

Economic Vitality Incentive Program Cooperation, Collaboration, and Consolidation Plan as of: December 27, 2011

Local Unit Name: City of Frankenmuth
County: Saginaw

Plan Available to the Public (check all that apply): In Municipal Offices Internet Website Other

Previous Service Consolidation(s)					
Service Consolidation	Date Consolidated	Jurisdictions Involved	Realized Savings/(Loss)	Description of Cost Savings/(Loss)	Other Consolidation Benefits
1. Police protection service provided to Frankenmuth Township	1970	City of Frankenmuth Frankenmuth Township	\$205,000	\$205,000 per year	Savings for Fmuth Twp
2. Fire Department is jointly owned by City and Township	1909	City of Frankenmuth Frankenmuth Township	\$75,000	\$75,000 per year	Savings for Fmuth Twp
3. 9-1-1 Emergency dispatch service by Saginaw County	1960	City of Frankenmuth Saginaw County	\$150,000	\$150,000 per year	Coordinated Dispatching
4. Emergency Ambulance Service contract with Saginaw County	1985	City of Frankenmuth Saginaw County	N/A		Faster response Times
5. Office space sharing agreement with Frankenmuth Township	2006	City of Frankenmuth Frankenmuth Township	N/A		More space for Police Dept. & Fire Dept.

Additional Information:

Consolidation #1: The police contract with Frankenmuth Township enables one department (7 full time and 4 part time officers) to provide police protection for a 36 square mile area. Cost sharing is based on number of complaints and patrol miles in the two jurisdictions. This contract enables both units of government to save a substantial amount of money.

Consolidation #2: The Fire Dept. is governed by the City-Township Commission consisting of two City Council members and two Township Board members. The cost sharing formula is based on the ratio of the Taxable Value of the City (about 75%) and the Township (about 25%). The 30 man department is an all volunteer department.

Consolidation #3: The Saginaw County 9-1-1 Authority provides emergency dispatch service for all governmental entities in Saginaw County. This is a tremendous benefit for all citizens of the County. If the City of Frankenmuth had to provide its own emergency dispatch it would cost at least \$150,000 per year.

Consolidation #4: Emergency ambulance service is provided to the entire Saginaw County area by MMR Ambulance Company based on a contract with Saginaw County. The contract established required average response times, and MMR has consistently complied with that requirement.

Consolidation #5: The Frankenmuth Township government office is now located on the second floor of the Frankenmuth City Hall. The Frankenmuth Police Department is now located next door in the Township Hall which previously included an area rented out for private parties. This resulted in a much larger office space area for the Police and Fire Departments. The City and Township share the operating and maintenance expenses of the two buildings on the same basis as was done prior to the new agreement.

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6. The Township Cemetery is available for burials of City of Frankenmuth residents	1900	City of Frankenmuth Frankenmuth Township	\$5,000	\$5,000 per year	Savings for Fmuth Twp
7. City & Township Joint Growth Management Plan	1985	City of Frankenmuth Frankenmuth Township	\$5,000	One time savings for cost of consultant	Fmuth Twp Planning
8. Identically worded ordinances for Planned Unit Development Zoning Districts	1985	City of Frankenmuth Frankenmuth Township	N/A		Fmuth Twp Planning
9. Fire Protection agreement with Tuscola Township	1995	Fmuth City & Twp Tuscola Township	\$8,000	\$8,000 per year	Savings for Tuscola Twp
10. Potable water service agreement with City of Saginaw	1968	City of Frankenmuth City of Saginaw	N/A		Excellent Water
<p>Additional Information:</p> <p>Consolidation #6: The Township Cemetery belongs to Frankenmuth Township. Based on an agreement between the City and Township residents of the City can be buried in this cemetery. The operating and maintenance cost sharing formula based on the ratio of the Taxable Value of the City (about 75%) and the Township (about 25%).</p> <p>Consolidation #7: In 1985 the City and Township retained a planning consultant to develop a joint master plan. Another planning consultant was retained by the two entities in 2005 to complete a substantial revision of the plan. This plan provides for orderly controlled high quality growth for both units of government. A key component is the Urban Growth Boundary area which enables some limited annexation of property to the City</p> <p>Consolidation #8: The City and Township adopted identical zoning and development ordinances that apply to the area inside the Urban Growth Boundary line. When a development is proposed the City and Township Planning Commissions hold joint meetings to review and approve the development. After the development is annexed it continues to be controlled by the same zoning regulations that existed prior to annexation.</p> <p>Consolidation #9: The Frankenmuth Fire Department provides fire protection to a six square mile area of Tuscola Township which is located in Tuscola County immediately east of Frankenmuth Township. This provides a good source of revenue for the Frankenmuth Fire Department and provides closer fire protection for Tuscola Township than they could receive from the City of Vassar which is in Tuscola County.</p> <p>Consolidation #10: The City of Frankenmuth has purchased treated potable water from the City of Saginaw since 1968. Prior to that time the City of Frankenmuth treated its own water from the Cass River which resulted in less than desirable drinking water for Frankenmuth. The quality of Saginaw's water has always been excellent.</p>					

