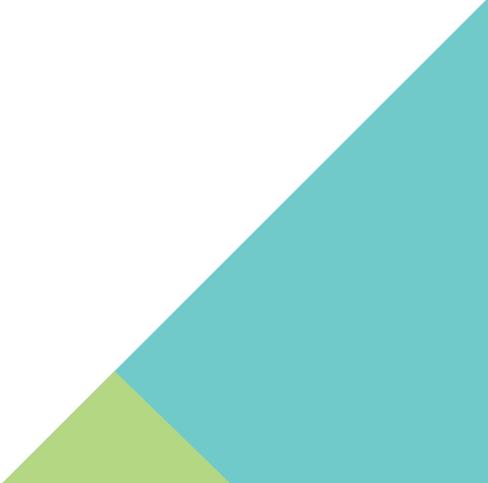




Leaders  
Roundtable  
Meetings  
2018



# WHAT WE HEARD

More than 100 local leaders, including mayors and village managers, township supervisors, school superintendents, and representatives from the State and other local units of government participated in a series of Leaders Roundtables across the county in April 2018.

The purpose of these meetings is to share and discuss the important issues facing our communities and how we can continue to collaborate to address them. Previous roundtable meetings were very effective in identifying our shared priorities that have resulted in collaborative projects, such as Regional 911 Consolidation and the Lake County Mental Health Coalition.

Leaders were asked

“What keeps you up at night?”

and some common themes emerged:

## Fiscal Sustainability

Local leaders expressed deep concern with the State’s continued budget crisis and its impact on their local agencies. Leaders are worried about continued State funding cuts, unfunded mandates, cuts to State shared revenues, no new revenues, and the potential of a tax freeze/cap and how it will impact their ability to maintain current service levels.

## Economic Vitality and Access to Talent

These stakeholders are very concerned about the high property taxes in Lake County and Illinois and the impact it is having on economic development and business retainment. Leaders also expressed worry over residents and businesses relocating to Wisconsin. They also said they’re concerned about having the right talent and workforce to meet the needs of businesses, especially in manufacturing, and more needs to be done to expose young people to vocational occupations and encourage students (and their parents) to consider vocational careers.

## Transportation

Leaders said the State is in dire need of a capital bill for transportation and infrastructure and worry about keeping their infrastructure in a good state of repair without additional funding. Additionally, some expressed issues with transit connections in order to get commuters from trains to businesses at various times (Bannockburn is exploring a partnership with Lyft to address this). Others said they continue to be troubled by traffic congestion and its direct impact on quality of life, as well as the ability to get people to and from work and move goods.



## WHAT WE SHARED

Chairman Lawlor gave an update on Regional 911 Consolidation, Lake County's Consolidation Action Plan, shared services, transportation, economic development and mental health. The groups engaged in discussion around each subject area.

### SHARED SERVICES/CONSOLIDATION

Currently, state law mandates an onerous and lengthy process to consolidate units of local government which often lasts up to five years to complete, delaying cost savings to taxpayers. As a part of this year's Leaders Roundtable meetings, Chairman Lawlor proposed Lake County's 230 taxing districts launch an effort to consolidate core administrative functions through intergovernmental cooperation, which can achieve property tax relief and operational efficiency faster than statute allows. These include: Human Resources, Information Technology, Finance, Procurement and Marketing, in order to maximize cost-savings for taxpayers.

"We need to work together to leverage our partnerships and shared services. Rather than focusing on the 100 reasons we can't do it, let's focus on the one reason we can."

Aaron Lawlor  
Lake County Board Chairman

### Regional 911 Consolidation

Lake County, along with several communities, have committed to be "early adopters" of 911 consolidation. This collaborative effort with public safety partners from across the county is working toward consolidating many 911 centers into a few regional 911 centers to improve quality and efficiency, and provide cost savings.

#### **Lake County is excited to convene the newly established 911 Consolidation Implementation Team.**

The first order of business will be to hire a project manager and draft and agree on a work plan. This work plan will include a preferred governance structure, funding formula, number of calls, staffing levels and supervision, policies and standard operating procedures, technology requirements and select criteria, building size, basic design and location, etc. The group plans to target completion within 12 months. The goal is to design a program that meets the needs of the participating Public Safety Entities (PSE's), and will also allow additional communities to join the consolidation effort in the future as they are ready.

▲ To learn more about this initiative, including the proposed governance structure, visit <http://www.lakecountyil.gov/3922>.

