



County-Wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan

APPENDIX A

County-wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan Summary

County of Niagara			
County Contact: Richard E. Updegrove			
Contact Telephone: 716-439-7213			
Contact Email: Richard.Updegrove@niagaracounty.com			
Partners			
Row 1 – 1 (total # of) Cities in 3 County			
	Participating Cities	Panel Representative	Vote Cast (Yes or No)*
1.	Niagara Falls	Paul A. Dyster- Mayor	Yes
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
Use additional sheets, if necessary. *The written justification provided by each Panel Representative in support of his or her vote on the Plan is attached hereto, as Exhibit 1.			
Row 2 – 7 (total # of) Towns in County			
	Participating Towns	Panel Representative	Vote Cast (Yes or No)*
1.	Lewiston	Steve Broderick- Supervisor	Yes
2.	Lockport	Mark Crocker- Supervisor	Yes
3.	Cambria	Wright H. Ellis - Supervisor	Yes
4.	Porter	J Duffy Johnston- Supervisor	Yes
5.	Wheatfield	Don MacSwan- Supervisor	Yes
6.	Newfane	Tim Horanburg- Supervisor	Yes
7.	Hartland	W. Ross Annable- Supervisor	Yes
8.			
9.			



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Use additional sheets, if necessary.

*The written justification provided by each Panel Representative in support of his or her vote on the Plan is attached hereto, as Exhibit 1.

Row 3 – 3 (total # of) Villages in County

	Participating Villages	Panel Representative	Vote Cast (Yes or No)*
1.	Lewiston	Anne Wlech, Mayor	Yes
2.	Barker	Aaron Nellist, Mayor	Yes
3.	Middleport	Richard Westcott	Yes
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Use additional sheets, if necessary.

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Row 4 – (total # of) School Districts, BOCES, and Special Improvement Districts in _____ County			
	Participating School Districts, BOCES, and Special Improvement Districts	Panel Representative	Vote Cast (Yes or No)*
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Use additional sheets, if necessary.			
*The written justification provided by each Panel Representative in support of his or her vote on the Plan is attached hereto, as Exhibit 1.			
Row 5			
	2018 Local Government Property Taxes	The sum total of property taxes levied in the year 2018 by the county, cities, towns, villages, school districts, BOCES, and special improvement districts within such county.	
	\$ 403,327,380		



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Row 6	
<p style="text-align: center;">2018 Participating Entities Property Taxes</p>	<p>The sum total of property taxes levied in the year 2018 by the county, any cities, towns, villages, school districts, BOCES, and special improvements districts identified as participating in the panel in the rows above.</p>
<p>\$182,831,141</p>	
Row 7	
<p style="text-align: center;">Total Anticipated Savings</p>	<p>The sum total of net savings in such plan certified as being anticipated in calendar year 2019, calendar year 2020, and annually thereafter.</p>
<p>\$4,058,510- 2019</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">\$3,918,510- 2020 \$3,898,570- Thereafter</p>
Row 8	
<p style="text-align: center;">Anticipated Savings as a Percentage of Participating Entities Property Taxes</p>	<p>The sum total of net savings in such plan certified as being anticipated in calendar year 2019 as a percentage of the sum total in Row 6, calendar year 2020 as a percentage of the sum total in Row 6, and annually thereafter as a percentage of the sum total in Row 6.</p>
<p>.02%- 2019</p>	<p>.02%- 2020</p>
Row 9	
<p style="text-align: center;">Anticipated Savings to the Average Taxpayer</p>	<p>The amount of the savings that the average taxpayer in the county will realize in calendar year 2019, calendar year 2020, and annually thereafter if the net savings certified in the plan are realized.</p>
<p>\$14.22</p>	<p>County Taxes: Home value- \$100,000</p>
Row 10	
<p style="text-align: center;">Anticipated Costs/Savings to the Average Homeowner</p>	<p>The percentage amount a homeowner can expect his or her property taxes to increase or decrease in calendar year 2019, calendar year 2020, and annually thereafter if the net savings certified in the plan are realized.</p>
	<p>Varies by municipality</p>
Row 11	
<p style="text-align: center;">Anticipated Costs/Savings to the Average Business</p>	<p>The percentage amount a business can expect its property taxes to increase or decrease in calendar year 2019, calendar year 2020, and annually thereafter if the net savings certified in the plan are realized.</p>
	<p>Varies by municipality</p>



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CERTIFICATION OF PLAN AND PROPERTY TAX SAVINGS TO DIRECTOR OF BUDGET

By my signature below, I hereby certify that the County-Wide Shared Services Property Tax Savings Plan submitted herewith is final, that it was completed in accordance with the requirements of Part BBB of Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2017, and that the savings identified and contained herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Richard E. Updegrove

County Chief Executive Officer

(Print Name)

9/14/2018

(Signature)

(Date)

Pursuant to Part BBB of Chapter 59 of the Laws of 2017, the chief executive officer of each county outside of a city of one million or more shall prepare a property tax savings plan for shared, coordinated and efficient services among the county, cities, towns and villages within such county.

A. WHAT COMPRISES THE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX LEVY?

State Mandates:

Over the last few years, there have been many discussions related to State mandated expenses that County governments are forced to pay, and how these expenses impact the County’s tax levy. As addressed in the “9 for 90 Campaign” organized by the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC), 9 State Mandates currently consume 90 percent or more of county property tax levies statewide.

All of these costs are determined and controlled by the State of New York and/or Federal Government, and are passed down to the County to be paid for with the tax levy.

The following table represents Niagara County’s cost for these State mandated items in 2018:

Mandated Item	2018
Medicaid	43,721,812
New York State Retirement	11,533,988
Temporary Assistance/Safety Net	5,942,000
Pre-School Special Ed	4,987,351
Probation	3,748,994
Indigent Defense	2,670,190
Early Intervention	2,189,730
Youth Detention	1,696,250
Child Welfare/Preventive Serv.	364,000
Totals	\$76,884,315

The total of these mandated items represents 97% of our 2018 general fund’s tax levy of \$79,561,847.

Medicaid alone comprises 56% of the County tax levy.

B. WHAT COMPRISES THE OVERALL COUNTY PROPERTY TAX BURDEN?

Summary- Taxes Levied- 2017/2018			
2018 County Total:	\$91,141,776	23%	1/
2018 Town Total:	\$29,820,149	7%	2/
2018 City Total:	\$58,959,005	14%	
2017 Village Total:	\$2,858,154	1%	
2017/18 School Total:	\$220,496,239	55%	
Total:	\$403,275,323		

1/ Includes all funds, special districts and chargebacks.

2/ Includes special districts.

C. BARRIERS TO SHARED SERVICES INITIATIVES

Significant barriers exist that discourage transfer of function. The shared services panel was reluctant to consider shared services initiatives which would transfer functions to the County. The State of New York has provided no changes, amendments or exceptions to the myriad of statutes, rules and regulations which impose barriers to and/or prohibit transfers of function.

The panel members are familiar with the challenges imposed by the transfer of dispatch services, previously provided by the City of North Tonawanda, to the County of Niagara, through an intermunicipal agreement which transferred said function.

In 2012, the City of North Tonawanda ceased police dispatching services and the County assumed those duties on behalf of the City. All dispatchers, previously employed by the City, were hired by the County.

The following is a timeline of the events that transpired after the transfer:

February 2012	NT dispatchers file grievance in NT concerning transfer (County not involved)
May 15, 2012	County passes resolution approving transfer of employees from NT to County.
July 1, 2012	Stated effective date in Intermunicipal Agreement with NT transferring employees (signed by Bill Ross October 1, 2012)
September 11, 2012	Dispatchers file Article 78 action against County, etc. concerning seniority, etc.
February 27, 2013	Judge Murphy issues decision against County on Art. 78 petition.
June 13, 2014	Appellate Division upholds J. Murphy's decision
August 18, 2016	NTPBA files action against County etc., concerning validity of the Intermunicipal agreement.
January 6, 2017	County's motion to dismiss granted by Judge Caruso.
February 1, 2017	NTPBA notice of appeal filed.
July 24, 2017	Administration Committee of the Niagara County Legislature agreed to hire three (3) full-time and four (4) part-time dispatchers to provide a separate channel for the North Tonawanda Police Department resolving all disputes.

Moreover, the NTPBA filed additional grievances and/or PERB filings against the City which the County was not party to.

The rules which govern the collective bargaining required for the transfer of these types of functions, as well as the prohibition on unilateral changes to work rules and benefits, are codified in statutes, rules and regulations of the State of New York, including the Civil Service Law. These rules provide insurmountable barriers to accomplishing these types of transfers and sharing of services while realizing any appreciable savings to the taxpayer.

D. EXISTING SHARED SERVICES

Despite the barriers aforementioned, the municipalities of Niagara County have consistently engaged in multiple shared service initiatives, many of which are included in the attached submissions from the panel members. Attached are addenda of current shared services.

E. PROPOSED SHARED SERVICE INITIATIVES

1. COLLABORATION WITH THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO UTILIZE FINGERPRINT IDENTIFICATION FOR MEDICAID APPLICANTS AND AUDITS OF SAFETY NET AND MEDICAID APPLICANTS

MEDICAID

Total 2017 Medicaid Expenditure for Niagara County:	\$ 415,403,560
2017 Niagara County Cost for Medicaid:	\$ 43,751,812

June 22, 2009 – Fingerprint Imaging of Medicaid applicants, a function previously conducted by Niagara County Department of Social Services, was removed by the State of New York.

April 1, 2014 – Audits for Medicaid applicants that represented as being self-employed, which were previously ordered and reviewed by the Niagara County Department of Social Services, were eliminated by the State of New York.

The necessary equipment for fingerprint imaging is already in place if this was required of Medicaid applicants.

With respect to the auditing of self-employed Medicaid applicants, Social services previously utilized The Bonadio Group. Prior to the elimination of auditing, 43% of those referred to be audited were identified as not being eligible for Medicaid and disqualified.

By working collaboratively with the State and assuming responsibility for these 2 initiatives, based on past experience, we estimate that county taxpayers can realize a savings of 4 to 6% of Medicaid expenditures.

Projected Savings- \$2.62 million.

SAFETY NET

Total 2017 Safety Net Expenditure for Niagara County:	\$ 8,079,904
2017 Niagara County Cost for Safety Net:	\$ 5,548,845

Safety Net is a NYS welfare program for single and childless couples, not otherwise eligible under the federal program and guidelines, as well as those families that are on cash assistance beyond the maximum 5 year federal limit for welfare benefits. Up until 2012, the Safety Net program was funded 50% by the State and 50% by the counties. In 2012, the funding formula was changed to

put a greater burden on the local taxpayers for this State mandated program: 29% State and 71% by the counties.

The County has not previously performed audits on Safety Net clients who DSS believed to be, or represented that they were, self-employed. Conservatively, projected savings are 2 to 3%. The same firm that would be performing the Medicaid audits should also be able to take this project.

Projected Savings- \$191,000.

2. HEALTH INSURANCE

Self-Insurance:

The County is self-insured and manages the Niagara County Self-Insured Health Insurance Plan to provide coverage to eligible employees, retirees and family members. The Plan is responsible for paying the medical, surgical and pharmacy claims of its members rather than paying for conventional health insurance. The County and its collective bargaining units have cooperatively designed a health care plan which is administered by a third party.

Many local municipalities have experienced instability in the health insurance market and have been subjected to significant premium increases with no advance warning.

Given the number of persons enrolled in the County plan (2,231 participants and over 5,000 members), the stability of the County workforce and management of the Plan, the County is able to effectively pool risk, forecast future claims, negotiate better network discounts, reduce administration fees and receive favorable stop-loss rates.

As members of the County plan, local municipalities could realize significant savings in the cost of the premiums paid for health insurance, in addition to benefiting from increased cost certainty.

However, a question remains whether various statutes prohibit the entry of local municipalities into the Niagara County Self-Insured Health Insurance Plan. More specifically, would Articles 32 or 43 of the New York Insurance Law prohibit the purchase of stop loss coverage by local municipalities?

Attached hereto is a copy of correspondence, dated 4/6/18, from the New York State Department of Financial Services which indicates that the Department is unable to provide a definitive answer.

We will not be including this initiative in our 2019 Shared Services report until we are provided approval to expand the County Plan to include local municipalities. However, some municipalities have assessed potential savings if DFS allows such inclusion.

Village of Barker- Savings- \$7,359

Town of Hartland- Savings- \$35,000

Town of Pendleton- Savings- \$19,000

Health Care Consortium:

In addition to the above, various municipalities in Niagara County, including the County itself, have previously explored the formation of a health care consortium pursuant to Article 47 of the New York Insurance Law. We are continuing to be explore the Health Care Consortium.

However, statutes and rules regarding collective bargaining in the State of New York also impose significant barriers to formation. Although the consortium plan would be designed by the stakeholders, including management and labor, the collective bargaining units of the members, including the County, would be required, under the law, to agree to adopt the consortium plan. The County collective bargaining units have indicated opposition.

Some towns have included the formation of the consortium as a shared service initiative, however, there have been concerns raised that the formation of same may not occur within the 2019 calendar year which would eliminate the eligibility for financial grants or incentives to form same. We will include this initiative in the 2019 Shared Services Plan once the panel members agree to do same.

Article 47 Health Care Consortium

Town of Somerset- Savings \$30,702

Village of Lewiston- Savings unknown

Town of Cambria- Savings \$28,000

Village of Barker- Savings \$3,835

Town of Niagara- Savings- \$30,000

Village of Middleport- Savings- \$14,000

Town of Hartland- Savings- unknown

3. LAND BANK

There are approximately 6391 tax delinquent properties in the County of Niagara. Vacant, abandoned and foreclosed properties have a detrimental effect on the values of surrounding properties and serve to destabilize neighborhoods and communities. A land bank, however, has statutory authority to acquire and control the disposition of these properties, thereby mandating rehabilitation and reuse consistent with the mission and vision of the land bank and its members.

Niagara County, in conjunction with the County of Orleans, and the Cities of Lockport, Niagara Falls and North Tonawanda, have formed a land bank.

