

# Strategic Planning for Morris County Government

## ► Kick-off Meeting of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee

September 20, 2017

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# Agenda for the Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Role of the Steering Committee - Why You Are Here
3. County Vision and Purpose of Strategic Planning
4. Method and Process
5. Schedule and Timetable
6. Trends in Morris County
7. Conclusion and Next Steps

# Our Work for Today

- Review and discuss the information gathering and analysis process
  - SCOT's
  - Survey
  - Community meetings
- Confirm the overall schedule and your participation in it.
- Review and discuss the focus areas

## Role of the Steering Committee

- Provide overall guidance for the strategic planning process
- Participate in relevant Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities and Threats (SCOT's) and encourage participation in community conversations and opinion surveys
- Participate in the formulation of strategies and recommendations

# County of Morris

## Strategic Leadership & Management Cycle



# Vision and Mission of Morris County

## Vision

Morris County will continue to be the premier place in which to live, work, and raise a family. Our County will continue to build our vibrant and sustainable economy and preserve our natural resources and history. We will honor our unique quality of life, assure a safe, well-maintained infrastructure and offer cultural and recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. We will continue to offer compassionate support to those in need and maintain our tradition as a caring community.

## Mission

Morris County will protect and preserve the quality of life for all of Morris County, and ensure the effective, efficient and ethical stewardship of tax dollars.



# ➤ Morris County Guiding Principles

- **Morris County Government will:**

- Build upon our advantages of location, infrastructure, a diverse and talented workforce, safety, education, diversity and culture to maintain our way of life
- Respect and protect the interests of taxpayers and utilize and exercise prudence in all financial matters
- Execute all aspects of County business in the most ethical, effective, professional and transparent manner, with all actions and decisions focused on the most responsive and best interests of Morris County residents
- Optimize the use of available funding, including providing shared or regionalized services
- Provide strategic leadership, and balance short and long term planning
- Partner with our 39 municipalities to support their safety and quality of life
- Assist and collaborate with our communities during times of need and/or crisis

# Strategic Planning

**Strategic planning** is the process that organizations use to formally define their direction, make decisions and allocate resources to achieve their goals based on their vision and mission.

It includes:

- 1) Information gathering, assessment, and identification of focus areas
- 2) Strategic formulation, where high level priorities for each focus area are developed and translated into concrete recommendations
- 3) Intentional decision making, where concrete recommendations are considered for action and translated into implementation plans and translated into implementation/action plans



# Method and Process

- Information gathering and identification of focus areas
  - Demographics, trends and issues
  - Input from Steering Committee and County staff
  - Input from community stakeholders (community conversations and opinion survey)
- Strategic formulation – identification of critical issues, analysis and development of recommendations in each of the 5 focus areas
  - Formation of working groups for each focus area
  - Strengths, Challenges, Opportunities and Threats (SCOTs), 2 sessions for each focus area
  - Identification of emerging issues
  - Development of recommendations
- Intentional decision making – presentation of recommendations to Freeholders for consideration

## Steering Committee - Process and Schedule

### Months 3-4 (10/15/17 – 12/15/17)

- Steering Committee participation in SCOTs and community sessions
- Second meeting of Steering Committee
  - Status report of discussion: SCOTS, community sessions, and opinion surveys

### Month 5 (12/16/27-1/31/18)

- Steering Committee participation in remaining SCOTs and community sessions
- Third meeting of Steering Committee
  - Strategic formulation: Identify trends, emerging themes and strategies and recommendations to address critical strategic issues

### Month 6 (2/1/18 – 3/31/18)

- Final meeting of Steering Committee
  - Review draft Strategic Plan
  - Discuss communication plan

## Our Work for Today

- ✓ County information provided
- ✓ Information gathering and analysis reviewed and discussed
  - ✓ SCOT's
  - ✓ Survey
  - ✓ Community meetings
- ✓ Overall schedule and your role confirmed
- ✓ Vetting of the focus areas.....



## Trends in Morris County

- Population is growing slowly, getting older and becoming more diverse
- International Migration is the primary driver of population growth
- Households are smaller, housing is larger
- Income High, Housing Costs - Higher
- Highly Educated Workforce
- Anticipated Job Increases – Many lower salaried
- Majority of Companies are Small - majority of employment in relatively few companies

## ➤ Potential Focus Areas for Strategic Planning

1. Public Safety (including technology and cyber security)
  2. Health and Human Services
  3. Infrastructure (including transportation, planning and preservation)
  4. Economic Development (including businesses and tourism)
  5. Quality of Life (including education, libraries, parks/recreation)
- ❖ Intergovernmental coordination and the role of relevant authorities, commissions and boards are included in each of these areas.





## Next Steps

- Review and digest the information provided
- Share any additional information you may have or you may need
- Identify which focus area SCOT you will participate in
  
- We will be in communication about:
  - Steering Committee meeting dates
  - Schedule for SCOTs and community meetings
  - Survey