Managers Forum: Innovation in the Field with Veteran City Manager Peggy Merriss

December 7, 2017

One of a local governments greatest sources for solutions is their staff, the professionals dealing with these tasks all day, every day. But, how can you better hear and act on their ideas?
About the Alliance

Convene and Engage Networks of Thought Leaders

Provide Training to help Organizations Build and Sustain a Culture of Innovation

Identify, Distribute Leading & Emerging Practices/Trends Important to Local Gov

Inspiring Innovation to Advance Communities
How To: GoToWebinar

Clicking the rectangle will place you in full screen mode.

Clicking the arrow on your Go To Webinar Toolbox opens and closes your viewer.

All attendees are muted, but we do want your participation!

Please ask your questions using your Go To Webinar Toolbox throughout the webinar.
Manager’s Forum

- Your presenter:
Decatur, Georgia 30030

- 12 Minutes East of Downtown Atlanta
- Population 23,000 in 4.27 sq. miles
- County Seat
- Home to Agnes Scott College and close to Emory University and the CDC.
- Full Range of Municipal Services
- AA+ Bond Rating
- All combined budgets = $63mm
- 225 FTE
Athenian Oath

We will transmit this city, not less, but greater and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us.
Right Ingredients......

- City Commission
- City Staff
- Community
Vision

“The City of Decatur will assure a high quality of life for its residents, businesses and visitors, both today and in the future.”
“AH HA” Moments

Good to Great -
• First Who ……
• Keeping the Faith
• Know Your Core Business
• Be Disciplined about Performance
• The Flywheel

Great By Choice -
• 20 Mile March
• Fire Bullets, Then Cannonballs
• Leading Above the Death Line
• SMaC
• Return on Luck
In selecting teammates, be strategic and choose people to get stranded with.

...the ultimate hedge against danger and uncertainty is who you have on the mountain with you.

Of all the luck we can get, people luck - the luck of finding the right mentor, partner, teammate, leader, friend - is one of the most important.
Why You Do What You Do

make it

loveable
Decatur Way

Engaged
Informed
Effective
Involved
Outcomes

www.DecaturGa.com
Informed
YO.GOAT... WANNA GET A BEER WITH ME?

CAN'T. I'M SPENDING THE AFTERNOON WRITING DOWN WAYS I CAN IMPROVE MYSELF OVER THE COMING YEAR. IT'S A VERY CONSTRUCTIVE EXERCISE.

HEY. GOOD IDEA... I SHOULD DO THAT TOO.

None. Perfection achieved.

MY. THAT WAS CONSTRUCTIVE. OOH...SNARKY ENVY...YOU SHOULD STRIVE TO AVOID THAT.
Resources

- “Good to Great” and “Great by Choice” - Jim Collins
- “Love Where You Live: Creating Emotionally Engaging Places” and “For the Love of Cities” - Peter Kageyama
- “A Whole New Mind: Moving from the Information Age to the Conceptual Age” - Daniel Pink
- “The Next Big Thing” and “Regeneration” - Rebecca Ryan
- Harvard Business Review
Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.

--- Anonymous

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Driving Innovation

The Alliance for Innovation is inspiring innovation to advance communities. Is your community ready to take the step forward and invest in innovation, future-proof your community, and build a culture of action leaders?

Join today...

Webinar Resources

Questions? Need Handout Copies? Contact Ryan Spillers at rspillers@transformgov.org
Save the Date!
Upcoming learning events:
http://transformgov.org/en/calendar

Webinars
- (Coming soon!) TLG 2018 Innovation Award Virtual Open House
- (Coming soon!) City of Tempe, AZ Grease Cooperative

Workshops
- Workforce of the Future Workshop - FL on 1/11/2018
- Workforce of the Future Workshop - CA on 1/18/2018
- Workforce of the Future Workshop - WA on 1/30/2018
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Thank you for joining us today!