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11. Potable water service agreement with Frankenmuth Township	1975	City of Frankenmuth Frankenmuth Township	N/A		Water for Fmuth Twp
12. Protective Inspection Service with Frankenmuth Twp & Blumfield Twp	2004	Frankenmuth City, Twp & Blumfield Twp	\$20,000	\$20,000 per year	Improved Service
13. Joint road repairs with Frankenmuth Township & County Road Commission	2005	Frankenmuth City, Twp & Road Comm	N/A		Coordinated Maintenance
14. Contract with MDOT for snow plowing and minor maintenance on Main St (M-83)	1970	City of Frankenmuth Mich Dept of Trans	N/A		Coordinated Maintenance
15. Property tax billing and collection by Saginaw County	1955	City of Frankenmuth Saginaw County	\$8,000	\$8,000 per year	Efficient & Accurate Svc
<p>Additional Information:</p> <p>Consolidation #11: The City of Frankenmuth provides water to areas in the Township outside the Urban Growth Boundary based on an agreement whereby the City operates and maintains the system, reads the water meters, bills the customers and handles customer payments. Township water rates are higher than City water rates. Proposed changes in water rates are reviewed in advance by a Committee which includes City Council members and Township Board members.</p> <p>Consolidation #12: Building, electrical, plumbing and mechanical inspection services are provided by inspectors hired by an authority consisting of the City of Frankenmuth, Frankenmuth Township and Blumfield Township. The inspectors are paid with funds generated by permit fees. This also benefits local contractors since their work is inspected by the same inspectors regardless of the location of the work.</p> <p>Consolidation #13: For certain boundary roads between the City of Frankenmuth and Frankenmuth Township the two entities have been able to agree to cost sharing for the work to be done. In some cases the work is done by the Saginaw County Road Commission.</p> <p>Consolidation #14: The City of Frankenmuth Department of Public Works performs snow plowing and minor maintenance on Highway M-83 through the City and MDOT reimburses the City for that work. This ensures quicker snow plowing on this important thoroughfare through the City when is very beneficial to City residents and businesses.</p> <p>Consolidation #15: Saginaw County provides tax billing, collection and payment of taxes to local governments in Saginaw County. This service is much more efficient, less costly and more accurate than the City of Frankenmuth could provide on its own. This service is provided for summer and winter taxes.</p>					

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16. Refuse & recycling service through Mid Michigan Waste Authority	1988	Frankenmuth City & 34 other Municipalities	\$40,000	\$40,000 per year	Coordinated Service
17. GIS service through Saginaw Area GIS Authority	2004	Frankenmuth City & 32 other Municipalities	N/A		Site Plan Service
18. Cass River Greenways Project	2007	Frankenmuth City, Twp Bridgeport & Tuscola	N/A		Improved Environment
19. Cass River Flood Control with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	1965	City of Frankenmuth US Army Corps of Eng	N/A		Expert Advice
20. Economic Development activities with Saginaw Future and Chamber of Commerce	1984	City of Frankenmuth Saginaw Future, Inc. Chamber of Commerce	N/A		Coordinated Job Creation Efforts
<p>Additional Information:</p> <p>Consolidation #16: The Mid Michigan Waste Authority creates a tremendous economy of scale with 73,000 households. The Authority takes separate bids for refuse collection, landfill disposal and recycling disposal, and offers a menu of services to its members who select the services they need.</p> <p>Consolidation #17: The Saginaw GIS Authority includes all municipalities in Saginaw County except for two townships. The Authority provides property information with multiple layers of information and aerial photos for all properties in the County for a very low cost to its members. The City of Frankenmuth has been able to develop its own layers of information that have been added to the GIS Authority's data base.</p> <p>Consolidation #18: The Cass River Greenways Project includes citizen volunteers working with the Parks & Recreation Department and the Department of Public Works in multiple efforts to improve recreational opportunities along the Cass River and to improve the water quality in the river. The Committee was successful in applying for funds to construct a canoe/kayak launch in Heritage Park in 2011.</p> <p>Consolidation #19: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed a flood control levee around the downtown area of Frankenmuth in 1965, and has continually provided expert advice in order for the City to properly maintain the levee following its construction.</p> <p>Consolidation #20: The City of Frankenmuth and Saginaw Future have a contractual agreement whereby the Saginaw Future staff provides expertise to the City for economic development purposes and for grant writing assistance and administration particularly for Community Development Block Grants. The City's Downtown Development Authority and the Chamber of Commerce work hand in hand to provide assistance to existing businesses in the City.</p>					

