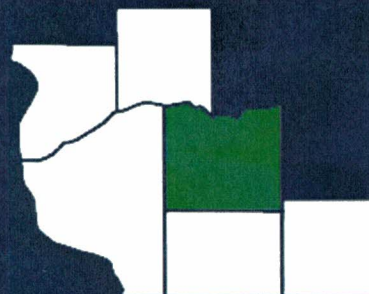


Iowa County Shared Service Feasibility Study



County Board Project Update - 04/16/24

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Executive Summary

Project Goal: Explore shared service opportunities with other governmental or private entities (within Iowa County or outside).

Statutes: [66.0301 Intergovernmental cooperation](#)

Summary: From 2 surveys, 25 respondents, 12 interviews, 23 shared service options considered, and a review of existing literature, we find that there is strong demand for collaboration and are currently reviewing three recommendations for Iowa County:

- (1) Geographic Information Systems (GIS),
- (2) Road Maintenance Services, & (3) Cooperative Purchasing

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Research Methods

155 Total Surveys Sent

21 Surveys sent to Iowa County Staff

- 9 Respondents
- 42.8% Response Rate

134 Surveys sent to Local Officials

- 12 Respondents
- 8.9% Response Rate

13 Total Informational Interviews

Iowa County Staff: 7

Regional Cty. Officials: 4

Experts: 2

Research Scope & Limitations

Definition of Shared Services: “Collaboration between Iowa County and outside jurisdictions or entities (localities, non-profits, public entities, etc.), not including ‘shared services’ between Iowa County departments.”

Due to the structure and timeline there are a few **research limitations** to consider:

- 1) **proposals that outsourced** any provisionment of services to the private sector were not considered due to political complexity outside of our scope;
- 2) **budgetary calculations** for variable costs and financial projections are not included due to lack of resources; and
- 3) **early implementation**, like meetings between interested parties is not feasible due to time constraints; however, the report will provide resources for this process.

Evaluating Criteria

(A) Cost-Savings: Short-term or long-term cost-savings, particularly operational cost-savings.

(B) Generalizability: Similarity in specialization or lack of specialization in terms of the nature, size, and administration of the function for each government.

(C) Efficiency: Enhancing the quality of service and the efficiency of provisions, including greater county operations efficiency regardless of sharing opportunities.

(D) Co-Benefits: Addressing a specific need or problem within Iowa County like staff recruitment/retention or technology enhancement via sharing or collaboration.

Source: Wisconsin Policy Forum

Shared Services Considered

- Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Services
- GIS Services
- Asphalt Production
- Assessment Services
- Building Inspection
- Comprehensive Planning
- Cooperative Purchasing
- Council of Government (CoG)
- Court Services
- Dispatch Services
- Economic Development Services
- Emergency Management Services (EMS)
- Facilities Management
- Fire Service
- Human Services
- Information Technology (IT)
- Police Services
- Records Management
- Road Maintenance
- Stormwater Management

✓ Geographic Information Services (GIS)

✓ Road Maintenance Services

✓ Cooperative Purchasing

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Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Description - GIS planning is in-house, limited to Iowa County. Potential for expanding to larger scale: regional or across municipalities; Connecticut MetroCOG model

(A) Cost-Savings: Volume of work & growing importance; cross-training opportunities; reduced duplication

(B) Generalizability: Richland County focused on GIS expansion→ open to helping lead this effort; past Iowa County overlap with Grant County

(C) Efficiency: One central GIS person, multiple staff in other counties/ departments with GIS-related work

(D) Co-Benefits: Increased collaboration and information access re:critical issues (i.e. public health)

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Road Maintenance Services

Description: Road maintenance equipment (sealcoating trucks, etc.) are shared informally between localities, still capacity to maximize economic utility exists (idleness for periods of time). Informal scheduling of shared use done via email.

(A) Cost-Savings: Offset depreciation of equipment cost/reduced opportunity cost

(B) Generalizability: Demand for maintenance is universal

(C) Efficiency: Maximizing utilization of capital equipment

(D) Co-Benefits: Additional revenue for county, cost-savings for localities

Comments: Report will detail cost-savings & limitations. Recommendations will detail the benefit to formalizing agreements, scheduling, and communications between localities with multiple implementation tiers varying in feasibility.

Cooperative Purchasing

Description: The bidding service for local government RFPs is relatively centralized, still there is room for more “piggy-backing” onto RFPs via cooperative purchasing; examples being explored include: election expenses, building inspection, Information Technology (technology, data servers, software, etc.), and assessment services.

(A) Cost-Savings: potential volume discounts, financial pooling for expenses with long-term cost-savings (election expenses)

(B) Generalizability: Similar procurement necessities and processes

(C) Efficiency: negating any duplication, expanding “piggy-backing” on RFPs

(D) Co-Benefits: Additional revenue for county, cost-savings for localities

Comments: Report will review expenses & procurements for cooperative purchasing

Incoming Report

A research report recommending multiple shared-services to Iowa County will be completed by **May 13**

The image shows a thumbnail of a report titled "IOWA COUNTY SHARED SERVICES FEASIBILITY STUDY". The table of contents lists the following sections and page numbers:

Executive Summary	1
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Methodology	3
Shared Services Considered	4
Recommendation #1: Long-term Information Systems (LIS)	5
Recommendation #2: Human Resources Services	6
Recommendation #3: Cooperative Purchasing	13
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Shared Services & Implementation	15
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Appendix A: List of all 16 participating jurisdictions	21
Appendix B: Presentation to the Board	22
Appendix C: Interpretation of Survey Responses	27

Contents Include:

- Standard description of methods, criteria, and guidelines
- Policy analysis of the final tiered recommendations
- A Full list of proposals raised during the research process
 - Shared-services & non-shared services
- Further implementation resources

Cty. Supervisor Survey

Sent to Your Email
5 Questions
Takes Less than 5 Minutes

Thank you!

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