A land bank can speed up the process of converting vacant, abandoned and foreclosed properties to productive use which will increase property tax revenues generated by those properties and help stabilize the neighborhoods in which they are located. The result is immeasurable, but certain, economic growth and restored tax revenue

A land bank will also have access to outside financial resources and grants to supplement its operations. Said resources and funding may be used for maintenance and marketing of such properties, as well as management of the land bank, but these resources may also be used to undertake selective demolition of structures in serious disrepair.

Projected savings- unknown

4. WEB CONFERENCING FOR CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS/ VIDEO ARRAIGNMENT

Niagara County Sheriff's Deputies are responsible for transporting incarcerated criminal defendants to all criminal court proceedings. However, section 182.20 of the New York Criminal Procedure Law mandates consent of the defendant to electronic appearance. Therefore, savings are difficult at best to project. This statute would need to be amended. Absent a successful constitutional challenge, potential savings could be:

County projected savings: \$450,000-\$500,000

5. FUEL ISLAND

The Niagara County Highway Department is proposing construction of a new diesel and unleaded fueling facility at the County Highway property in the City of Lockport. As part of the project, the County would install payment tracking equipment to allow use by other public entities. Savings could be realized by proximity of users as well as bulk purchasing cost savings.

Town of Somerset- Savings unknown

City of Lockport- \$11,125

6. MILLING MACHINE

Niagara County has purchased a road milling machine for use by the County Highway Department in road construction. Ownership of this equipment will offset annual costs associated with hiring private contractors to perform these services and also mitigate strict scheduling constraints when these services are contracted. The County can utilize this equipment for the local municipalities under existing shared services agreements. This would provide cost savings and schedule flexibility to the municipalities sharing the equipment.

Town of Somerset- Savings unknown

Village of Lewiston: Savings \$5,000

Town of Cambria- Savings \$13,000

Town of Niagara- Savings \$5,000

Town of Pendleton- Savings \$8,000

Village of Middleport- Savings- \$3,000

City of Lockport- \$25,000

7. PAVING MACHINE PURCHASE

Town of Lewiston- Savings \$36,000

Town of Niagara- Savings- \$90,000

Tow of Porter- Savings- \$36,000

Village of Lewiston- Savings \$36,000

Town of Wheatfield- Savings \$36,000

Village of Youngstown- Savings \$36,000

8. DIGITAL PICTOMETRY

Integrated Pictometry and high resolution official images of all properties which is used by law enforcement and local assessors, code enforcement and building inspectors as a tool to review conditions on a parcel or property. The total savings for 6-inch resolution is \$42,600 and for 4-inch resolution is \$47,200. Please see attached addendum.

9. SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

The County is providing consultation service to local governments, such as program development, bid specification/contract preparation and implementation of cost effective solid waste management programs in their communities. The County will also perform procedural and operational audits and prepare required agency reporting.

City of Niagara Falls- Savings \$100,000

City of North Tonawanda- Savings \$15,000

Town of Lancaster- Savings \$75,000

County of Orleans- Savings \$20,000

10. DREDGING

The County of Niagara is contemplating collaboration with other counties to provide a plan for regular maintenance dredging of Lake Ontario harbor channels. Niagara County has 2 sites: Wilson and Olcott harbors.

Savings would include the elimination of mobilization costs for dredging equipment and a reduction in costs due to increased economies of scale.

Savings to Niagara County taxpayers: \$50,000 per year.

Please see attached Memorandum of Understanding.

11. JOINT PURCHASING

On a quarterly basis, the Purchasing Division of the Department of Management and Budget will update and distribute a list of current awarded bids to area cities, towns and villages. This regular distribution will provide other municipalities access to volume discounts while still complying with NYS purchasing guidelines.

12. CRISIS SERVICES HOTLINE

The Niagara County Department of Mental Health (hereinafter "NCDMH") Crisis Services Program, in existence since 1972, provides Crisis Intervention Services to County of Niagara residents on a twenty-four (24) hour per day, seven (7) days per week basis through a myriad of services with the goal of alleviating the level of crisis for each individual caller through the Crisis Services Call Center (hereinafter "CSCC"). Through the establishment of Inter Municipal Agreements, Niagara County also provides CSCC services for the Counties of Orleans and Genesee.

The CSCC provides Crisis Phone Triage Services, information and referral services, and telephonic support to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis utilizing an established seven step crisis intervention model. CSCC staff are trained to deliver services using person centered and trauma informed approaches.

Calls are triaged to determine the level of individual need and match that need with the least restricted level of intervention to ensure the safety of the individual. All callers are assessed for lethality during the course of the telephonic triage. Callers who do not present as in imminent risk of harm to self or others are given supportive interventions utilizing empathy and de-escalation techniques. CSCC staff assist callers in utilizing their existing coping skills, or assists them in

identifying/ developing coping skills available to them. Callers are encouraged to utilize family, friends, neighbors, existing Service Providers, and faith based supports to support them through this temporary crisis. Callers are then offered additional referrals to available local community supports as additional coping mechanisms.

Callers who state or report an individual is experiencing suicidal ideations, feelings of helplessness and hopelessness, depression, anxiety, delusions, hallucinations, and/or homicidal ideations are given further assessment to ascertain their level of lethality. In situations where danger to self or others is indicated, CSCC staff will gather relevant information and then collaborate with the On-Call and/or Mobile Crisis Response program which handles community-based response for the specific County. The On-Call and/or Mobile Crisis Response program represents the County's Director of Community Services as his or her Designee under NYS MHL 9.45.

The CSCC maintains appropriate documentation of calls and interventions provided and provides regular data and reports to the appropriate Counties.

Estimate purchase through private contract for 24/7/365 coverage is between \$100,000 and \$125,000. If a county were to build their own program - they would likely need to employ between 3 - 5 Phone Aides (Bachelor's Degree, \$17.78/hour, 3 - 4 Part Time staff (same qualifications), and a Master's Level Mental Health professional to provide clinical and administrative oversight to the program.

13. TAX COLLECTION SOFTWARE

We are in the process of exploring tax collection software. It will not be included in the 2019 Shared Services Report because, at this time, since we are not yet sure if this process will be completed in 2019.

Niagara County is proposing to implement a countywide centralized property tax collection database that would show a cost savings over the current system and provide greater efficiencies. The centralized database system will improve communication between the County Treasurer, local and school tax collectors, and, most importantly, the taxpayer. It will reduce manual data entry and eliminate redundant processing, streamlining the entire tax collection process. Since the data would be created within a single system, there would be no need to convert files from different software systems into usable formats, further improving efficiency. Each taxing jurisdiction and the tax paying public would have access to billing and payment data in real time.

The following municipalities have included same in their initiatives, but the expectation is that participation will increase once we have explored database software alternatives:

Village of Barker- Savings \$275

Town of Wilson- Savings- Unknown

14. E-RECYCLING

Town of Wilson- Savings- Unknown

15. RECORDS MANAGEMENT

We are in the process of calculating the County cost to the Town of Wilson for document retention, retrieval and destruction, at the facility leased and operated by the County, for the purpose of calculating any efficiencies and potential savings. This initiative may be included in the 2019 report once assessment is complete.

Town of Wilson- Savings- Unknown

16. GRANT WRITER

The County is consulting with the County's grant writer relative to any potential rebates which may be afforded to municipalities if they utilize the County's grant writing services. This may be included in the 2019 report once the assessment is complete.

Village of Middleport- Savings- Unknown

Village of Lewiston- Savings- Unknown

17. IT SERVICES

City of Lockport- \$10,000

Town of Pendleton- \$23,600

18. CLEAN UP EFFORTS

Clean up of John B. Daly Blvd- City of Niagara Falls

Estimated Cost:

2 Supervisors @ 16 Hours each = \$960.00

Mulch, if provided by county, delivery and labor = \$200.00

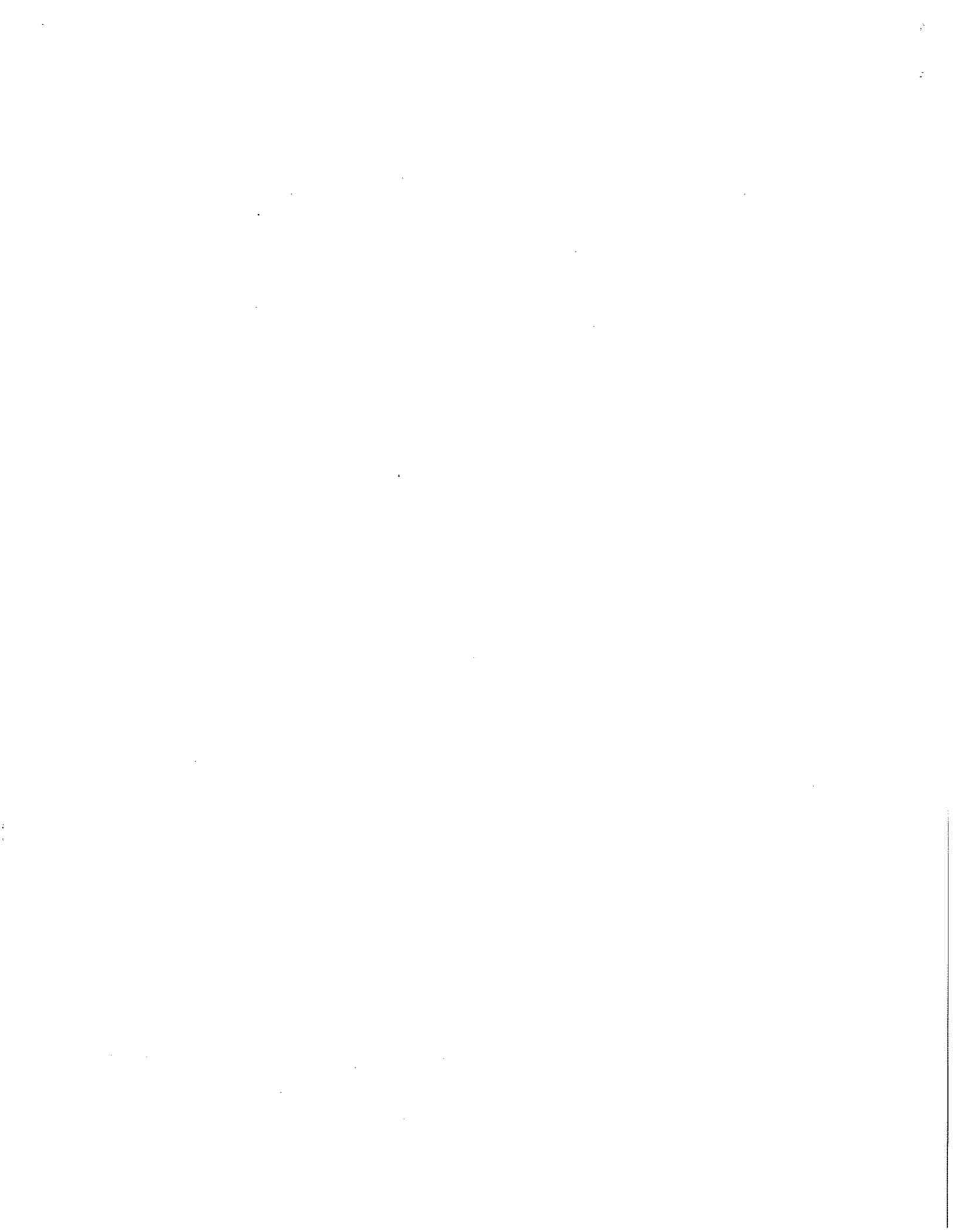
Estimated fuel and supplies = \$150.00

Total estimated cost for two-day cleanup = \$1,310.00

19. WATER SERVICES

The 102nd Street Meter Pit in the City of Niagara Falls provides an emergency interconnection between the Niagara County Water District (NCWD) and the City of Niagara Falls. The engineering proposal for \$27,500.00 was by the NCWD Board of Commissioners meeting. Construction costs are estimated to be \$270,000.00, for a total project cost of \$297,500.00. City of Niagara Falls has agreed to split the engineering cost and will consider reimbursing the NCWD for one-half of the eventual construction costs. Projected savings would be \$148,750.00 each, for the City of Niagara Falls and the Niagara County Water District. This interconnection was most recently used with the water main break on 42nd Street in Niagara Falls, when the City purchased water from the NCWD during the emergency. Please see attached addendum.

