

# Risk Services welcomes in the New Year and gets ready to roll out the 2021 COMPACT!

By Robin Aronson

Happy New Year to all our members! I think we can all agree we were all ready to say “see you later” to 2020 and give a hearty welcome to 2021. Risk Services has quickly flipped over the calendar and is in full swing, getting ready to roll out the 2021 programs. Whether programs and services are delivered virtually or in person, we always enjoy and appreciate the opportunity to engage with our members. And who didn’t love all the cute pets we got to meet over virtual platforms this past year!

Thank you to the 2020 Long Range Planning Committee which met this past August to discuss WCIA staff recommendations for the 2021 COMPACT. Committee members include Deborah Knight, City of Monroe; Arlene Fisher, City of Union Gap; David Cline, City of Tukwila; Shelley Acero, City of Burlington; and Adam Lincoln, City of Pasco.

For the **2021 COMPACT**, members will again be presented with three options for consideration, and will work with their assigned Risk Management Representative to select the audit option that best meets the individual member’s needs, and in keeping with the primary goal of improving the pool’s loss experience. The three options for 2021 include the following:

## Option 1: Traditional Audit

The member and Risk Management Rep together will work to choose from one of three audit questionnaires. The option 1 audit topics for 2021 are a “*back to basics*” Fleet Liability audit, Personnel, and Homelessness.

## Option 2: Targeted Risk Management Review

The Risk Management Rep will meet with the member and provide all, or part of the following Targeted Risk Management Review based upon individual member need and applicability:

- Contract Review / Right of Way Ordinance Review
- Special Events Review / Facility Use Agreements review
- Program review and development including senior centers, sidewalks (incorporating WCIA sidewalk tool kit), and volunteers
- Playground and park walk through and inspection for liability exposures
- Risk 101 analysis
- Parks and Recreation Programs
- Public Works (roadways emphasis)

### Option 3: Loss and Exposure Reduction Plan

The member will work with their assigned Rep to review their risk profile and loss runs to identify the member's top risk management priorities based upon loss history. They will then work together to develop an action plan.

### **COMPACT Education Component:**

For 2021, members will still be required to complete three WCIA educational sessions. Watch for more communications in January and February as we get set to roll out the 2021 COMPACT. There is an abundance of educational opportunities available! Time to sharpen those (virtual) number 2 pencils and clean your computer screens, at least for now!

### **The New Year surely brings something to celebrate!**

**Put on those thinking caps as it's almost time for the...drum roll please...wait for it... yes, it's the**

### **WCIA Grant Program!**

WCIA is pleased to be able to once again administer the Risk Reduction Grant program! Funding levels will remain steady with \$150,000 allotted for risk mitigation grants and \$15,000 for staff development grants (virtual conferences?). As you start to think of projects, please keep in mind that in years past funding per project has ranged from \$1,500-\$30,000 with an average of \$10,000-\$12,000 being awarded. For 2021, members who did not receive a mitigation grant in 2020 will be eligible to submit up to two mitigation grant applications. In addition, members may also submit one staff development grant application. Priority will be given to those who received staff development grants in 2020 and were unable to attend when conferences were cancelled due to COVID.

*Something shiny and new!* We have moved the 2021 grant application process to Origami! Watch for more information later in January on how to apply. We anticipate an application period from late January to early March. Details are being finalized! Start thinking about those projects now! Consideration will be given in particular to those projects linked to potential loss exposures and loss history. A list of past projects awarded grants can be found on the WCIA website under Risk Management.

**And not to be forgotten...**you told us you miss the informative and always lively **Risk Manager Forums** that were tabled once the virus reared its ugly head! We miss them too! We are working to roll out this program in a virtual format and hope to be back soon, coming via a computer screen near you! Watch your emails for more information!

2021 looks to be a busy and exciting year, although we might all need a little less excitement than this past year! We look forward to visiting the membership once again whether it's virtually or in person!