

Lincoln/Lancaster County Consolidation Task Force Key Outcomes from May 24, 2013 Meeting

► Deciding Upon and Testing the Proposed Process:

- The process steps for each grouping: Issues, Information, Generate options; Apply Criteria; Reality check; Decide on recommendations
- Agreed: Go through each “grouping” of departments one at a time to completion of recommendation process.
- To evaluate proposed process, begin with examining LPD & County Sheriff grouping

► Issues Identification: What are the most important items for us to address related to potential consolidation of Lincoln Police Department and Lancaster County Sheriff?

- **Operational - 15 items**: *Operational efficiencies; FTE's compared to increase or decrease in crime rate; How has technology impacted FTE's for LPD and sSheriff.?; Technology coordination; How top-heavy are we at the head administrative level?; Maintain public safety and speed of service time; Coverage; Safety first; Different philosophies within existing departments; Clerical; Staffing; Service; Better services; Service and safety; Dashboard indicators; Cooperation with villages and county.*
- **Legal – 7 items**: *Statutory structure – unions, statutes, feasibility, FTE, etc; What state law requires for consolidation allowance; Political statutes (limited); Statutory authority; Interlocal agreements; Legally do-able; Legal constraints (elected and appointed officials);*
- **Financial - 6 items**: *Revenue sources for LPD/sheriff – 51% of ppty tax?; Cost; Financials (5 years); Compensation (retirement); Cost savings?; Cost & FTE history/trends.*
- **Political – 4 items**: *Political will; Constituent acceptance of change; Four new fire stations combining police and fire in the county; Still meet needs of constituents.*
- **Accountability & Accessibility (to Officials and Services) – 3 items**: *Accountability; Accessibility; Dashboard indicators.*
- **Champions (Public, Political & Private) – 3 items**: *Burnout, succession planning & career advancement; Champion for Public Safety; Caveat the anti-champion.*

► Further Information Needed:

1. For reality check, ask staff: *What's working well? What would you do differently? What are the issues we need to pay attention to? What concerns do you have?*
2. Find out more about plans for shared facilities
3. If shared mutual response system, what about pay structures and pensions?

► Addressing the Issues: Brainstorming Organizational Structure:

1. Establish a City/County Public Safety organization?:
 - Begin with LPD, Sheriff, 911, Fire
 - Start with sharing facilities and technology: cost sharing!
 - Later, add HazMat? Pollution control? Animal control? UNL & airport police?
 - Promote cross training; Share staff, both volunteer and professional
 - Rewrite laws, as needed, and administrative structure (1 person heads all?)
2. Other structures to consider (as short term steps?)
 - Evaluate rural fire system; combine it with EMS system?
 - Combine just LPD and Sheriff?
 - Combine just LPD and 911?