

**RESOLUTION NO. 8395**

A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilman Harmon establishing an analytical framework for elected leaders and staff to work with other taxing authorities in developing cooperative arrangements.

WHEREAS, the efficient and effective delivery of certain local governmental services may be best achieved by cooperative arrangements, including consolidation, merger, and inter-local agreements, between and among local taxing entities or functional units of government; and

WHEREAS, as opportunities for cooperative arrangements arise, consideration should be given to the following:

- Clarity of purpose as to why a cooperative arrangement is being pursued,
- Solid factual analysis supporting such a cooperative arrangement, i.e. capacity for change, current performance standards, and required investments in time and resources,
- and
- Definition of how such a cooperative arrangement is to be considered successful; and

WHEREAS, the goals of any cooperative arrangement should, at a minimum, achieve the following:

- Reduction/elimination of duplicate services and personnel,
- Improvement of tax efficiency and tax equity,
- Enhancement of delivery of programs and services,
- Real and meaningful accountability to taxpayers and consumers, and
- Public input by taxpayers and consumers of such services in developing the cooperative arrangements.

27           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
28 TOPEKA, KANSAS, recommends that the City Manager consider and evaluate the  
29 following analytical parameters as appropriate and report to the City Council when it  
30 considers cooperative arrangements between and among the City of Topeka and other  
31 local taxing entities or functional units of government:

- 32 1.     Statement of purpose or goal of the proposed agreement.
- 33 2.     Side-by-side comparisons of both departments or functional units, in terms of:
  - 34 a.     Personnel: Number (full or part-time), salary and benefits, collective  
35 bargaining agreements, areas of responsibility and duties, organizational  
36 charts.
  - 37 b.     Budget: Previous five years' adopted budgets, including identification of all  
38 sources of revenue, e.g. mill levy, special funds, internal and external fees,  
39 sales tax, PILOT, etc.
  - 40 c.     Debt: Identification of all current long-term indebtedness, maturity, annual  
41 debt service, source of payment.
  - 42 d.     Assets: Description of all assets, denoting real and personal; fair market  
43 value of such assets; depreciation schedules; identification of any acquisition  
44 indebtedness; identification of deed restrictions or restrictive covenants.
  - 45 e.     Programs/Services: Description of all programs and/or services, describing  
46 the constituencies, customers and consumers of such programs and  
47 services.
  - 48 f.     Contractual obligations: Length, terms, and purposes of contracts; potential  
49 for assumption of contract, etc.
- 50 3.     Identification of duplication of personnel costs, assets, and programs/services, if

- 51 any.
- 52 4. Identification of cost savings to be achieved by a cooperative arrangement, if any.
- 53 5. Identification of additional costs occasioned by a cooperative arrangement, if any.
- 54 6. Whether elimination of duplicate costs, assets, and programs/services can be
- 55 achieved by, and the benefits to and detriments of, the following:
- 56 a. Inter-local agreements.
- 57 b. Consolidation into jointly-operated department or service.
- 58 c. Merger of department/functional group from one local taxing authority into a
- 59 department/functional group of another local taxing authority.
- 60 7. Plan description for the improvement in the delivery and quality of identified services
- 61 and programs.
- 62 8. Plan description for governance and jurisdictional issues.
- 63 9. Plan description for public involvement and input throughout the planning process.
- 64 10. Public vote where appropriate.
- 65 11. Timeframe for:
- 66 a. Annual budget approval.
- 67 b. Bargaining unit negotiating policies and procedures.
- 68 12. Previously approved long-range plans and commitments.

69 ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council November 29, 2011.

70 CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS

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William W. Bunten, Mayor

75 ATTEST:

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78 Brenda Younger, City Clerk