PROPOSED SHARED SERVICES INITIATIVES



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
City of Lockport	Scott Schrader	Director of Finance	7164396631

2018 Tax Levy:	\$12,400,830	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:		
Total Tax Levy	\$12,400,830	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
IT Hosting and Share Services	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

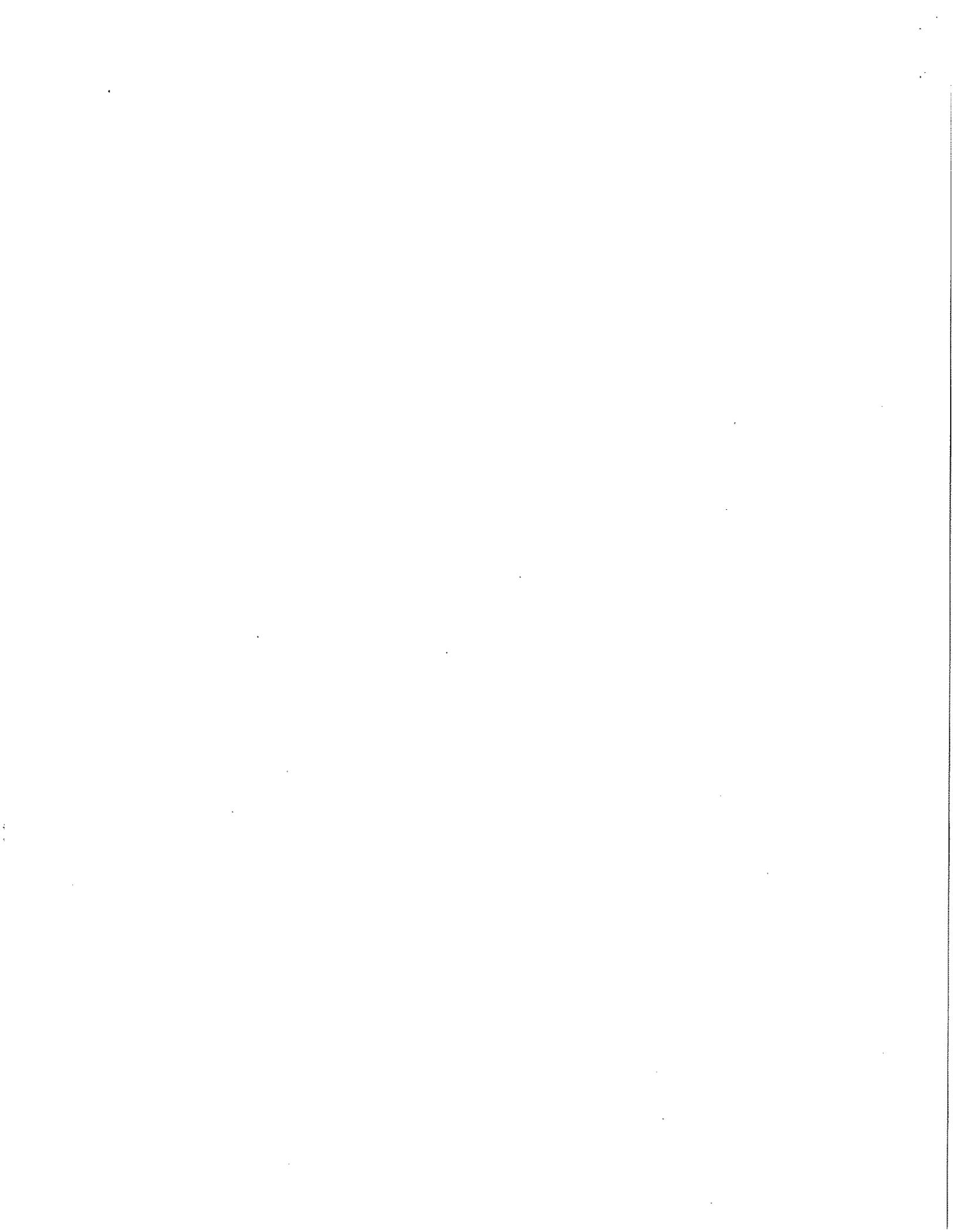
Description of Initiative:
 The County would serve as the City's IT Department providing .5 FTE of network maintenance and end user support in return for an annual payment. The County would also "host" the City's network equipment (servers). By hosting the City's network infrastructure, shared licenses would result in an annual savings of approximately \$10,000. The bigger savings is in cost avoidance for the City. The City would avoid having to build a climate controlled server room as well as hiring a full time IT professional. It is estimated that the City would avoid approximately \$150,000 on an on going basis in personnel.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Shared Fuel Farm	\$11,125	\$11,125	\$11,125

Description of Initiative:
 The City's current usage of diesel and gasoline approximates 89,000 gallons. If the City were able to utilize the County's fueling facilities, it is estimated that the City could save between \$0.10 to \$0.15 per gallon. In addition, the City would save time in lost productivity and accounting if the City were not to use the current practice of utilizing local gas stations for fuel.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
Shared Milling Machine	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000

Description of Initiative:
 The City currently contracts with a private vendor for milling City streets for an approximate 80,000 square yards annually. If the County and its municipalities were to purchase a milling machine for joint use, it is anticipated that the City would be able to save a portion of the costs being paid to the private contractor.



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Pendleton	Joel Maerten	Supervisor	(716) 625-8833

2018 Tax Levy:	\$206,659	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:	\$1,092,256	
Total Tax Levy	\$1,298,915	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Niagara County Health Insurance Plan	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$19,000

Description of Initiative:
Should the town have the ability to join Niagara County's health insurance plan, monthly premium savings would be experienced. Furthermore, should the healthcare consortium that is currently in the planning stage become available, total annual savings are estimated at \$42,895. All numbers provided are estimates.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Niagara County Milling Machine	\$8,000		

Description of Initiative:
Use of a Niagara County-owned and operated road milling machine may afford the Town savings. Savings are only experienced during years in which the need for the machine are planned.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(3) Shared Service Initiative			
Refuse and Recycling Consortium	\$45,000		

Description of Initiative:
The Town of Pendleton, in conjunction with three other towns, solicited a joint bid for refuse and recycling services in 2016. This resulted in a substantial savings for all towns involved on a multi-year contract. Savings are per unit and are therefore unpredictable for future years. The savings listed for 2018 are based on 2017 units and future years will see an increase in savings as the number of units is anticipated to increase. The 2019 anticipated savings is an estimate.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(4) Shared Service Initiative			
Public Works Shared Services			

Description of Initiative:
The Town of Pendleton, in conjunction with many other towns in Niagara County, share equipment and personnel on a regular basis. This effort is ongoing and will continue for the foreseeable future.

(5) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
Snow Removal			

Description of Initiative:
The Town of Pendleton collaborates with Niagara County for snow removal services. This affords the county savings as the Town of Pendleton maintains Niagara County-owned roads cost efficiently for the county.

COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Town of Niagara	Lee Wallace	Supervisor	297-2150

2018 Tax Levy:	\$0	
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:	\$2,149,148	(towns only)
Total Tax Levy	\$2,149,148	

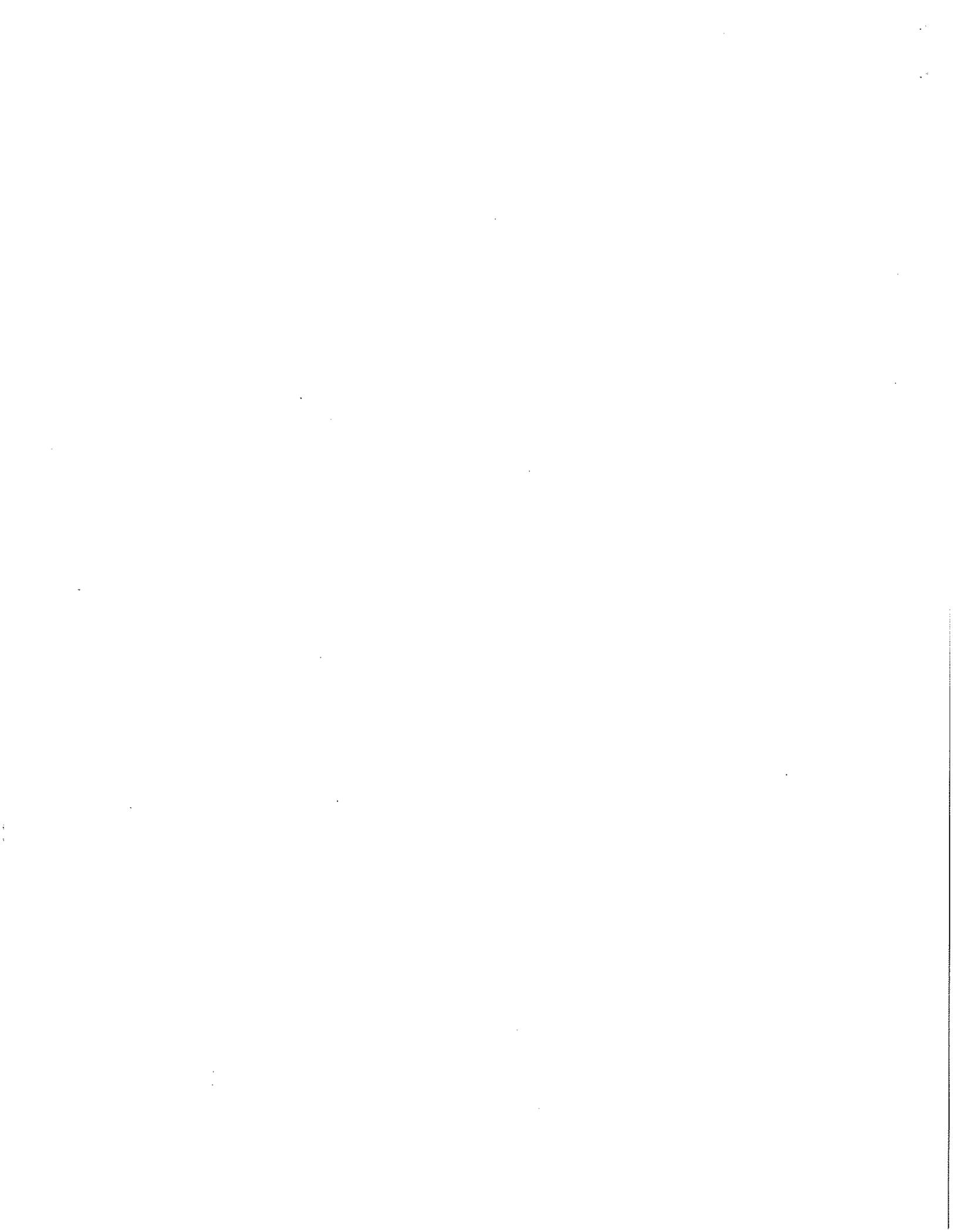
	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Purchase of Paving Machine	\$90,000	\$50,000	\$30,000

Description of Initiative:
 Purchased a paving machine with other Towns to share use during paving season

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Join the County Health Care Consortium	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000

The Town would be willing to explore the savings available by joining the County Health Care Consortium. This would be dependant on ratification from our Collective Bargaining Group.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
County Milling Machine	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Village of Barker	Amanda M. Detschner	Clerk-Treasurer	716-795-3777

2018 Tax Levy:	\$140,365	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:		
Total Tax Levy	\$140,365	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Greater Niagara Health Care Consortium	\$3,835		

Description of Initiative:
 If the Village were to purchase health care from the Niagara Orleans Health Care Consortium it would allow the Village to purchase health care at a cost savings, would be more predictable and would allow more stability in the plans chosen versus purchasing from a broker at a community rate, since we only have two full time employees that are eligible for health care coverage.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Health Insurance from the NC Self Insured Plan	\$7,359		

Description of Initiative:
 If the Village were to purchase health care from the Niagara Orleans Health Care Consortium it would allow the Village to purchase health care at a cost savings, would be more predictable and would allow more stability in the plans chosen versus purchasing from a broker at a community rate, since we only have two full time employees that are eligible for health care coverage.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(3) Shared Services Initiative			
Countywide Tax Collection Software	\$275		

Description of Initiative:
 Utilizing the same tax software that the County uses would allow for ease of exporting data and give real time information useful to our Municipality and residents

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(4) Shared Service Initiative			

Description of Initiative:

(5) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter

Description of Initiative:

(6) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter

Description of Initiative:

(7) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter

Description of Initiative:

(8) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter

Description of Initiative:

Village of Barker

Mayor Aaron Nellist
Dep. Mayor Gregory P. Kerth
Trustees: Kimberly Ruffini
Seanna Corwin-Bradley
R. James Baker
Police Chief:
Timothy Braughler

8708 Main St. PO Box 298
Barker, NY 14012-0298
716-795-3777 FAX 716-795-3478



Clerk-Treasurer
Amanda M. Detschner
Deputy-Clerk-Treasurer
Victoria A. Baker
Superintendent of Public Works
Mark D. Remington

Addendum to Shared Services Template

The Village of Barker diligently works to be fiscally responsible in all aspects of our local government and has worked endlessly to pursue options that may have a positive impact on our budget. But as time goes by, we are constantly facing road blocks that prevent the Village from joining options that may be beneficial to the Village and its employees. For example, the Niagara Orleans Health Care Consortium under article 47. This has involved extensive participation and resources, but hasn't come to fruition due to the law requiring too large of a pool of insured participants. If the law were to require 500 employees instead of 1,000 this cost saving plan would already be utilized by the Village to purchase health care. Since the Consortium is unable to find enough participants, we are left to look elsewhere for health insurance at a steeper rate.

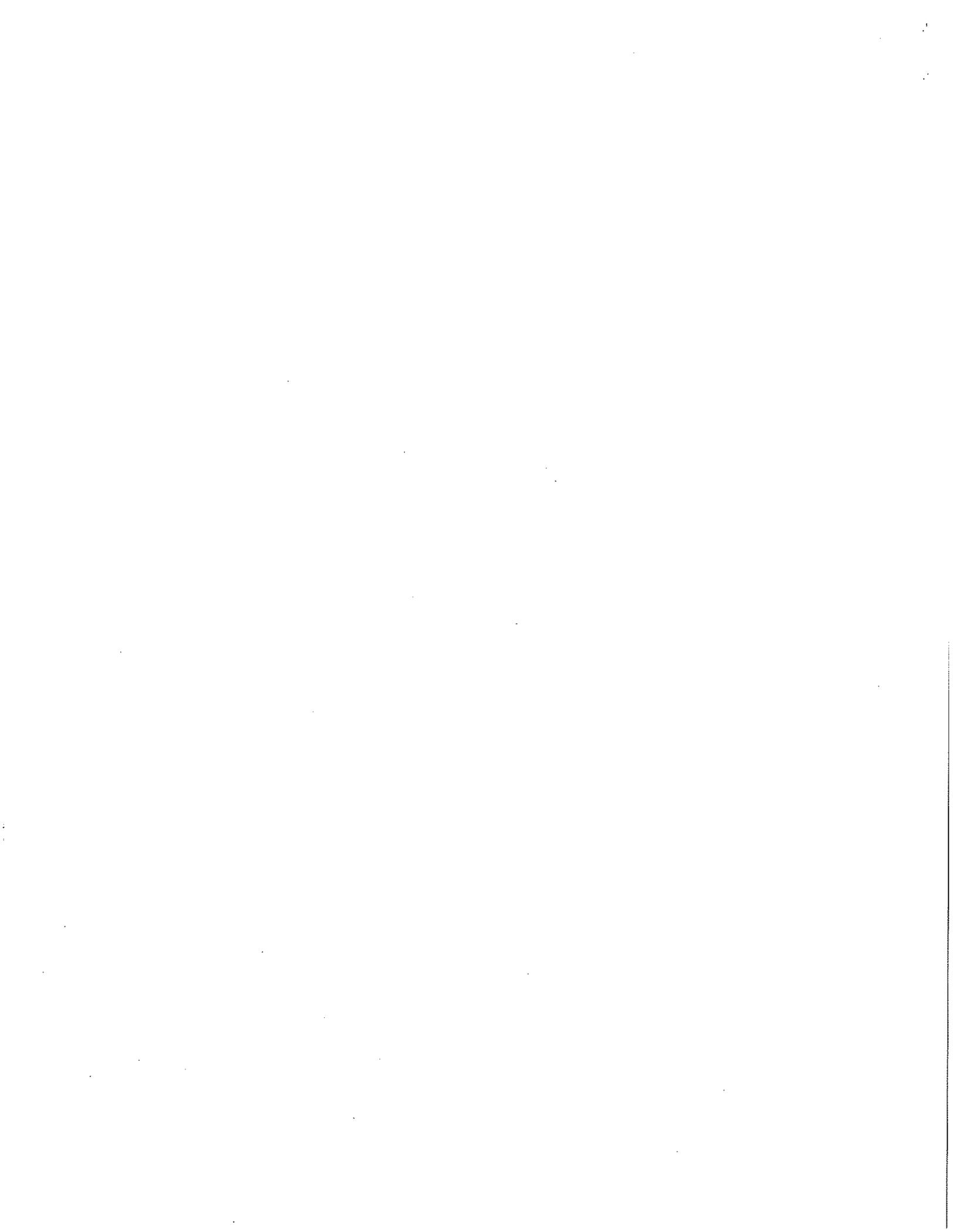
Another cost saving option would be to abolish the Village Police Department, but again, this is only an option as long as the public votes in favor. Villages cannot abolish their Police Departments without holding a permissive referendum. Earlier this year we held a Town Hall meeting discussing the issues that faced the Village and the Police Department, but all of the residents that showed up were in favor of keeping the Department no matter the costs. This is a very polarizing issue that the Village has done extensive work on gauging public interest, what effects it would have on public safety and what the actual cost savings realized. Therefore, we are unable to move ahead with a decision on the Police Department until a permissive referendum process has been completed. Yet again a road block by state statute.

