



APCO 2018

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CONSOLIDATION : A 4-Letter Word

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Discussion Topics

- ❑ Decisions
- ❑ Political Climate and Political Will
- ❑ Organizational Change
- ❑ Fiscal Impacts
- ❑ Engaging stakeholders
- ❑ Dispelling myths

Decisions

- ❑ A Public Policy decision
- ❑ Who should champion this cause?
 - ❑ Public safety leaders
- ❑ Determining the pros and cons
 - ❑ Pros = autonomy, equitable and improved service, funding opportunities, survivability
 - ❑ Cons = loss of direct control, changes in municipal and clerical services
- ❑ If pursued for service improvements, thumbs up
- ❑ If pursued for cost savings, thumbs down

Political Climate

- ❑ What's going on at the state level?
 - ❑ Statewide NG Initiatives – ESInet (and FirstNet? Yes)
 - ❑ Legislation
 - ❑ Funded vs. not funded
 - ❑ Support assistance – staff and/or professional services
- ❑ What's going on at the local level?
 - ❑ Work load/call volume of smaller centers
 - ❑ NG Readiness

Political Will

- ❑ Three requirements to move a consolidation initiative forward:
 - ❑ Funding
 - ❑ Stakeholder Buy-In
 - ❑ Political will
- ❑ If there's a will, there's a way...
 - ❑ Educating decision makers
 - ❑ Driving the initiative forward

Organizational Change

- ❑ Focus from single agency to multi-jurisdiction
- ❑ Municipal to regional
- ❑ Shared services, shared benefits, shared responsibility
- ❑ Governance
 - ❑ Intergovernmental coordination and agreement(s)
 - ❑ Structural changes
- ❑ Administrative positions
- ❑ Accountability

Fiscal Impacts

- ❑ Incentives, grants and unfunded mandates
- ❑ Sources
 - ❑ Local Option Tax
 - ❑ Special Service District/Authority (e.g. JPA, COG)
 - ❑ Contribution
 - ❑ Proffers
 - ❑ 9-1-1 Surcharge
- ❑ Preparing for Capital, Transition and Operational Costs

Engaging Stakeholders

- ❑ Identifying stakeholders:
 - ❑ Public safety leaders, management and responders and most importantly communications staff
 - ❑ Elected officials, decision makers (those that write the checks), citizens/community
 - ❑ Support services such as IT and GIS, public works/utilities, schools
 - ❑ Other impacted municipal departments such as HR, Legal and Purchasing/Finance

Engaging Stakeholders

- ❑ Educating stakeholders and gaining buy-in
- ❑ Letting key support and municipal services know timeline and type of support needed
- ❑ Keeping those most impacted in the loop
 - ❑ Internal webpage
 - ❑ Involving communications staff
- ❑ Reporting to sponsors and the public – sharing good news

Dispelling Myths

- ❑ Loss of control – Perception or Reality
 - ❑ Elected officials' responsibility to constituents
 - ❑ Access and QoS
- ❑ Cost savings
 - ❑ Immediate for some, longer term for others – none at all for most
- ❑ Cost and Service efficiencies gained immediately
- ❑ Projections, predictions and forecasts
 - ❑ A moment in time...
 - ❑ Best guess based on what is known at the time



Discussion and Questions

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