



City of Roosevelt Park

Consolidation of Services Plan

January 2013

Introduction

Cooperation and Collaboration amongst the units of local government in Muskegon County has been an on-going effort for decades. However, in June 2011 seven communities in conjunction with the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce teamed up for a comprehensive Shared Services Report conducted by Municipal Consulting Services LLC from Ann Arbor.

The Shared Services Report is a product of the seven participating units of government (Roosevelt Park is a participant) that included input from the local business community. The Shared Services Report identifies opportunities for future collaboration in addition to immediate recommendations for sharing municipal services.

Roosevelt Park has been very active in cooperative agreements with several of our neighboring communities and the County. From an organizational standpoint, the City has been diligent in lowering the staffing and other overhead costs associated with procuring public services. Although staffing has been reduced the service levels enjoyed by the public remain relatively the same. Our local workforce is committed to providing high quality public services with fewer resources. The sections outlined below will exemplify the current levels of cooperation between Roosevelt Park and the communities throughout Muskegon County.

Cooperative Efforts and Consolidated Services

Fire Protection Services ó The City of Norton Shores has provided fire protection services for Roosevelt Park since the City was incorporated in 1961. The present Agreement will run through 2020. The savings to the taxpayer is considerable and this cooperative agreement is a win-win for both communities. Roosevelt Park receives first-rate fire protection without having to incur the heavy expense of maintaining a fleet of

fire suppression equipment. Norton Shores benefits by having a steady source of revenue to support their fire department fund.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to achieve a cost savings by contracting fire protection services to a neighboring community that is equipped with a full-service Fire Department that is able to meet the needs of our citizens. (estimated savings of \$500,000 per year)

Assessing ó The County of Muskegon provides assessing services to Roosevelt Park and several other communities within the County. This cooperative effort reduces the cost to Roosevelt Park and reduces the overhead costs associated with the service.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to achieve a cost savings by contracting the assessing duties to the County. (estimated savings of \$25,000 per year)

Street Cleaning ó Roosevelt Park has used both the City of Muskegon and City of Norton Shores for this service. This cooperative effort eliminates the need to purchase and maintain expensive equipment for the single purpose of cleaning the city streets. The fee that is paid for the service provides some relief to the other communities with their respective budgets as well.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to achieve a cost savings by contracting this service with a neighboring community. (estimated savings of \$50,000 per year)

Sanitary Sewer Cleaning ó Roosevelt Park is able to respond to emergency sewer back-ups but is not capable of actual cleaning of the sanitary sewer line. The neighboring communities of Norton Shores and Muskegon both maintain the equipment to clean sanitary sewer and Roosevelt Park will have this service completed by one or the other as the need arises.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to achieve a cost savings by contracting this service to a community that has the equipment. (estimated savings of \$100,000 per year)

Wastewater Treatment ó In 2009 the communities in Muskegon County formed an Authority associated with wastewater treatment giving all 15 communities an equal vote. Roosevelt Park is a member of the Authority and is represented on the Advisory Board.

2013 UPDATE: The City uses the County wastewater facility to treat all sewerage. By utilizing an existing facility the City has reduced its cost associated with wastewater treatment by eliminating the need to own and maintain our own facility. (estimated savings of \$5,000,000).

Water distribution ó The City of Roosevelt Park has been a customer of the City of Muskegon water filtration plant since the City's inception. Currently the Roosevelt Park and the other customer communities are negotiating a unified water service agreement

that will include a unified rate structure and allow for future savings if other neighboring communities become a part of the unified agreement.

2013 UPDATE: In 2012 the existing customer communities (Roosevelt Park, North Muskegon, Muskegon Twp., Laketon Twp., Dalton Twp.,) using the Muskegon Filtration Plant executed a long-term unified agreement with a lower rate. (estimated cost savings of \$1,120,000 over the 40 year period)

Central Dispatch 911 ó Muskegon County administers the 911 emergency and general dispatch services for all communities within the County. Central dispatch is governed by a Board of Directors with a representative from each community. Roosevelt Park is a member of the County wide central dispatch system.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to achieve a cost savings by consolidating the service with a centralized agency. (estimated cost savings of \$28,000 per year)

Regional Economic Development ó The communities in Muskegon County have assistance with economic development from two main sources. Muskegon Area First is a subsidiary of the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber and serves as an economic development agency for the participating communities such as Roosevelt Park.

The West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Committee serves as the local Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the participating communities comprise both the Policy Board and the Technical Committee. Roosevelt Park is a participating member of both economic development agencies.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to achieve a cost savings by consolidating with other communities for economic development purposes. (estimated cost savings of \$35,000 per year)

Ambulance Service ó ProMed provides ambulance and first responder service to the entire County. Also as mentioned above Roosevelt Park has a long term contract with Norton Shores to provide Fire Protection and also ambulance and first responder services.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to experience a cost savings by consolidating with a private vendor for ambulance service. (estimated cost savings of \$250,000)

Engineering Services ó Roosevelt Park has utilized the engineering departments of the City of Muskegon and City of Norton Shores for numerous projects at a considerable savings. Once again this allows Roosevelt Park to receive professional public engineering services at a reduced rate and the additional revenue is a boon for the community and their engineering department.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to use the services of an outside agency eliminating the need to employ an engineering staff. (estimated cost savings of \$60,000 per year)

Transportation Services ó Muskegon County administers the bus system through Muskegon Area Transportation System (MATS) at a considerable savings to all participating communities. Roosevelt Park residents can enjoy the benefits of a comprehensive bus system and the City avoids having to maintain a full-service bus system.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to use the County-wide bus service eliminating the need to purchase, operate, and maintain our own fleet. (estimated cost savings of \$400,000 per year).

Traffic Signals ó The Muskegon County Road Commission administers the traffic signal maintenance program for all communities in the County. Roosevelt Park is a participant with Norton Shores to share the cost of operating the signals that are located on the main thoroughfares bordered by both communities. (estimated cost savings of \$40,000 per year)

Heavy Equipment Maintenance ó Roosevelt Park has a cooperative agreement with City of Muskegon and Norton Shores for the maintenance of heavy equipment and vehicles.

2013 UPDATE: The City continues to use the services of our neighboring communities that have the staffing and equipment in place to maintain equipment. (estimated savings of \$20,000 per year)

Conclusion

As indicated above the City of Roosevelt Park is currently cooperating and collaborating on multiple levels at a considerable cost savings to the community. In addition to the intergovernmental cooperation, the City has been persistent in consolidating services internally as a result of a lower staffing level. In 2007 the City was staffed with 16 full-time employees. In 2013 the City is providing the same services with 9 full-time employees.