The Village also collects its own taxes, which is a job performed by the Village Clerk-Treasurer and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer. The Village Hall has one full time employee and one part time employee at 12 hours per week. It wouldn't be beneficial for the Village to ask the County to collect our taxes since it would mean 37% of our residents would have to drive 20+ miles to reach the County building, as well as costing the Village more money to have those services outsourced. Essentially Tax Collection decentralization does not make sense for the Village due to distance and that functions are already performed by our staff that at no additional cost. Our Village functions with bare bones equipment, minimal staff and looks for ways to save money on a daily basis, these mandates that only focus on new shared services are cynical of the local governments and the important services they provide to their cherished residents.

The Village of Barker is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html. or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

TDD 7-1-1 or 1-800-662-1220



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Village of Middleport	Rebecca Schweigert	Clerk-Treasurer	716-735-3303

2018 Tax Levy:	\$549,010	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:		
Total Tax Levy	\$549,010	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Health Care Consortium	\$14,000	\$14,000	\$14,000

Description of Initiative:
 A health care consortium made up of all of the municipalities in Niagara County plus some entities from Orleans County. If it comes to fruition, it will save the village, at a minimum, \$14,000.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
County's Milling Equipment	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000

Description of Initiative:
 By utilizing the County's milling equipment, the Village would save approximately \$3,000 in rental fees.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
Grant Writer	unknown	unknown	unknown

Description of Initiative:
 If the County creates a grant writing department, the Village would be willing to share the cost of this service. At present we do not use a grant writing company, as the cost is prohibitive for a small village like us.



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Town of Somerset	Daniel M. Engert	Supervisor	716-795-3575

2017 Tax Levy:	\$236,000	
2017 Special Districts Tax Levy:	\$570,729	(towns only)
Total Tax Levy	\$806,729	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Article 47 Health Care Consortium	\$30,702	\$31,316	Average \$33,110

Description of Initiative:
 Creation of an Article 47 municipal healthcare consortium. Self-funded model to include the municipal employees of participating entities. Project was started in 2014 and currently consists of Niagara County; Niagara Falls; Niagara ; Lewiston; Royalton; Newfane; Cambria; Porter; Hartland; Somerset; Wheatfield; Pendleton; Barker; Middleport; Youngstown; Lewiston, village; . Projecting 14% savings at \$22 million overall.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Milling Machine	?	?	?

Description of Initiative:
 Joint purchase of Milling Machine. Unsure of savings, availability of machine and/or offering of resources by County to provide work/equipment. Willing to study a proposal.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(3) Shared Service Initiative			
Fuel Island	?	?	?

Description of Initiative:
 Joint purchase of fuel at central location. Unsure of savings. Currently purchase fuel from bid. Housed on-site.



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Lewiston - Village	Stephanie Myers	Deputy Clerk	7167548271

2018 Tax Levy:	\$1,117,722	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:		
Total Tax Levy	\$1,117,722	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Construction Equipment	\$36,650	\$38,483	\$40,407

Description of Initiative:
 Equipment from other municipalities (excavator, rollers, gradeall, dumptrucks, street sweeper, millhead, backhoe, bobcat broom)

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Street Paver			

Description of Initiative:
 Borrow the street paver from the Town of Lewiston

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(3) Shared Service Initiative			
Shared Grant Writer			

Description of Initiative:
 Unsure of savings willing to study

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(4) Shared Service Initiative			
NC Health Care Consortium			

Description of Initiative:
 Local Municipalities have joined to initiate a self-insured health care for employees.

(5) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
Road Milling	\$5,500	\$6,050	\$6,352

Description of Initiative:
Niagara County equipment instead of outside contractor

COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Hartford	W. Ross Annable	Town Supervisor	716-510-3688

2018 Tax Levy:	\$439,180	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:	\$901,454	
Total Tax Levy	\$1,340,937	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Niagara Co. Health Constorium	N/A		

Description of Initiative:
 Local Municipalities have joined to initiate a self-insured health care plan for employees. The group is in the process of completing studies to determine savings.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Join Niagara Co. Health care Plan	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000

COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Town of Cambria	Wright H. Ellis	Supervisor	716-433-8523

2018 Tax Levy:	\$765,559	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:	\$1,758,960	
Total Tax Levy	\$2,524,519	

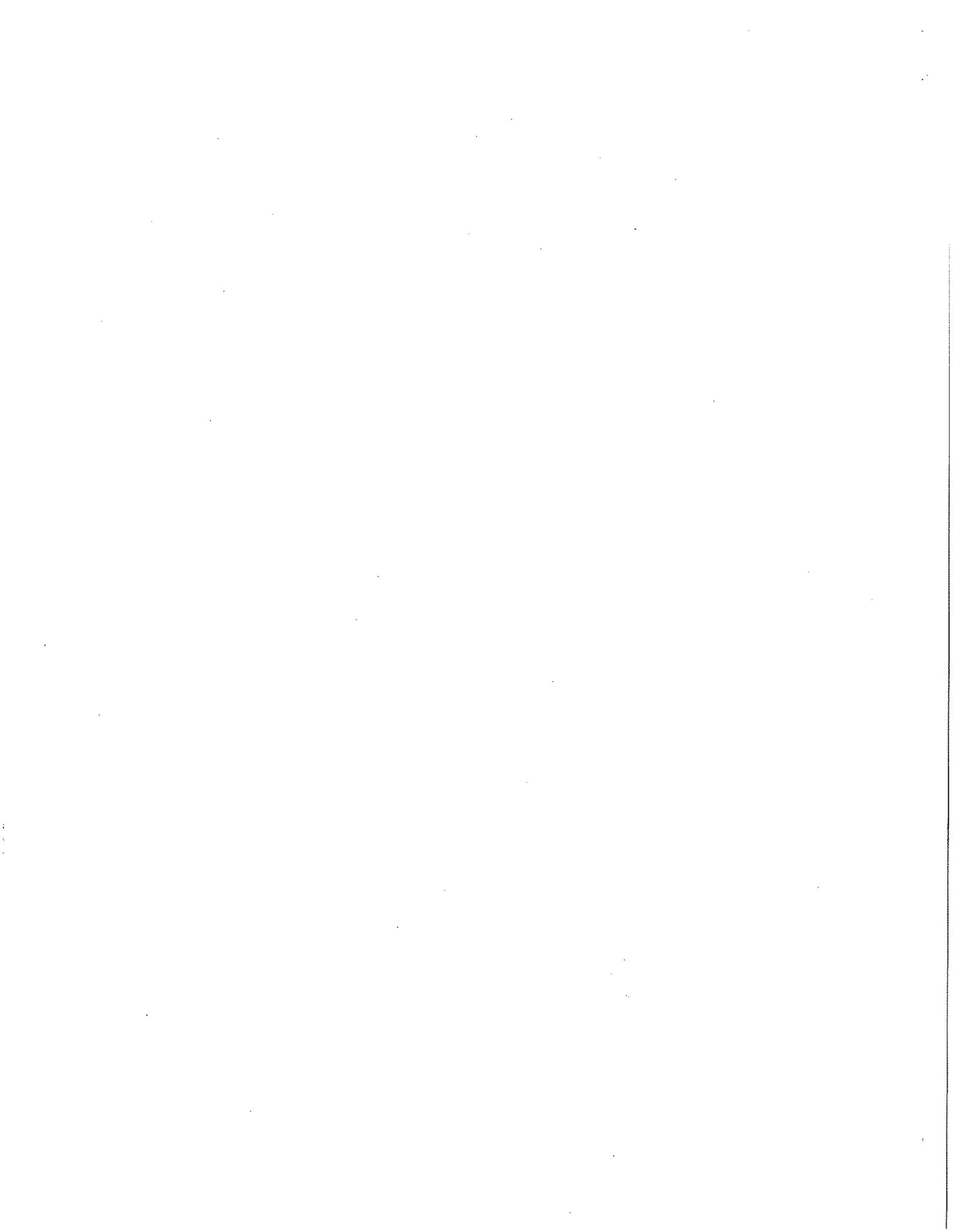
	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Article 47 Consortium	\$28,000	\$30,000	\$32,000

Description of Initiative:
 Participation with approximately twenty (20) other Niagara County municipalities who have been working toward formation of an Article 47 Municipal Employee Healthcare Consortium.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Milling Machine	\$13,000	\$13,500	\$13,500

Description of Initiative:
 Use of the county owned milling machine instead of contracting with a private contractor.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Town of Porter	J DUFFY JOHNSTON	Supervisor	745-3730

2018 Tax Levy:	\$770,519	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:	\$524,881	
Total Tax Levy	\$1,295,400	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Sharing Street paver cost	\$36,000	\$34,000	\$36,000

Description of Initiative:
 Shared service with five other municipalities on purchasing street paver. Savings would be rental cost for paving streets. Projects vary year to year.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Copy Machines	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250

Description of Initiative:
 Shared county supplier Eagle Systems for four new copiers. Two large color copiers and two small black and white. Replaced seven year old copiers with brand new (not refurbished) and still saved money.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(3) Shared Service Initiative			

Description of Initiative:

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(4) Shared Service Initiative			

Description of Initiative:

(5) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter

Description of Initiative:

(6) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter

Description of Initiative:

(7) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter

Description of Initiative:

(8) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter

Description of Initiative:

COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Town of Wilson	Doyle Phillips	Supervisor	7167516704

2018 Tax Levy:	\$966,009	(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:	\$325,857	
Total Tax Levy	\$1,291,866	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Assessor Services	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000

Description of Initiative:
An agreement with the City of Niagara Falls to share assessing services was renewed in 2018. Annual savings average \$15,000.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Share Hot Box			

Description of Initiative:
Purchased a hot box with the Towns of Porter and Royalton to share. Savings of \$19,000.00 on purchase plus ability to use whenever needed.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(3) Shared Service Initiative			
Dog Pound Services			

Description of Initiative:
Contract with the Town of Lewiston to have their dogs housed in our shelter. Annual savings of \$2500.00 to Town of Wilson.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(4) Shared Service Initiative			
E-Recycling			

Description of Initiative:
We would like to have a shared service with the County of Niagara over the e-recycling for the Town of Wilson. The cost to our Town is extremely high.

(5) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
Shared Equipment/Manpower			

Description of Initiative:
 This has been in place for many years with great savings being realized. Whenever another Niagara County municipality needs assistance with machinery and/or manpower, we step up.

(6) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
Records Management			

Description of Initiative:
 The Town of Wilson would like to initiate a Records Management Program with the County of Niagara, with the Town being able to use the County building for storage of permanent records. We currently have a basement full of records, with no fire or water damage prevention in place.

(7) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
Tax Collecting Service			

Description of Initiative:
 We would be open to an initiative to share Tax Collecting Services programming throughout Niagara County.

EXISTING SHARED SERVICES

Shared Services already in existence that the Village of Barker utilizes:

- State bid pricing on gasoline, diesel fuel and equipment
- Use Niagara County DPW as our Electric and Gas Supplier
- Have a contract in place with the Town of Somerset for Highway department- utilizing equipment and labor at a fixed cost
- Have a contract in place with the Town of Somerset for Water/Sewer- utilizing equipment and labor at fixed cost
- Town of Somerset Fire District- created in 2014 abolishing Village involvement and spreading the cost so it is equal across the Village and Town residents
- Utility Billing Audit being done by Computel Consultants
- Shared Building Inspector training costs with the Town of Somerset
- Shared use of neighboring Towns and Villages equipment and Labor
- Abolished the Village Court in 2008, now all court cases are handled by the Town of Somerset Court
- Paving done by Niagara County Dept. of Public Works for cost of materials

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TDD 7-1-1 or 1-800-662-1220



The Town of Hartland currently participates in several shared services with other municipalities.