You can also contact Amy McEwan, Lake County Deputy County Administrator, at **847.377.2230** or [amcewan@lakecountyil.gov](mailto:amcewan@lakecountyil.gov).

### Who is ready to consider Regional 911 Consolidation?

Greater Round Lake Fire Protection District	Gurnee/Zion JETSB	Lake County	Lake County ETSB
Lake County Sheriff	Libertyville	Libertyville/Lincolnshire/Vernon Hills JETSB	Lincolnshire
Mundelein	North Chicago	Round Lake Beach	Vernon Hills
		Wauconda Fire	Waukegan

### Considering resolution passage:

Cen Communications Center    Fox Lake

## Joint Purchasing

The topic of consolidation and shared service opportunities garnered substantial discussion. Leaders shared many examples of local districts partnering on joint purchases or sharing facilities, including the Buffalo Grove fire training facility that is shared by several municipalities and townships sharing heavy equipment. Lake County gave an update on its Joint Purchasing initiative, including jointly bidding and purchasing bulk rock salt with other local governmental units to gain greater economies of scale.

“Lake County has many examples of regional collaborative partnerships that are considered models, including SWALCO and the Stormwater Management Commission (SMC), and the Major Crimes Task Force. We can build off of these successes.”

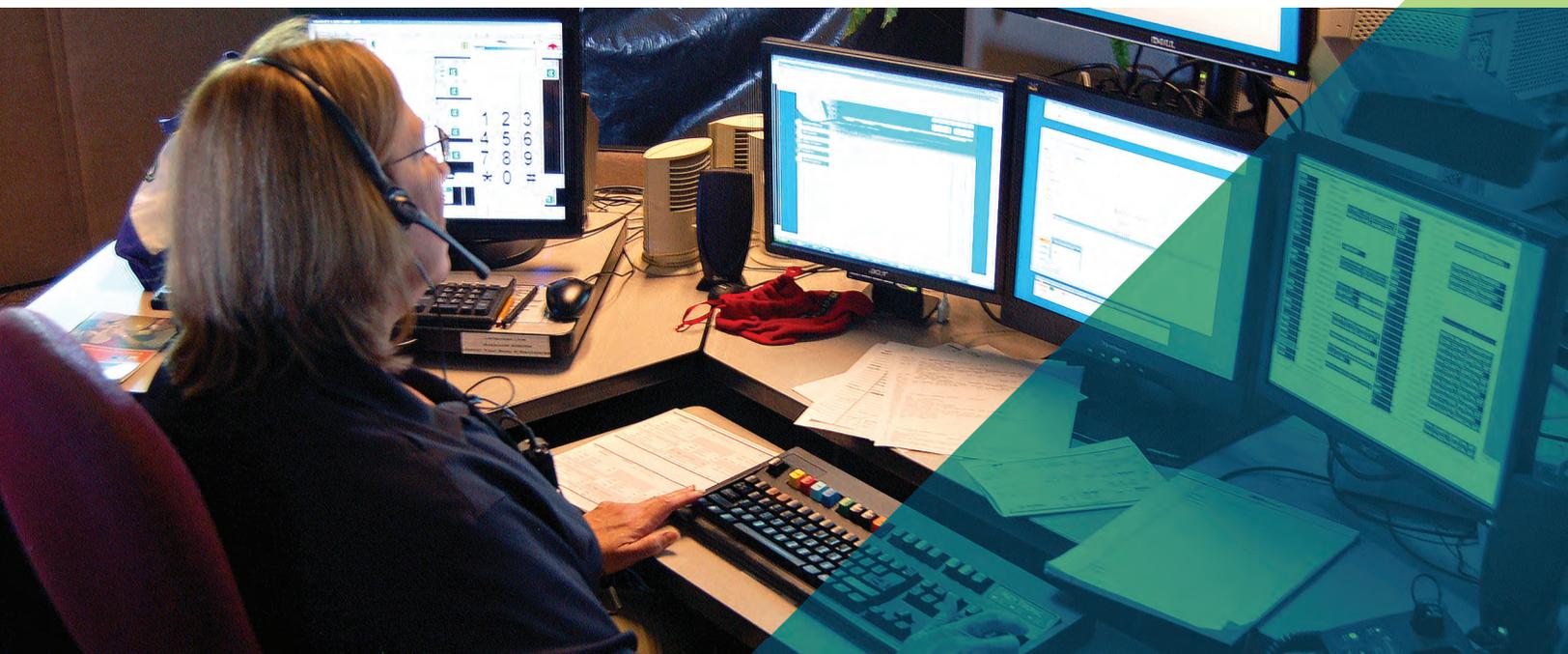
Kent Street, Manager, Village of Deerfield

## IGA's

Lake County also shared how it recently entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Lake Forest to share building inspection and plan review services. This agreement allows both local governments to provide “back-up” services to each other and provides Lake County with inspection assistance for isolated, unincorporated portions of southeastern Lake County, thereby minimizing inefficient routing of inspection staff.

