

Political Science
Working Group on Interlocal Services
Cooperation

Wayne State University

Year 2005

Interlocal Services Cooperation: Bridging
Public Management and Metropolitan
Governance?

Jered B. Carr
Wayne State University, jcarr@wayne.edu

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Department of Political Science

Presentation for the Conference

Creating Collaborative Communities

October 31, 2005

Conference Objectives:

Why are we here?

- There is a broad awareness of the importance of encouraging interlocal collaborations
- However, there is much we do not understand about this topic

Conference Overview

- Two-day format brings together leading academics, local government officials, and others to study and share experiences on this issue
- This is the first time that scholars from across the country have come together
- Locally, this is an important and timely issue

Interlocal Services Collaboration

- What is it?
- What makes this topic so difficult?
- Can these independent, voluntary, and small scale collaborations develop into something more?

Academic Research on Interlocal Services Collaboration

- Often build directly on research on cooperation
- Emphasize importance in cost characteristics of services
- Analyze both the technical and political dimensions of interlocal cooperation
- Increasingly focus on the professional networks of public managers

Thanks to our Collaborators!

For more information, contact:

Jered Carr

Department of Political Science

Wayne State University

jcarr@wayne.edu

Or

Conan Smith

Michigan Suburbs Alliance

ConanSmith@suburbsalliance.org

Public Management & *Metropolitan Governance* Can ILAs bridge the gap?

- Public management requisites
 - Scale economies, avoiding diseconomies
 - Limiting coordinating costs
 - Balancing cost and quality objectives
- Metropolitan governance imperatives
 - Local units which promote political participation, civic engagement
 - Minimize free riding and confront transjurisdictional issues.