

Creating An Inter-Municipal Collaboration Council And Requesting State Assistance

The Efficiency, Reform and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee (Chairman Bischoff and Legislators Bartels, Liepmann, Rodriguez, Shapiro, Busick and Cummings) and the Public Works Committee (Chairman Berardi and Legislators Bischoff, Cahill, Dart, Lomita, Stoeckeler, Fabiano, Felicello and McAfee) offer the following:

WHEREAS, The Commission of Local Government Efficiency and Competitiveness was established by Governor Spitzer to address the issues of local government merger, consolidation, regionalized government, shared services and smart growth as a collaborative venture with local officials, and

WHEREAS, The Commission is asking County leaders to coordinate the task of identifying initiatives and to submit proposed initiatives, and

WHEREAS, The Commission is looking for significant proposals that go beyond traditional implementation of inter-municipal agreements, and are requesting that counties take on difficult or far-reaching projects, and

WHEREAS, The Commission staff, with the help of the Interagency Task Force, will select proposals that are most substantial, innovative and hold the greatest promise for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of local government, and

WHEREAS, The Commission staff will serve as consultants for County projects, providing legal and logistical advice, or identify knowledgeable experts, facilitate discussions at the local level or mediate differences of opinion, and provide other assistance to selected projects, and

WHEREAS, the Efficiency, Reform and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee has met and outlined the following projects:

- Study of sharing resources, inter-municipal agreements, collaborative efforts and combination of Town and County Highway Departments.
- Study of the most effective and efficient methods of delivering police services to Ulster County.
- Study of Office/Administrative Departments and functions at Town and County level, and opportunities for shared services, inter-municipal agreements and possible combination/consolidation.
- Consolidation of Ulster County Economic Development efforts.

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WHEREAS, proposals must be submitted by to The Commission by June 15, 2007, so staff was directed by the Efficiency, Reform and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee to submit proposals based on the list above that will include:

- A description of the project
- Goals we hope to achieve
- Municipalities that will be involved
- Problems we anticipate

, and

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature supports the creation of an Inter-Municipal Collaboration Council as called for in the future Ulster County Charter, and

WHEREAS, the Inter-Municipal Collaboration Council will work on the above proposals as well as proposals they identify taking advantage of assistance by The Commission on Local Government Efficiency and Competitiveness, and

WHEREAS, the Efficiency, Reform and Intergovernmental Affairs Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval.

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby creates a nine member Inter-Municipal Collaboration Council, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature prior to making appointments to this council, shall seek recommendations from the Ulster County Legislature Majority Leader for one member, the Ulster County Legislature Minority Leader for one member, the Mayor of the City of Kingston for one member, Ulster County BOCES for one member, the Ulster County Supervisors Association for two members, the Commissioner of Ulster County Highways and Bridges for one member and the Ulster County Planning Department for one member, and

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FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Inter-Municipal Collaboration Council will work with Ulster County staff to submit proposals to The Commission on Local Government Efficiency and Competitiveness, and interface with The Commission, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Inter-Municipal Collaboration Council be directed to make a report to the Ulster County Legislature and shall provide copies of the report to the Ulster County Towns, Villages and the City of Kingston regarding government collaborative efforts, consolidations or inter-municipal agreements that they identify as beneficial to Ulster County citizens and recommendations as to how to implement same, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Inter-Municipal Collaboration Council is directed to complete this phase of work by the end of 2007, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Inter-Municipal Collaboration Council is hereby authorized to seek and apply for any State assistance that may be available to it or the County of Ulster, and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature is hereby authorized to sign any applications for State assistance associated with this Council, subject to approval of the County Attorney's Office,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 31 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Felicello)
(Legislator Stoeckeler left at 8:05 PM)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE

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