1. Shared police and court services with the Village of Middleport Police Dept.
2. Shared assessor with the Town of Royalton.
3. Shared services agreement with County and local municipalities for sharing manpower and equipment for highway, water projects.
4. Snow and Ice plowing agreements with the county and state.
5. Shared summer swim program with village of Middleport and Town of Royalton.
6. The town is a member of Niagara County Self-Insurance Plan for workers Comp.
7. The town also participates in purchasing gas and electric through Niagara County Consortium.

The Town of Hartland has been participating in shared service for many years resulting in lower costs for services. This initiative proposed by the state is not new to local municipalities. Because shared services that are in place cannot be credited there are not many viable options that have not already been studied. In small towns many positions are part-time; sharing of employees would create full time positions that increase costs more because of full time benefits. The Town of Hartland is always studying ways to save tax payer dollars that are cost effective while providing the best quality of services.



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Village of Middleport	Rebecca Schweigert	Clerk-Treasurer	716-735-3303

2018 Tax Levy:	\$549,010	Existing Services (towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:		
Total Tax Levy	\$549,010	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Royalton Hartland Swim Program	\$8,100	\$8,300	\$8,500

Description of Initiative:
 A swim program that is jointly paid for by the Towns of Royalton and Hartland and the Village of Middleport. This free to the student program offers Red Cross sanctioned swimming lessons to any child residing in the Royalton Hartland School District age 6 months and older. If each entity had their own program, it would cost triple what it does now. The RHCS allows use of their pool at no cost for this program.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(4) Shared Service Initiative			
Town Traffic Control Contracts	\$88,765	\$91,428	\$94,170

Description of Initiative:
 The Village has entered into contracts for traffic control with the towns of Royalton and Hartland. These contracts enable the towns to realize fine moneys that cover their court costs and they help to lower the personnel costs for the village.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(4) Shared Service Initiative			
Contract with the Middleport Fire Co.	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000

Description of Initiative:
 The village enters into contracts with the towns of Royalton and Hartland for contributions to the annual budget of the Middleport Fire Co., No. 1, Inc., which reduces the amount of financial support the village gives the fire department.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(5) Shared Service Initiative Electricity Consortium			

Description of Initiative:
The Village of Middleport purchases electricity through the Niagara County consortium, resulting in savings. Since we have participated in this for a long time, it is difficult to determine our annual savings, but it is definitely hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars a year.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(6) Shared Service Initiative Gasoline Purchase			

Description of Initiative:
The Village of Middleport contracts with the Town of Hartland to purchase gasoline at state bid costs. Since we have participated in this for a long time, it is difficult to determine our annual savings, but it is definitely hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars a year.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(7) Shared Service Initiative MuSIP	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

Description of Initiative:
The Village of Middleport purchases compensation from Niagara County's Municipal Self-Insurance Fund. Because we only pay for what we use, frequently our premiums are only \$1,000 a year for administrative costs.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(8) Shared Service Initiative Annual Equipment updating in Albany	\$500	\$500	\$500

Description of Initiative:
The Middleport Police Department has a shared services agreement with the nearby Police Departments from the Villages of Holly, Albion, and Medina to take turns annually taking equipment to Albany for service. This means that the costs of gasoline, wear and tear on police vehicles, any necessary overtime, and meals are each Village's responsibility every 4 years.

COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Town of Newfane	Tim Horanburg	Supervisor	778-8531

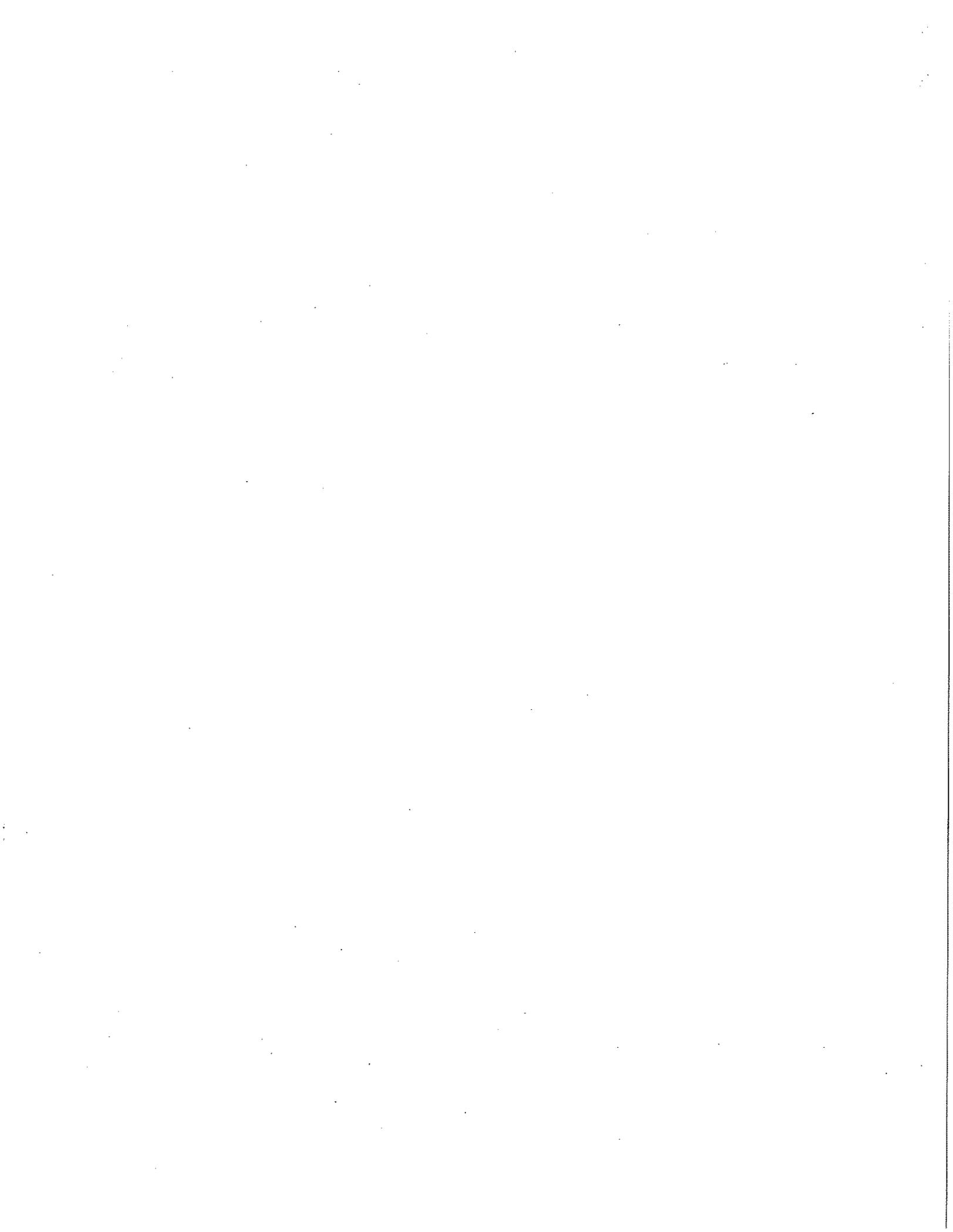
2018 Tax Levy:	No Town Tax	
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:	\$2,228,690	(towns only)
Total Tax Levy	\$2,228,690	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
purchase of hot box(blacktop) w Pendleton	\$19,000	\$6,000	\$6,000

Description of Initiative:
 Newfane and Pendleton purchased a Hot Box for blacktop to be able to fill potholes with a hot blacktop mix.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Share dump trucks with other towns(paving)	\$15-20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000

Description of Initiative:
 Newfane shares equipment with Wilson, Tn. Of Lockport, Hartland, Niagara County on different projects, but more consistently when road paving.





www.townofcambria.com

4160 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD • SANBORN NY 14132-9416

Telephone: 716-433-8523

Fax: 716-433-7164

Wright H. Ellis, Town Supervisor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Niagara County Manager

FROM: Wright H. Ellis

DATE: May 19, 2018

SUBJECT: Town of Cambria Shared Services

The following is a listing of Shared Services being used by the Town of Cambria:

- Highway Department shares trucks and drivers with other towns and the County during the road paving season.
- Highway Department shares various pieces of equipment and an operator with other towns on a case-by-case basis.
- Sewer Department borrows Town of Niagara Vacuum truck and an operator to clean out Town of Cambria sewers. This saves the cost of a substantial equipment investment.
- Town residents continue to experience annual savings in Refuse District tax due to joint bid (4 towns in 2017) for refuse/recycling collection services.
- Building Inspectors stand in for each other when one is out-of-town, on vacation, etc. Saves cost of hiring someone to fill in.

COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Niagara County Environmental Coordinator Solid	Dawn Timm	mental Coordinator	

2018 Tax Levy:	
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:	
Total Tax Levy	\$0

(towns only)

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Solid Waste Contract Consultation: Niagara Falls	\$100,000	\$10,000	\$10,000

Description of Initiative:
 In 2018 Prepare bid specifications for 120w RFP for Solid Waste, Recycling and Compost Program in City. Include historical review, creation of Master Database for cart distribution and prepare City to transition to a User Fee based program based on current cart distribution. Prepare briefings, public information and attend/host meetings regarding new program and policy. It is expected that a contract will go before Council in October for a May 2019 commencement and require input from Purchasing, Legal, Mayor and Public Works Departments. On going savings are related to maintenance and management of cart distribution database and assistance with User Fee rate and approach.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Solid Waste Contract Consultation: North Tonawanda	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

Description of Initiative:
 Annually prepare DEC required reports related to Transfer Station and Recycling Center. Review, assist and prepare specifications related to Compost Operations, Disposal Bid and Recycling Processing Bid (every three years).

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(3) Shared Service Initiative			
Solid Waste Contract Consultation: Orleans County	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

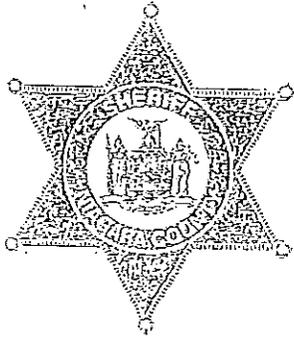
Description of Initiative:
 In 2018 Prepare bid specifications for Solid Waste and Recycling Program. Include transition to cart based, every-other-week recycling requiring the creation of a cart distribution database. The purpose of the database will dictate delivery and provide an asset management file for County. Prepare briefings, public information and attend/host meetings regarding new program and policy. On going savings are related to maintenance and management of cart distribution database and assistance with User Fee rate and approach.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(4) Shared Service Initiative			
Solid Waste Contract Consultation: Town of Lancaster	\$75,000	\$5,000	\$5,000

Description of Initiative:
 In 2018 Prepare bid specifications for 120w RFP for Solid Waste and Recycling Program in Town/Village. Include historical review, creation of Master Database for cart distribution and review of Multiresidential property participation. Prepare briefings, public information and attend/host meetings regarding new program and policy. It is expected that a contract will go before Town/Village in October for a February 2019 commencement and require assistance throughout the process of transitioning from traditional refuse collection, to cart based. Estimate also includes preparing database of eligible parcels and bid specifications for refuse and recycling cart purchase and distribution. On going savings are related to maintenance and management of cart distribution database and assistance with User Fee rate and approach.

(5) Shared Service Initiative	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
E-Waste Services	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000

Description of Initiative:
 Manage all Niagara and Orleans Electronic Waste Registered drop off sites for the following: annual DEC reporting, bi-annual grant submission for reimbursement, bidding (to leverage greater economies of scale). Currently this is conducted for 12 Niagara County and 3 Orleans County drop-off sites.



**OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
COUNTY OF NIAGARA**

5526 Niagara Street Ext.
P.O Box 496
Lockport, New York 14095-0496

James R. Voutour
Sheriff

Michael J. Filicetti
Undersheriff

(716) 438-3370

Shared Services Initiative Report

SERVICE	MUNICIPALITY	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE
Road Patrol	12 towns/3 cities as needed	Patrol response to routine calls for service, emergencies
Criminal Investigation Bureau	12 towns/3 cities as needed	Investigation of criminal activity
Welfare Fraud	All municipalities	Investigation of welfare fraud
Drug Task Force	All municipalities	Investigation of narcotics related cases
Warrants Division	All municipalities	Service of warrants throughout Niagara County
Crime Scene Investigation Unit	12 towns/3 cities as needed	Processing of scenes for evidence
K9 Division	All municipalities	K9 services for tracking, explosives and drug detection
Marine Division	All waterfront communities	Patrol of the Upper/Lower Niagara River, Lake Ontario and Canal System
Niagara County Law Enforcement Academy	All municipalities	Law enforcement instruction for all recruits working for Niagara County law enforcement agencies. NFPD provides co-director
DWI Coordinator	All municipalities	Coordinates DWI related activities for all participating agencies

Corrections Division	All municipalities	Constitutionally required to provide a jail in each county within New York State
		Provides housing for all inmates within Niagara County
Records Programs	All municipalities	Provides educational opportunities for all incarcerated inmates
Work Release Program	All municipalities	This office provides an alternative to being incarcerated and handles community service projects throughout the county.

SERVICE	MUNICIPALITY	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE
Communications 911 Center	12 Towns <u>Police/Fire</u> North Tonawanda <u>Police/Fire</u> City of Lockport Fire	Dispatch services for routine calls and emergencies. All cellular 911 calls are handled by Niagara County Communications Center
Forensic Lab	All municipalities	Forensic lab work required by all police agencies within Niagara County is processed. Orleans County lab work is processed under a separate contract.
Domestic Violence Unit	All municipalities	This unit is responsible for processing all domestic violence related incidents and conducting follow up as needed.
Victim Assistance Unit	All municipalities	This unit is responsible for assisting victims from within Niagara County.
Traffic Safety	All municipalities	Traffic safety instruction to various groups throughout Niagara County.
Civil Division	All municipalities	Constitutionally required to provide civil process.



