency**

*Announces year-long presidential initiative: Connecting the Unconnected*

**Nashville, Tenn.** – San Diego County, Calif. Supervisor Greg Cox was sworn in as president of the National Association of Counties (NACo) at the conclusion of NACo’s 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference & Exposition today. Held in Nashville/Davidson County, Tenn., NACo’s Annual Conference attracted more than 3,000 leaders in county government service from across the country, making it one of the largest to date.

“Local government works,” said Cox. “I have seen firsthand the ability of county governments to transform lives and communities. When America’s 3,069 counties, parishes and boroughs are united at the national level, we can be an immense force for good. I am honored to lead NACo in this noble effort.”

In his inaugural remarks, Cox announced his presidential initiative *Connecting the Unconnected* ([www.NACo.org/Connecting](http://www.NACo.org/Connecting)), which will explore ways that county governments are connecting residents in the spirit of building healthy, safe and vibrant communities.

“We see every day that when people are left behind and isolated, there are unhealthy and negative consequences,” said Cox. “As leaders at the county level, we are uniquely positioned to achieve results for our residents and communities.”

Over the course of the year, NACo will demonstrate how counties deliver people-centered services, maximize government efficiency and ensure responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources.

Click [here to see a video](#) of Cox detailing his presidential initiative.

By leveraging NACo’s policy priorities, events, programs, peer exchanges, publications and outreach tools, *Connecting the Unconnected* will educate policymakers, thought leaders and partners under the following framework:

- Showcasing best-in-class technology that helps counties serve residents;
- Demonstrating the importance of data-driven decision-making; and

- Advancing public-private partnerships to ensure sustainable funding and better coordinate services.

Cox was elected NACo second vice president in 2016 at the NACo Annual Conference in Los Angeles County and became first vice president last year in Franklin County, Ohio. He has been active in NACo since 2002, serving on the association's board of directors as well as on the Large Urban County Caucus and task forces.

Cox oversees a regional government with a \$6.3 billion budget and more than 17,583 employees. Since joining the San Diego County Board of Supervisors in 1995, Cox has implemented innovative, comprehensive methods of delivering services to the more than 3 million people in San Diego County. Cox began his public service career as a teacher in the Sweetwater Union High School District. He was elected to the Chula Vista City Council and later served two terms as mayor of Chula Vista.

Cox is the only elected official in California to have been elected by his peers to serve as both the president of the California State Association of Counties and the president of the League of California Cities.

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The [National Association of Counties](#) (NACo) unites America's 3,069 county governments. Founded in 1935, NACo brings county officials together to advocate with a collective voice on national policy, exchange ideas and build new leadership skills, pursue transformational county solutions, enrich the public's understanding of county government and exercise exemplary leadership in public service.