

Regionalization Efforts

Town of Yarmouth and
Partners

Why Regionalize?

- **Efficiency, cost reduction, and tax burdens.**

(The myth at least gives license to discuss regionalism and to try different models, but the reality of savings on the short and mid- term horizon is both small and doubtful.)

- Improved policy and program design/admin.
- Improved Service Delivery- through scale and specialization.
- Maximize sharing, cooperation: It snowballs!
- More thoughtful community development and land use planning.

Recent Successes

- Dispatch and 911
- Assessing
- Code Enforcement
- Shellfish Conservation and Warden
- General Assistance Administration
- Paramedic "Fly Car" Program
- Household Hazardous Waste
- EMS Billing

Considered and Not Dismissed

- Recycling and Bulky Waste Collection
- Police Services
 - Third shift and/or
 - Special Duties (SRO, FTO, Det., Evid. Court, K-9 etc)
 - Administration and Records (Dispatch)
 - Contract for coverage- separate jurisdictions
 - Merger into single department, erase town lines for police purposes- single jurisdiction
- Fire Department and/or Rescue Services

Tupper's Axiom and Corollary

- It's all about me belonging to a community, not about a community that belongs to me.



- Regional governance and services may arise out of a common sense of community and mutual trust. Common sense of community and mutual trust does not necessarily arise out of regional governance or servicesor...

- *Build it and they will revolt; revolt and they will build it.*

Practical Insights

- Unequal partners pose a particular problem. **Control, subsidy, commonality, trust, fairness.**
- Build slowly from non-threatening services.
- Select services where standards of performance are not the highest concerns.
- Spend deliberate social time together and be public in your friendship and trust building.
- Progress celebrated over a long period of years.

Key Players

- The Chiefs and a few elected officials.
- Town Managers and the Town Councils-cheerleaders and convenors
- TIME and the PATIENCE of Job.
- Resources for study and investments in technology, equipment, facilities
- Volunteers
- Public and the press.
- State and Federal Grant makers