COUNTY-WIDE SHARED SERVICES PARTICIPANTS INITIATIVES

City, Town, Village:	Completed by:	Title:	Contact Number:
Niagara County E & T	Don Jablonski	Director	716-278-8234

2018 Tax Levy:		(towns only)
2018 Special Districts Tax Levy:		
Total Tax Levy	\$0	

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(1) Shared Service Initiative			
Shared Marketing Initiative	N/A	N/A	N/A

Description of Initiative:
 Shared "in kind" service collaboration with Niagara County Economic Development for purposes of marketing to new business as well as offering a menu of services to existing businesses that are looking to expand in the area. There are no inherent direct departmental savings, but there may be potential wage and training cost savings to businesses who utilize this collaborative initiative.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
(2) Shared Service Initiative			
Title V Re-Training Initiative	N/A	N/A	N/A

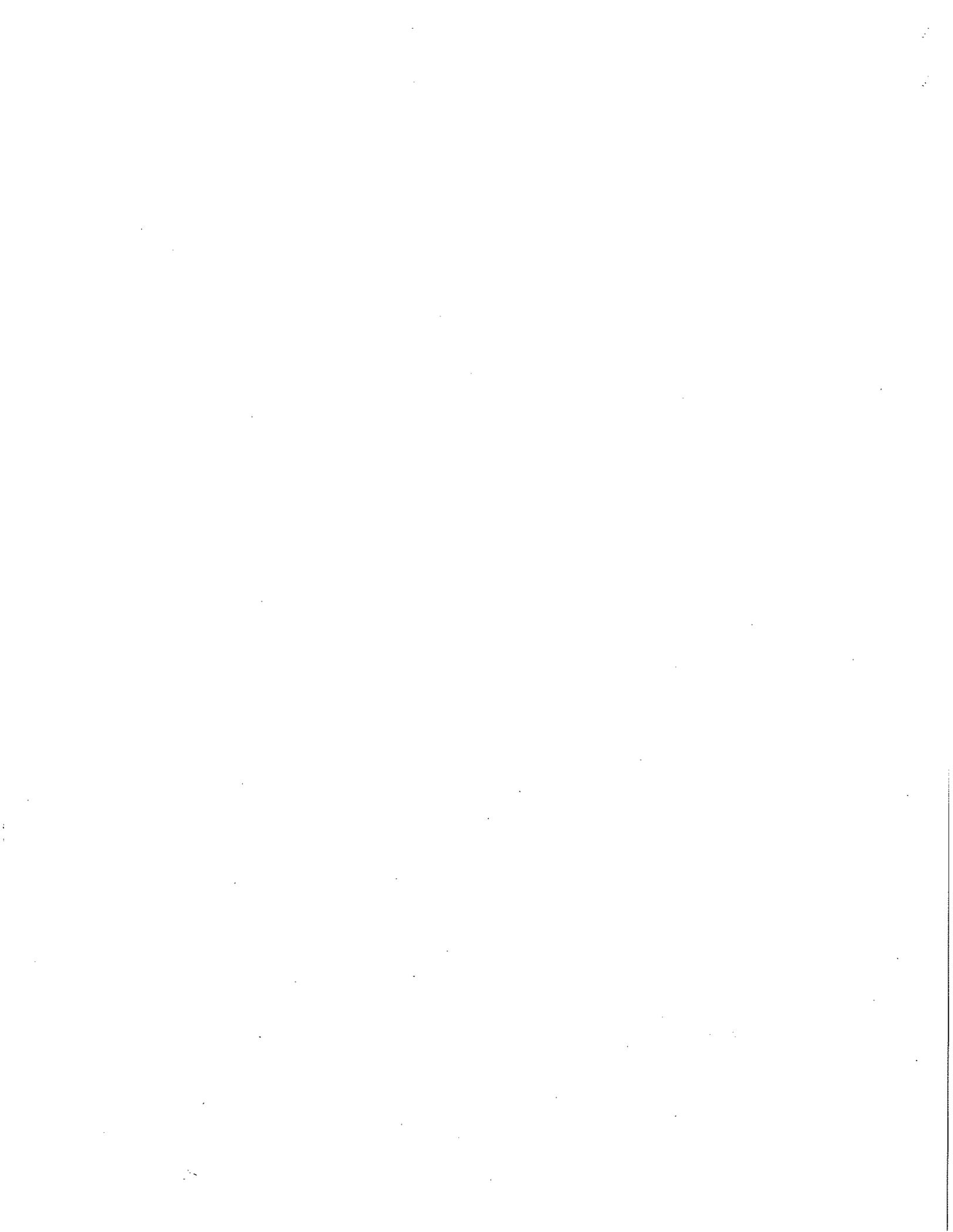
Description of Initiative:
 Older Americans Worker Re-Training collaborative between Niagara County Employment & Training and Office for the Aging. OFA provides funding that enables E & T to recruit and place workers who are age 55 and older with employers who are willing to teach new skills so these candidates can become more employable. The goal is for the candidates who acquire new skills ultimately gain permanent unsubsidized employment.

	Total anticipated \$ saving 2019	Total anticipated \$ saving 2020	Total anticipated \$ savings annually thereafter
Justice Involved Probation Initiative	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$65,000

Description of Initiative:
 Education and Employment initiative between Niagara County Employment & Training and Probation departments. Working in concert with Probation, E & T works to assess and place a number of at risk justice involved candidates in work and/or educational environments to aid in reducing recidivism in this particular population. The program is funded by New York State, and the county saves salary and fringe costs for staff involved.

NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SHARED SERVICES INITIATIVES WITH NIAGARA COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

- Grants and funding research (all municipalities)
- Project management (all municipalities)
- GIS map-making (all municipalities)
- Online zoning ordinances (all municipalities)
- SEQRA assistance (all municipalities)
- Niagara County Planning Board provides planning and technical assistance to municipalities for local planning and zoning projects (all municipalities)
- Annually provide the required four hours of planning training to local planning and zoning board members as required by the NYS Department of State (all municipalities)
- Provide brownfield site assessment at no cost to property owners or municipalities (all municipalities)
- Niagara County Brownfield Development Corporation provides assistance countywide to public, non-profit and private property owners for remediation of brownfield sites (all municipalities)
- Creation of a Land Bank to assist municipalities with tax-delinquent and abandoned properties (all municipalities)
- Collect construction permit data from municipalities annually and maintain database containing information that can be used for grant applications (all municipalities)
- Update and file Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Report annually as required by US EDA. Reports can be used by Niagara County municipalities to apply for grant funding through US EDA (all municipalities)
- Local Affiliate Data Center - demographic research (all municipalities)
- Niagara County's Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Liaison for LUCA2020 (all municipalities)
- Assisting with the update of the Niagara County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan (all municipalities)
- Brochure Design & Development - (all 20 municipalities)
- Signage Design - (all 20 municipalities)
- Update & Edit Niagara County Industrial & Manufacturing Directory - (all 20 municipalities)
- Update & Edit Niagara County Street & Road Directory - (all 20 municipalities)
- Update & Edit Niagara County Economic Development Alliance's "Connections for Business" Directory - (all 20 municipalities)
- Update & Edit Niagara County Market Facts Sheets - (all 20 municipalities)
- Interpretive Panel Signage Upon Request- (all 20 municipalities)
- Brochure Design Upon Request- (all 20 municipalities)
- Business Growth & Retention Program -- Outreach to companies (all 20 municipalities)
- Empower Niagara Program -- Low-cost Power benefits to eligible companies in all 20 municipalities
- Grant-writing assistance (Town of Niagara, Town of Newfane)
- Grant management assistance (Town of Niagara)



CIVIL SERVICE:

The Civil Service department provides support for the following 31 municipalities in Niagara County and their 4,400+ employees;

- Niagara County Government
- Niagara County Community College
- City of North Tonawanda
- All the Niagara County Towns and Villages
- All Niagara County School Districts (except for Niagara Falls and City of Lockport)
- North Tonawanda, Barker, Newfane and Lewiston public libraries
- County Special Districts; Sewer and Water

Typical services that we provide to these municipalities are:

1. Provide guidance to their management and staff on the rules / regulations of Civil Service law as it applies to their municipality. We also ensure that each municipality is in compliance with those rules and regulations.
2. Assist all municipalities in creating and maintaining their job specifications; and act as a repository to the official versions of each specification.
3. Review all candidate applications to ensure that they meet the designated minimum qualifications. This applies to both the open competitive (tested) and the non-competitive (experience-based) candidates.
4. Conduct all Civil Service examinations and establish Eligibility lists.
5. Canvass Eligibility lists when vacancies occur and present the municipalities with a list of interested, reachable candidates.
6. Maintain the official roster cards for all municipal employees. Civil Service rosters are the official set of records for the state retirement system.
7. Conduct periodic education seminars on how best to utilize Civil Service to benefit the municipalities.
8. Annually certify payrolls to verify that all municipalities are conforming to Civil Service law and reconcile any discrepancies between the municipal records and the official Civil Service records.

NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

- Paving – Shared use of County paver on Town/City/Village projects, as well as shared crews for use in Town trucking and related services during paving of County Roads.
- Milling – County recently purchased a large Milling Machine. County will provide milling for local municipalities based on availability of County crews.
- Trucking – Trucking is very commonly shared between all Niagara County municipalities for various projects.
- Equipment Transport – The County and Towns have various sized trucks and trailers which are needed for transport of equipment and materials, entities regularly assist each other in transport.

- Specialized equipment – Some Niagara County municipalities own specialized equipment which is shared with the others as it is needed. Some of this equipment includes: Rubber Tire Roller, Asphalt Rollers, Mechanical screen for millings, Excavators, Road Sweepers, Road wideners,, Truck mounted crane, stump grinders, chippers, Bucket Truck, etc...
- Tree Services – County assists some municipalities with tree trimming/removal of trees within the right-of-way.
- Sign Shop Services – County provides sign construction for other municipalities, for cost of materials only. County indexes roads for Towns in the process of repainting pavement markings.
- Drainage – County provides review and assistance for drainage concerns impacting local roads.
- Snow and Ice – County has shared services agreement with several Towns for plowing of County Roads.
- Emergency and Natural Disaster Response – County, Town, Local Volunteer Fire, NYSDOT, Canal Corp and Military.
- Composting – County provides wood chip disposal for Towns, NYSDOT and Canal Corp which is used for the process of statically aerated composting.
- Material and Services Bid Book – County creates and competitively bids a material bid book that is open to all municipalities and agencies to utilize for needed materials and services such as road striping, roadside vegetation control, asphalt products, drainage products, guide rail, etc.
- Krull Park – Town of Newfane regularly assists with equipment sharing and wood/vegetation disposal.
- Oppenheim Park – Town of Wheatfield assists in the maintenance and repair of water and sanitary lines in the park.
- Utility Procurement - The County procures natural gas and electricity, in a cooperative, and passes the savings on to the cities, towns and villages that participate in the procurement group.

NIAGARA COUNTY REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES:

The Niagara County Real Property Tax Services Department provides the following services to local municipalities:

- Process and print Tentative and Final Assessment Rolls and Tax Rolls for all Towns and Cities.
- Process and print tax bills for all taxing jurisdictions (Towns, Cities, Villages, School Districts) except Niagara Falls.
- Maintain and print tax maps for all towns and cities.
- Calculate chargebacks for formerly exempt tax amounts for towns and cities.
- Recommend corrections of inaccurate tax rolls and tax bills through the Correction of Errors process as defined in Real Property Tax Law.

- Assist Assessors with exemption administration, appraisal questions, and RPS Software questions. We also help with assessment data reports from the Real Property Software System, and research Real Property Tax Law and SBEA Opinions of Counsel.
- Maintain and provide a GIS parcel layer for all municipalities. This is in addition to providing access to the County web-based mapping system. We also provide GIS assistance in conjunction with the County GIS Coordinator.
- Provide training for Assessors and Board of Assessment Review members.
- Provide coordination of Pictometry flights for aerial photography and distribution of NYS provided orthophotography.
- Assist Assessors with the 2020 Census.

NIAGARA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

- We sell wholesale water to 22 entities within Niagara, Erie and Orleans County. This breaks down to 16 Towns and 6 Villages.
- We do all the water samples and testing for the Towns.
- We assist the Town Water Superintendents. We help with troubleshooting problems within their system as well as leaks, etc. We also assist in replacement and maintenance of their regulators.
- We provide water to the two cities in emergency situations, Lockport and Niagara Falls.
- We do lead testing that is required every five years.

NIAGARA COUNTY OFFICE OF RISK MANAGEMENT

- Workers' Compensation - Niagara County Mutual Self Insurance Plan ("MuSIP")-
The County operates a countywide self-insurance program related to workers compensation. All cities, towns, villages, the soil & water conservation district, central school districts and community colleges located within Niagara County are eligible to participate with the County in the Workers' Compensation pool. Currently, eighteen member entities comprise the pool: a list of current participants is attached. The pool is currently administered through the Risk and Insurance Services Department of the County with a third party administrator, currently USI Insurance & Benefits, processing and paying all claims.
- Safety Training-
Available loss prevention services and safety training are offered to all participants of the MuSIP. Attached is a list of recent trainings MuSIP members attended.
- Healthcare -
Niagara County Risk Management has consulted with NCCC and various towns and villages on the possibility of joining the Niagara County Health Plan. The County is also currently involved in a feasibility study regarding exploration of forming a consortium or alternative pooled model. Current laws / regulations have proven to slow the progress of such shared services solutions with respect to healthcare.

Fire Companies:

Township

Cambria	Cambria	Pekin
Hartland	Hartland	
Lewiston	Lewiston #1	Lewiston #2
	Sanborn	Upper Mt.
Newfane	Miller Hose	Olcott
Pendleton	Wendelville	
Porter	Ransomville	Youngstown
Wilson	South Wilson	Wilson
	Tri- Community Ambulance Services	Tri-Town Ambulance

Mutual Self Insurance Plan Members (MuSIP)

Towns:

Cambria
Hartland
Lewiston
Newfane
Pendleton
Porter
Wilson

Schools:

Newfane
Royalton-Hartland
Starpoint
Wilson
NCCC

Villages:

Barker
Middleport
Wilson
Youngstown

NIAGARA COUNTY PROBATION:

The Niagara County Probation Department Provides Presentencing Investigations (PSI), supervision of offenders sentenced to probation, supervision of individual's court ordered to interim probation, monitoring of individuals sentenced to Conditional Discharges, monitoring of Ignition Interlock installation and compliance with Leandra's Law, and pretrial release services to all Justice Courts, City Courts, and County Court.

