WHAT IS <u>RIGHT</u> WITH COUNTIES

COUNTIES AS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FUTURE

As the State cuts back support to local governments and as municipalities become more stressed financially, there is a tendency to cut back on the level of service to meet financial constraints.

Old Models Will Not Work

COUNTIES AS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FUTURE

Counties are in a prime position to promote City/County Cooperation in Providing Services.

1. As local governments, we are close to our constituents.
2. We have a shared constituency with Cities.
3. Often there are duplicative, or overlapping, services offered by Cities or Counties.

The Time is Right to Promote Public/Public Partnerships.

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are

COUNTIES AS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FUTURE

EXAMPLES WHERE UNIFIED SERVICES HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE, OR MAY MAKE SENSE:

- Joint Purchasing
- Infrastructure Management
- Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery
- Legislative Focus and Local Legislation
- Ambulance Service

Even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there

COUNTIES AS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FUTURE

EXAMPLES WHERE UNIFIED SERVCES HAVE BEEN EFFECIVE OR MAY MAKE SENSE:

- Solid Waste Management
- Joint Recreation Programs
- Economic Development
- Jails
- Document Retention Management
- Land Use Management

Honest people make honest errors – all honest errors should favor the County

COUNTIES AS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FUTURE

KEY TO PUBLIC/PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS:

1. Good Leadership.
2. Pick a service that makes sense to provide on a multi-jurisdictional basis.
3. Develop a written understanding that addresses the expectations and responsibilities of each jurisdiction.
4. Structure the cost allocation in a manner that each jurisdiction shares the benefit of increased efficiencies.

There are no shortcuts to any place worth going

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EXCELLENT CORPORATE CULTURE:

1. Customer Relations
2. Focused Approach to Service Delivery
3. Fiduciary Responsibility for Public Assets

Find out what you do well and do more of it – build on your strengths

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CUSTOMER RELATIONS:

Genuine effort to assist or provide a service to those who look to the County for assistance.

Take care of individuals on their first contact with the County.

Answer the telephone, return calls, follow-up on requests.

Attend to customer's needs if you can, or get them on the right track.

Be Innovative, Be Responsive, and Operate with a Touch of Class

ELMORE COUNTY

CUSTOMER RELATIONS:

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

- Annual meeting with Legislative Delegation
- County Government Day

There is nothing wrong with the younger generation that becoming taxpayers won't cure

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FOCUSED APPROACH TO DELIVERING SERVICES:

Emphasize the importance of doing things right.

Narrowly define service areas.

The best way to predict the future is to create it

ELMORE COUNTY

FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR PUBLIC ASSETS:

Fiscal responsibility of the:

1. Commission
2. Department Heads
3. Staff

Focus on our core services.

Continually look for internal efficiencies.

One secret to staying out of debt is to stop spending when you run out of money

QUESTIONS?

The secret to long tenure as a County Administrator is to keep the two Commissioners who want to fire you away from the three that have not made up their minds