## Shared Technology/Services

New permitting and tax technology systems will also provide opportunities for shared services with other government agencies. Lake County staff is scheduling presentations to regional agencies, local government groups, and professional associations to highlight shared service successes for Lake County, as well as explore additional opportunities with these entities.



“People are reluctant to have a conversation about consolidation. The number of taxing districts makes it expensive to live here. We need to ask ourselves, ‘Is it financially the most efficient way for the taxpayer, and is there a way to do it while providing services in the most fiscally responsible manner? Let’s see what works and what doesn’t work.”

*Kathleen O’Connor, Supervisor, Libertyville Township*

## How to Partner with Lake County

Units of governments are encouraged to partner with Lake County to jointly procure goods and services, and share services to improve efficiency, generate greater economies of scale, and achieve costs savings. These opportunities range from joint bidding and purchasing of salt and paper, to sharing contracts like elevator inspections, to sharing services like plan review and building inspections.

- ▲ Visit [doingbusiness.lakecountyil.gov](http://doingbusiness.lakecountyil.gov) and select “Joint Purchasing” to view all of Lake County’s Awarded Contracts and send an inquiry to Lake County.

You can also contact RuthAnne Hall, Lake County Purchasing Manager, directly at **847.377.2929**.

## Learn more at upcoming Shared Services Outreach Meetings

Lake County is hosting Shared Services Outreach Meetings in June and July to explore various opportunities for partnerships among local communities. Representatives from Lake County will share information about Joint Purchasing, the use of Tyler Energov for permitting functions, and potential Intergovernmental Agreement opportunities through inspections and plan reviews. Attend one of the meetings to hear how your community may benefit when local governments work together.

## June Meetings July Meetings

### Northwest County

Thursday, June 28, 2018  
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
Antioch Township Center  
1625 Deep Lake Rd #B  
Lake Villa, IL 60046  
Large Conference Room

### Southwest County

Thursday, June 28, 2018  
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Ela Area Library  
275 Mohawk Trail  
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

### Northeast County

Thursday, July 19, 2018  
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
Beach Park Village Hall  
11270 W Wadsworth Rd  
Beach Park, IL 60099  
Lower Level Community Room

### Southeast County

Thursday, July 19, 2018  
2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Lake Forest Municipal  
Services Building  
800 Field Drive  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

share of implementation plan  
decision making structure  
clean data supply



## ▲ TRANSPORTATION

The County Board recognizes that a good transportation system is critical to supporting a high quality of life and economic growth. We also recognize that people don't know or care what jurisdiction is responsible for the road. They just want to be able to get where they're going quickly and safely.

The County Board is investing \$500 million in transportation over the next six years, which includes making roads safer, wider, and even smarter. Lake County is proud to be dedicating 100% of the ¼ cent sales tax to transportation, and we're seeing the results of this revenue source with many projects completed and new projects underway.

This provides \$30 million per year allowing us to do larger, more complex projects. Local leaders have consensus on a list of state transportation priorities in Lake County and continue to speak with one voice. That plan has proven extremely successful and is being used as a model across the state. Illinois is facing a crisis point in transportation funding. We continue to advocate for a stable revenue source for transportation improvements and for continued progress on the State Highway Consensus Plan.

▲ Find more information about the State Consensus Plan at [lakecountyil.gov/transportation](http://lakecountyil.gov/transportation) under "Projects".

In 2018, Lake County will have nearly \$100 million in road projects under construction, including 30 new projects. Check out our interactive construction map at [lakecountyil.gov/transportation](http://lakecountyil.gov/transportation), select a project and see the latest information and important updates.

We continue to expand our PASSAGE system interconnecting traffic signals along highway corridor. We also provide live, local traffic info on [lakecountypassage.com](http://lakecountypassage.com), email traffic alerts, and PASSAGE smartphone apps. Visit [lakecountypassage.com](http://lakecountypassage.com) for more information.