Our Family Court unit provides intake/diversion services for juvenile delinquents (JD's) and Persons In Need of Supervision (PINS), Pre-disposition services for PINS and JD, Pre-Disposition Investigations for PINS, JD and Child Support Court, Home Study investigations concerning custody/visitation and adoptions, and supervision of individuals placed on probation for failure to pay child support. These services cover all municipalities across Niagara County.

The Probation Department also brings in the money to pay for the County Reentry Task Force (CRTF) and reentry services provided by Community Missions, Inc. These services cover all municipalities within our county.

In short, we are a centralized service that covers all jurisdictions, municipalities, and school districts within the county.

NIAGARA COUNTY EMERGENCY PLANNING:

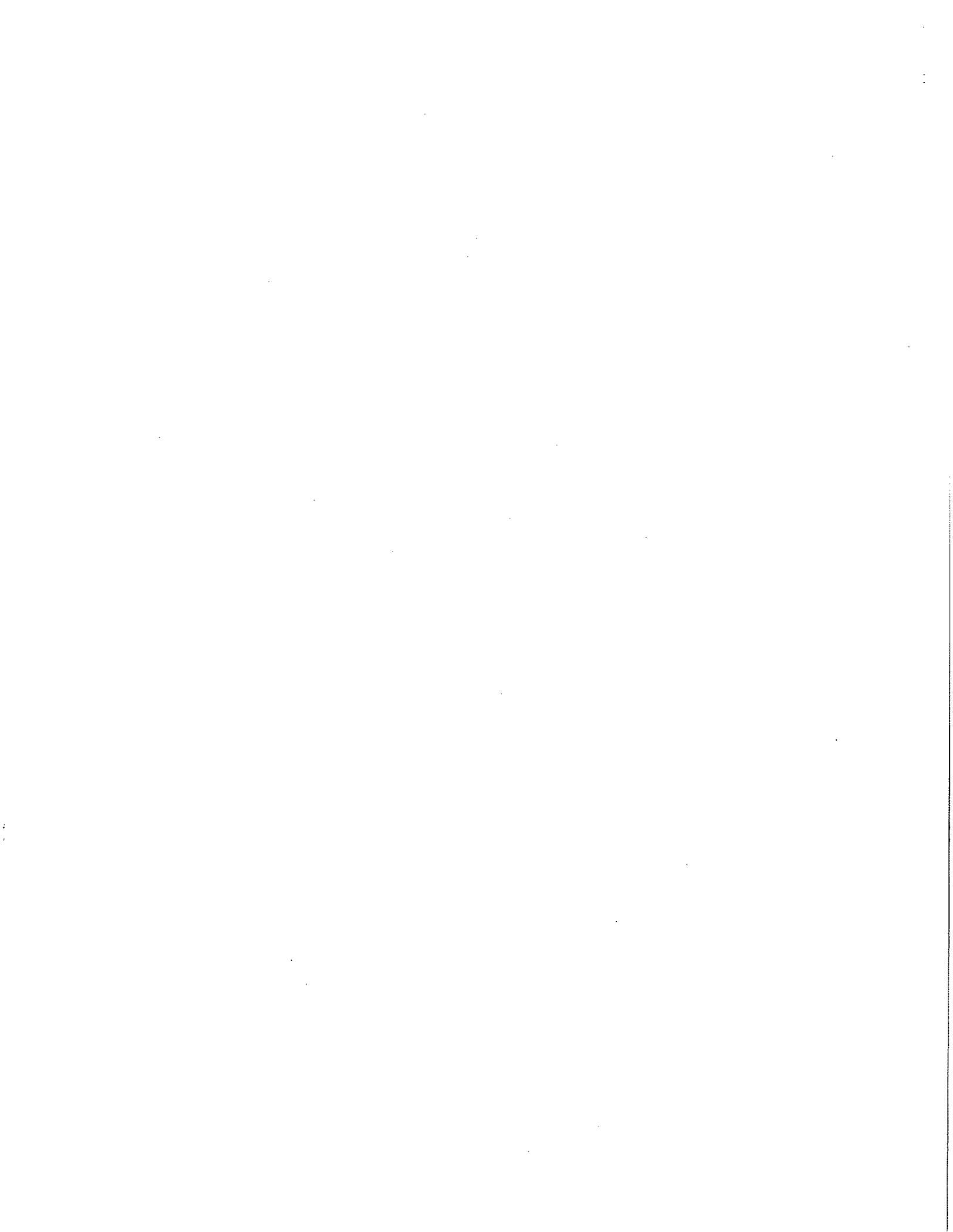
- Emergency planning & response
- Hazard Mitigation Planning
- HazMat response
- Tech Rescue
- Fire Investigation

NIAGARA COUNTY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT:

Service	Municipality Receiving Services	Status	Annual Cost for Municipality	Est. Cost Avoidance
IT Services & Data Center hosting	City of Lockport	Active	\$45,000	\$51,500
IT Support Services	Pendleton	Pending	\$10,000	\$23,600
			\$55,000	\$75,100

NIAGARA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The school districts in Niagara County use the County of Niagara's voting machines.



DFS EMAIL



Outlook

RU

pohl

New | Reply | Delete | Archive | Junk | Sweep | Move to | Categories | Undo

Search results

self-funded health plans and stop-loss coverage

In folders

All folders

Inbox

Deleted Items

Sent Items

Shared Services

Drafts

From

-  Peter P Lopes
peter.lopes@niagaracounty.com
-  Pohl, Jeffrey J (DFS)
jeffrey.pohl@dfs.ny.gov
-  Debbie Dupont
debbie.dupont@niagaracounty.com
-  Daniel Engert
danieleengert@gmail.com
-  James B Sobczyk
james.sobczyk@niagaracounty.com

Options

With attachments

Date

- All
- This week
- Last week
- This month
- Select range

From

Tue 7/31/2018

To

Tue 7/31/2018

PJ Pohl, Jeffrey J (DFS) <Jeffrey.Pohl@dfs.ny.gov> Reply |
 Fri 4/6, 4:40 PM
 Richard E. Updegrove; Burns, Mary (DFS) <Mary.Burns@dfs.ny.gov>; Len, Tobias (DFS) <

You replied on 5/9/2018 9:41 AM
 Label: Delete6Yrs (6 years) Expires: 4/4/2024 4:40 PM

Action Items

Dear Mr. Updegrove:

Your recent questions regarding Niagara County's self-funded health plan was forwarded to me for a response. I have provided answers to your first 2 questions below. With regard to question #3, we are still discussing this question internally and will respond as soon as possible. In the interim, it would be helpful if you could provide more specific information on Niagara County's current arrangement. Our understanding is that it currently self-funds its health benefits, and has purchased stop-loss coverage from a NY licensed insurance carrier. Is this correct? Any additional details would be appreciated.

1. Does the small employer rule contained in ISC Section 3231 (a) (1), prohibiting the issuance of insurance in this state for groups under 50 employees unless such policy is community rated, prohibit a group of this size from joining an existing large employer self-funded county health plan within the state? Please note that the law regarding group size changed in 2016. Insurance Law §§ 3231(a)(1) and 4317(a)(1) provide that all groups with 1-100 employees renewing on or after January 1, 2016 must be issued small group coverage (so small groups are now groups with 1-100 employees). While there is nothing in the Insurance Law that would strictly prohibit the towns from joining Niagara's self-funded arrangement, this question is ultimately linked to question #3 below regarding stop-loss coverage which we are still discussing.

Please note - the self-funded Niagara County Health Plan, by its nature, does not require purchase or issuance of insurance to provide health benefits. The Plan's benefits are provided through an internal service fund.

2. Is a stop loss policy, or "reinsurance", included in the definition of "an individual health insurance policy or group health insurance policy under Section 3231 and its small employer insurance policy issuance prohibition? Insurance Law §§ 3231(h) and 4317(e) would prohibit the sale of stop-loss insurance to small groups (1-100 employees).

3. Would any provision of New York State insurance law or regulation bar the County from allowing small employer towns to join its self-funded health plan, including pooling specific stop loss coverage? As indicated above, we are still discussing this question internally.

Thank you for your patience.

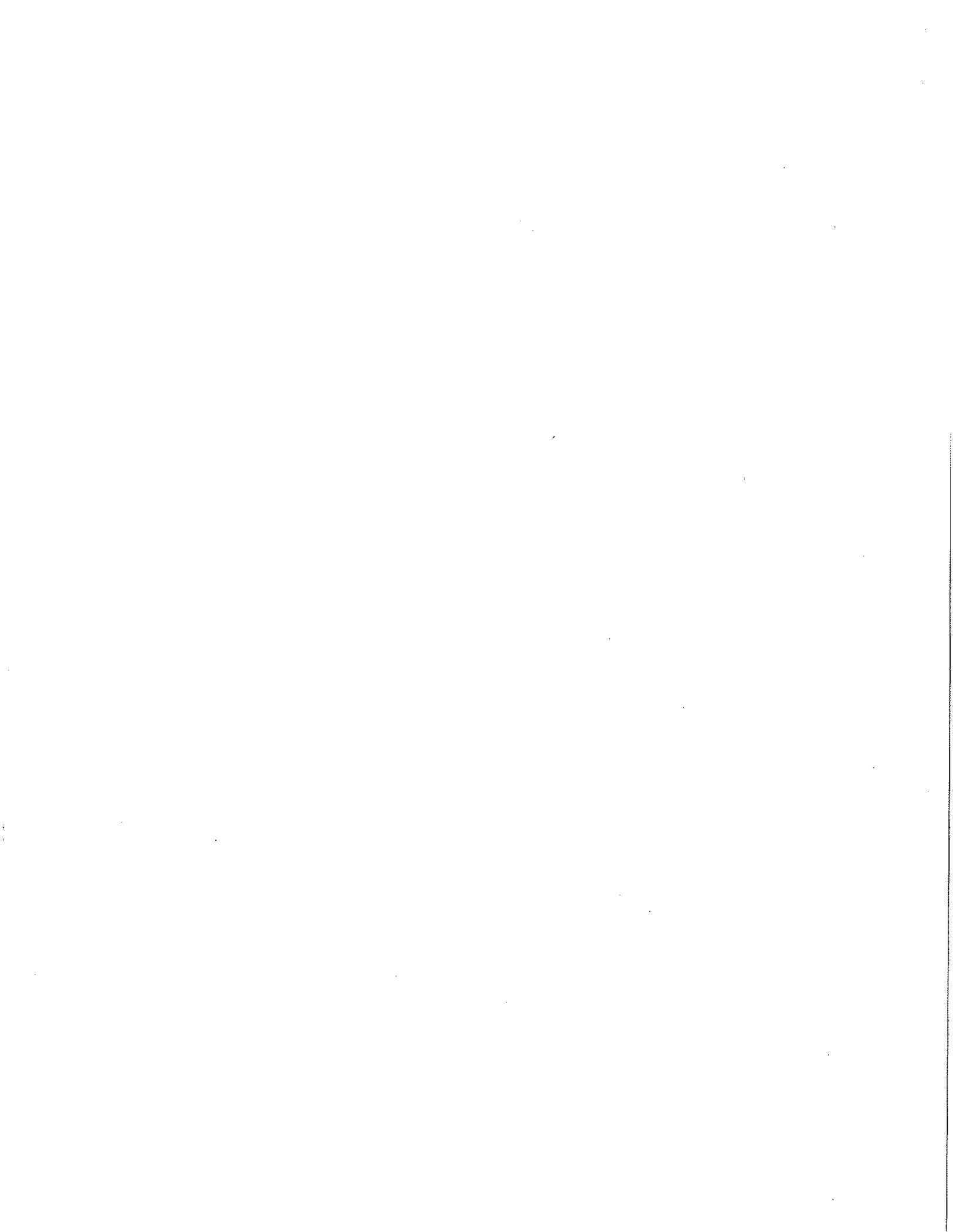
Sincerely,

Jeff

Jeffrey J. Pohl
 Supervising Attorney-Health Bureau

New York State Department of Financial Services
 One Commerce Plaza
 Albany, NY 12257
 Ph: (518) 474-8975 | Fax: (518) 474-3397 | jeffrey.pohl@dfs.ny.gov

www.dfs.ny.gov



DIGITAL PICTOMETRY



Niagara County Sector Map Counts County-wide vs. individual Munis		6Inch Resolution		4 Inch Resolution	
Customer	Sector Count	Cost	Total	Cost	Total
Niagara County	576	\$250	\$144,000.00	\$400	\$230,400.00
Municipality	Sector Count				
Royalton	80	\$250	\$20,000.00	\$400	\$32,000.00
Lockport City & Town	73	\$250	\$18,250.00	\$400	\$29,200.00
Wilson	65	\$250	\$16,250.00	\$400	\$26,000.00
Hartland	64	\$250	\$16,000.00	\$400	\$25,600.00
Newfane	64	\$250	\$16,000.00	\$400	\$25,600.00
Lewiston	62	\$250	\$15,500.00	\$400	\$24,800.00
Cambria	56	\$250	\$14,000.00	\$400	\$22,400.00
Pendleton	48	\$295	\$14,160.00	\$400	\$19,200.00
Somerset	48	\$295	\$14,160.00	\$400	\$19,200.00
Porter	41	\$295	\$12,095.00	\$400	\$16,400.00
Wheatfield	38	\$295	\$11,210.00	\$400	\$15,200.00
Niagara Falls	23	\$345	\$7,935.00	\$400	\$9,200.00
North Tonawanda	18	\$345	\$6,210.00	\$400	\$7,200.00
Niagara	14	\$345	\$4,830.00	\$400	\$5,600.00
Total	694		\$186,600.00	\$400	\$277,600.00
	Savings		\$42,600.00		\$47,200.00



DREDGING



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
LAKE ONTARIO REGIONAL DREDGING PROGRAM**

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between the Counties of Niagara, Orleans, Cayuga and Wayne (the "Parties"), and others as may be added through the addendum procedure detailed below, is intended to accomplish the first steps in the implementation of a Regional Dredging Management Plan for the harbors serving navigation along the south shore of Lake Ontario.