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21. District Library Service Agreement with Frankenmuth School District	2008	Frankenmuth City & Fmuth School Dist.	N/A		Larger Library Tax Base
22. Use of School Facilities for recreation programs	1975	Frankenmuth City & Fmuth School Dist	N/A		Improved Recreation
23. School District Elections administered by City of Frankenmuth	2005	Frankenmuth City & Fmuth School Dist	N/A		Coordinated Elections
24. Joint Recreation Master Plan for City, Township & School District	2005	Frankenmuth City, Township & School Dist	N/A		Community Planning
25. Joint Annual Meetings of City Council, Township Board and School Board	1984	Frankenmuth City, Township & School Dist	N/A		Improved Cooperation
<p>Additional Information:</p> <p>Consolidation #21: In 2008 the City of Frankenmuth and Frankenmuth School District entered into a District Library Agreement. Subsequently a voter approved millage of .85 mills was adopted in the City and in Frankenmuth Township and a portion of Blumfield Township immediately north of Frankenmuth Township. This has resulted in a much more secure funding source for the Wickson District Library which is located in the City.</p> <p>Consolidation #22: The Frankenmuth School District and the City's Parks and Recreation Department have agreements in place that allow the City to use certain school facilities for recreation programs when the facilities are available. This greatly increases the number of recreation programs that can be offered to the public.</p> <p>Consolidation #23: The City administers all School District elections and the School District reimburses the City for the costs that are incurred. As a result the School District can make use of the same electoral process that is already in place through the City Clerk's office.</p> <p>Consolidation #24: The City's Parks & Recreation Commission has oversight over the City's parks and recreation programs. Members of the Commission include a Township Board member and a School Board member. The Joint Recreation Plan focuses on the recreational needs of the residents of all three areas—an area covering approximately 65 square miles.</p> <p>Consolidation #25: The City Council, School Board and Township Board hold a joint dinner meeting one time per year. Each of the three entities presents a report of significant activities during the prior year and an opportunity is afforded to everyone to discuss current events and issues. This greatly improves communication among the three entities on a year round basis.</p>					

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26. Joint Annual Meetings of City Council, Township Board, Bridgeport Township, Birch Run Township and Birch Run Village	1990	Fmuth City, Township, Bridgeport Township, Birch Run Township, Birch Run Village	N/A		Improved Cooperation & Communication
27. Involvement of Township Board Members and School Board members on City Boards and Commissions	1970	City of Frankenmuth Frankenmuth Township Fmuth School District	N/A		Improved Cooperation & Comm.
Additional Information: Consolidation #26: The City Council, Township Board, Bridgeport Township Board, Birch Run Township Board and Birch Run Village Council hold a joint dinner meeting one time per year. Each of the five entities presents a report of significant activities during the prior year and an opportunity is afforded to everyone to discuss current events and issues. This greatly improves communication among the five entities on a year round basis. Consolidation #27: The City Council has adopted a policy of appointing members of the Township Board and School Board to some of the City's Boards and Commissions. This helps facilitate cooperation and communication between the three government entities.					

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Proposed Service Consolidation(s)				
Service Consolidation	Jurisdictions Involved	Estimated Savings/(Loss)	Description of Estimated Savings/(Loss)	Other Consolidation Benefits
1. Add Tuscola Township to the Construction Code Authority	Frankenmuth City & Twp, Blumfield Twp, Tuscola Township	\$5,000	\$5,000 per year	Improved inspections and bldg safety for Tuscola Township
2. Utilize part of a Wastewater Treatment Plant Building for a Fire Department training facility	City's Wastewater Treatment Plant and Frankenmuth Fire Dept.	N/A	N/A	Improved training facilities for Frankenmuth Fire Dept

Additional Information:
Proposed Consolidation #1: With the addition of Tuscola Township to the Construction Code Authority (City of Frankenmuth, Frankenmuth Township and Blumfield Township) the geographic area of coverage will increase from 73 square miles to approximately 108 square miles. This will streamline the permitting and inspection process in Tuscola Township, and it will provide a greater volume of work during slow times which will ensure the continued employment of highly qualified inspectors. This will provide additional revenue for the Authority which will help ensure the three current members don't have to use General Fund revenue to keep the Authority solvent.
Proposed Consolidation #2: One wall of an under utilized building at the City's Waste Water Treatment Plant will be modified to simulate a two story apartment building in which the Fire Department can conduct realistic training activities.