## ▲ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS TO TALENT

The state of Lake County's economy is strong. Our 30,000 businesses continue to grow, and with the recent addition of Caterpillar, Lake County is now home to 12 Fortune 500 companies. Our unemployment is at a 10-year low. Also, of the nearly 3,200 jobs added to the Lake County economy in the last two years, more than 90% have been in critical industry sectors like Manufacturing, Real Estate, Professional/Scientific/Technical Services, Administration, and Healthcare (EMSI). With one in seven Lake County jobs being in manufacturing, this industry is nearly unparalleled in the region. We continue to invest in our workforce to ensure that Lake County employers have access to a pipeline of qualified talent. Our high-quality workforce gives Lake County a huge competitive advantage.

Lake County Partners (LCP), the County's leading public-private partnership for economic development, continues to deliver a multitude of resources to optimize Lake County's business climate. LCP has taken the lead in establishing a "Workforce Ecosystem" to align workforce development stakeholders, such as the Lake County Workforce Development Department and the College of Lake County, to share information and efficiently meet the needs of local businesses. LCP continues to meet with businesses in a variety of industries and facilitate connections to address issues related to training and recruitment and ensure that Lake County has a healthy pipeline of talent. LCP has also expanded its municipal services to convene municipal leaders on a quarterly basis and arm them with a multitude of data reports and resources to advance their individual economic development efforts. To connect with Lake County Partners, visit [www.lakecountypartners.com](http://www.lakecountypartners.com).



# MENTAL HEALTH COALITION

Lake County, along with our nation and local communities, is facing a mental health crisis that affects the individual, families, friends, neighbors, veterans, employers, schools, hospitals, the criminal justice system, and more.

It's critically important to address this issue because if we're not effective in serving those with severe mental health illnesses, they will end up in one of three places—our emergency rooms, our jail, or homeless on our streets.

The Lake County Mental Health Coalition, created by the Lake County Board in 2016, is a community-based initiative made up of a diverse group of stakeholders representing government, healthcare, housing and public safety. They are committed to advancing community-level change through collaborative efforts, such as enhanced system-wide data sharing, coordination, and collaboration in order to better leverage existing limited resources and maximize their impact. This group has been working on strategies to advance community change not only as it relates to mental health services and sharing data, but also working to change the stigmas associated with mental health. Visit [lakecountyyil.gov/mentalhealthcoalition](http://lakecountyyil.gov/mentalhealthcoalition) to learn more.

## Other Programs/Resources

We know that anxiety and depression often lead to substance abuse. So, Lake County and local communities are addressing the opioid epidemic through education/prevention and other innovative programs. There are a variety of treatment, training and support services available to those experiencing problems related to emotional and mental illness or drug and alcohol addiction, including Text a Tip and the Health Department's Crisis Care Program—a 24/7 crisis care program in person and over the phone (847.377.8088).

### Training

Lake County and many communities are also doing Crisis Intervention Training for officers and first responders and equipping them with naloxone—a life-saving antidote. Learn more at [opioidinitiative.org](http://opioidinitiative.org).

### “A Way Out”

This program connects people to treatment resources regardless of insurance enrollment or ability to pay and without fear of arrest or prosecution. There are 269 participating agencies in this program. Learn more at [awayoutlc.org](http://awayoutlc.org).

## Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

The Lake County Health Department is providing Youth Mental Health First Aid, a public education program designed to provide individuals with the knowledge and skills to identify and support adolescents (12-18 years old) who are at risk or displaying warning signs of mental health/substance use problems or experiencing a mental health crisis. Mental Health First Aid training is beneficial for adults working with youth in a variety of settings including school, hospitals/medical clinics, social services, and youth groups. The cost is \$20 per participant. More info can be found at [www.lakecountyyil.gov/3980](http://www.lakecountyyil.gov/3980).

## IN SUMMARY,

Lake County continues to make progress on the regional priorities identified several years ago by communities, specifically Regional 911 Consolidation, mental health, and shared services.

In response to the input received at these round table meetings, we are stepping up our efforts to develop a more robust shared services program and will continue to work with villages, townships, schools and other local governmental agencies to leverage joint procurement, shared contracts, and inter-local agreements. Please try to attend the quadrant meetings taking place in June to learn more.

It is our vision for Lake County to be a place where people, families and businesses thrive. We are committed to being an innovative leader and model of excellence so present and future generations enjoy the highest quality of life. We value and appreciate the partnerships and collaboration that exist with local communities to realize this vision.