Whereas, the small harbors serving recreational boating along the south shore of Lake Ontario generate approximately \$94 million annually in economic activity, support over 1,350 jobs, and provide sales tax revenues of approximately \$7.6 million annually for the local counties and New York State, and

Whereas, these same small harbors provide safe harbors of refuge for vessels on Lake Ontario, and

Whereas, these harbors can only provide these important benefits if adequate water depths are maintained in their access channels by regular, periodic dredging of accumulated sediments, and

Whereas, the dredging needs for the Lake Ontario harbor access channels, even those under the responsibility of the US Army Corps of Engineers, are not being met due to federal budget constraints, lack of responsibility by other levels of government, and the limitations of sporadic privately funded dredging, and

Whereas, the dredging needs are anticipated to be exacerbated under a new regulation plan (Plan 2014) recently adopted and implemented by the International Joint Commission, and

Whereas, the Parties jointly developed a Regional Dredging Management Plan detailing the dredging needs and providing several recommendations and alternatives by which the required periodic dredging of all the harbor channels could be funded and achieved, and

Whereas, the Parties wish to finalize and begin implementation of the Regional Dredging Management Plan,

Now, therefore, in consideration of the above, the Parties agree and enter into this MOU as set forth below.

1. The Parties will form a Regional Dredging Management Council (the "Council") consisting of one designated representative of each of the Parties.

2. The Council will review the Regional Dredging Management Plan recommendations and alternatives to decide upon the organizational form, management structure, funding opportunities and other overarching principles upon which to implement a Regional Dredging Management Program. Initial funding provided by the parties will be utilized to provide administrative support services during this effort including preparation for and attendance at Council meetings as required.
3. The Council will, with the assistance of consultants as required, determine potential sources for grant funding to provide program start-up funds. The Council, with the assistance of consultants as required, will then prepare and submit such grant applications. The start-up funds so obtained, anticipated in the \$100,000 to \$125,000 range, will be utilized to:
 - a) Conduct any legal work needed to establish the dredging program organizational structure.
 - b) Perform final engineering analysis of the dredging needs and the equipment and/or contractor services necessary to achieve the program, including details of any oversight efforts that will be required for contractor services.
 - c) Develop a finalized cost estimate to implement and conduct the dredging program.
 - d) Provide a firm finalized schedule for the periodic dredging of each of the channels identified in the Regional Dredging Management Plan.
 - e) Contact all parties with current or previous permits for dredging of the channels, evaluate the status of each, and conduct preparatory work to assume responsibility for the permits by transfer to the Council or its future designate. Any effort related to individual permit applications and/or renewals will be completed by the Council or its designate at a future date.
 - f) Determine sources and receive firm commitments for program funding. This to include, at the direction of the Council, the preparation of applications as necessary or desirable for one-time or seed funding for program implementation and/or initial operation as well as any identified sources for long-term operational support.
 - g) Effort by the Council and/or consultants as required to prepare for and attend regional meetings, meetings with potential funding agencies, and lead public presentations on the Regional Dredging Management Plan implementation.
4. It is anticipated that the Council, or its designate, will maintain overall management and decision-making responsibility for the operation of the dredging program once implemented.

Financial Responsibilities

Each of the Parties to this MOU agree to provide initial funding in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.) to support the efforts of the Council as detailed in items 1) through 3) above in addition to any in-kind service to be provided by its designate to the Council, including any travel or other expenses incurred by the designate in performing the duties of a member of the Council

Additional Parties

Other Counties with harbors along the south shore of Lake Ontario, namely Monroe and Oswego, with the concurrence of the Council, may become parties to this MOU by executing the addendum attached as Exhibit A and submitting it to the Council along with the contact information for its designate to sit on the Council and its funding contribution.

In Witness, the Parties hereto have executed this MOU by their officers duly authorized:

Cayuga County

Signed: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Niagara County

Signed: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Orleans County

Signed: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Wayne County

Signed: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

EXHIBIT

**ADDENDUM
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
LAKE ONTARIO REGIONAL DREDGING PROGRAM**

By execution of this Addendum, _____ County agrees to be a party to the MOU regarding the Lake Ontario Regional Dredging Program and to abide by the responsibilities and commitments as detailed in the MOU.

In Witness, this Addendum has been executed the officer duly authorized:

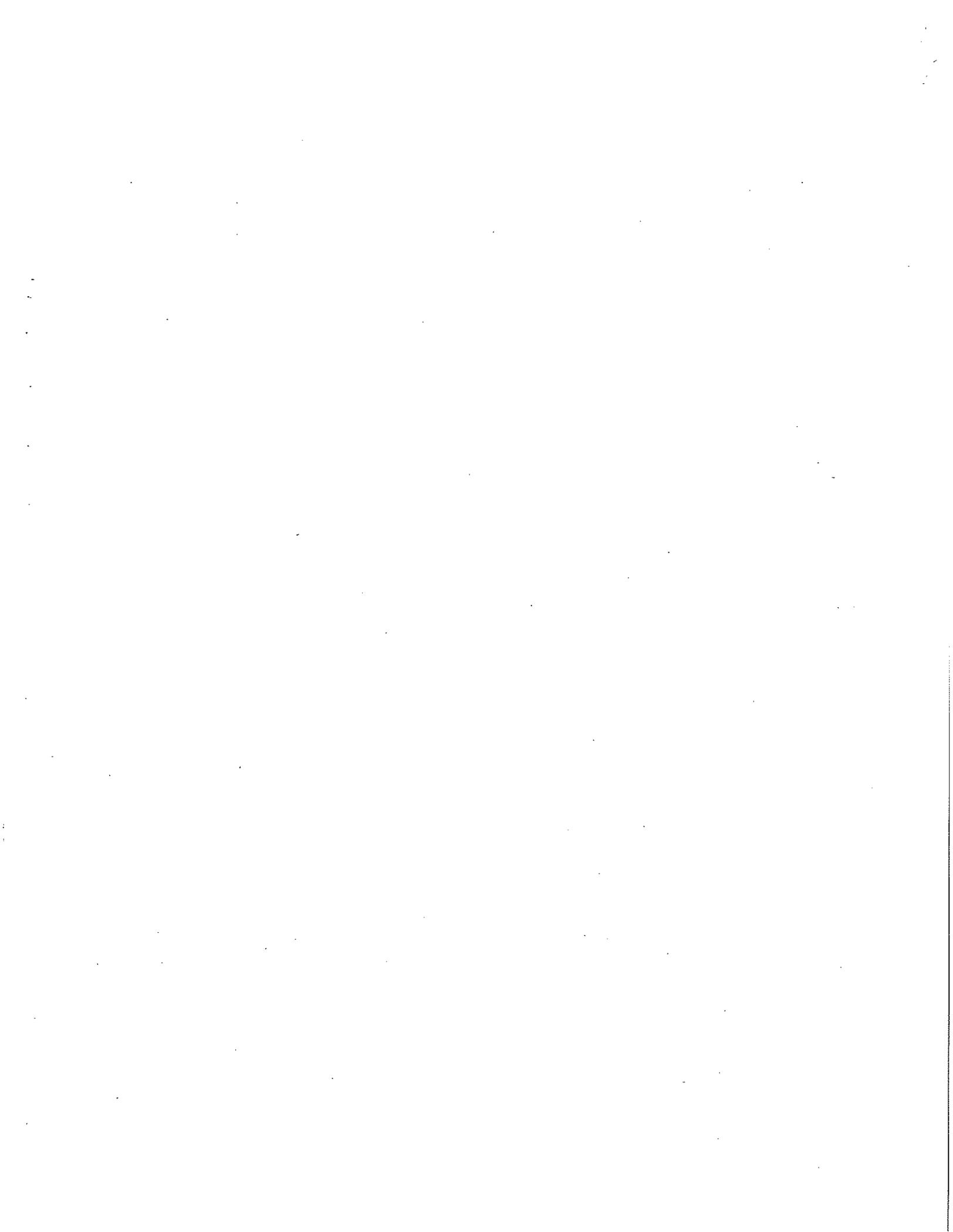
_____ County

Signed: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____



SHARED WATER SERVICES



RECEIVED



March 7, 2018

MAR 15 2018

NIAGARA COUNTY
WATER DISTRICT

Ms. Jennifer H. Bieber, Administrative Director
Niagara County Water District
5450 Ernest Road
P.O. Box 315
Lockport, New York 14094

**SUBJECT: NIAGARA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
102nd STREET METER PIT
DESIGN AND BIDDING SERVICES
ENGINEERING PROPOSAL
WENDEL PROJECT NO. 31461805**

Dear Ms. Bieber:

Wendel WD Architecture, Engineering, Surveying and Landscape Architecture, PC (Wendel) is pleased to submit this proposal to the Niagara County Water District (NCWD) for professional services associated with upgrades to the 102nd Street Meter Pit.

A. BACKGROUND

An emergency interconnection exists between the Niagara County Water District (NCWD) and the City of Niagara Falls (City) located adjacent to the Williams Road Booster Station and 102nd Street in the City of Niagara Falls. This meter pit allows the NCWD and City to purchase water from each other during periods of high demands or in emergency situations. The meter pit is still operational and continues to be used in an emergency basis, the existing distribution piping, pressure reducing valves and valves located within the existing block building are beyond their useful life and therefore are in need of replacement. The improvements will increase reliability of this this emergency interconnection. In addition, improvements to the building insulation, electrical service exterior doors, and exterior paint are required to rehabilitate the building.

Wendel previously conducted an engineering study related to these improvements in Spring 2017 as part of the Williams Road Booster Station Study. The recommendations from the basis of design memorandum are discussed in the Scope of Work below.

B. SCOPE OF WORK

The following upgrades to the 102nd Street Meter Pit will be designed as part of this project;

Southern Header

1. Remove the internal components of the 20-inch Ross PRV. PRV to remain in place.
2. Install new 24-inch butterfly isolation valve.



Northern Header

1. Disassemble and remove all 24-inch steel piping between the existing two 36"x24" reducers.
2. Install new 24-inch gate isolation valve.
3. Install new 24-inch Cla-Val Hytrol PRV
4. Install new 24-inch 2-way Mag Meter
5. Re-install 24-inch piping as required.

Building Enclosure Interior Improvements

1. Remove all existing fiberglass board insulation from interior walls and clean moisture, mold & mildew from concrete block.
2. Install new insulation board - (are we going to improve energy efficiency?)
3. Remove and/or replace electrical conduit & wiring and control panels as necessary.
4. Repair or replace existing ceiling hung heater unit and thermostat.
5. Repair metal ductwork from below grade chamber to upper wall louver vent.
6. Install new secondary backup sump pump w/beacon or alarm for failure notification.

Building Enclosure Exterior Improvements

1. Install new steel "I"- beam with bracing and supports above roof elevation to support weights of existing components and new PRV, Meter, and Valves for lifting and lowering into the below grade chamber.
2. Remove both existing man-doors and frames from south wall. Replace with new metal doors and frames, hardware and paint.
3. Cut & remove concrete block to form 6'-0" by 7'-4" opening in center of existing south wall to allow passage of new Valves, PRV, and Meter. Install steel lintel above opening.
4. Repair roof at east and west walls and around scuppers to stop water leaks to the interior roof panels and block walls.
5. Remove flaking paint from exterior block walls, damaged by roof & flashing leaks. Paint all exterior walls.

C. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The following scope of services will be completed for this project.

Design Services

1. Perform site visit to collect existing condition information.
2. Coordination with manufacturer for design and specifications.
3. Prepare contract specifications and construction plans.
4. Conduct two project review meetings with NCWD.
5. Respond to NCWD comments.
6. Niagara County Health Department submittal and response to comments.



Bidding Services

1. Prepare ten copies of plans and specifications for prospective bidders.
2. Coordinate with NCWD attorney during preparation of public bid process.
3. Conduct a pre-bid meeting.
4. Respond to bidders' questions during bid period and provide one addendum.
5. Prepare tabulation of bids.
6. Conduct pre-award conference with low bidder.
7. Review bids and provide Recommendation of Award.

D. DELIVERABLES

The following represents the anticipated deliverables from Wendel for the project. Each deliverable will consist of one (1) hard copy.

1. 60% Review Drawings and Technical Specifications.
2. 100% Review Drawings and Technical Specifications.
3. Construction Documents.

E. ASSUMPTIONS

1. Construction Administration and Construction Observation scope and fee will be developed after bids are received and a schedule is provided.
2. The project is a Type II action under SEQ. R.
3. No hazardous material testing will be performed as part of this study.

F. PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Wendel is prepared to begin the work immediately upon authorization.

G. FEES AND TERMS

We propose completing the services outlined in this letter for a lump sum fee of Twenty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$27,750). These fees include direct expenses such as first class mailing, local mileage and internal printing costs. Our proposed fee for providing these services is:

Task	Proposed Fee
Design Services	\$25,000.00 Lump Sum
Bidding Services	\$2,000.00 Lump Sum
TOTAL FEE:	\$27,500.00 Lump Sum

Niagara County Water District
102nd Street Meter Pit
March 7, 2018
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Please contact either of the undersigned if you have any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendel

Handwritten signature of Brian M. Sibiga in black ink.

Brian M. Sibiga, PE
Project Manager

Handwritten signature of Andrew L. Casolini Dal Bo in black ink.

Andrew L. Casolini Dal Bo, PE
Principal in Charge

Should Wendel's proposal be accepted, Wendel WD Architecture, Engineering, Surveying & Landscape Architecture P.C., a New York State licensed architecture and engineering firm that is part of a consolidated group of Wendel Companies, will contract to undertake the work. Our letterhead and plans will still prominently say "Wendel" and we will refer to ourselves as Wendel throughout the project.

Wendel is hereby authorized to proceed with the services described herein under the terms described of the agreement with the Niagara County Water District dated January 1, 2018.

ACCEPTANCE / AUTHORIZATION

Accepted this _____ day of _____, 20__

Print Name: Jennifer H. Bieber

Signature: _____

Title: Administrative Director, NCWD