

January 22, 2013

DCTA,

Because of another meeting conflict I will not be able to attend the Town Chairs meeting on Jan. 23, 2013; however, I wanted to provide you with my input.

As you may or may not know I have been part of the "Blue Ribbon Task Force", for lack of a better name, that was appointed by the Executive Board with the direction to look at ways to improve CARPC. A formal report will be given from the Task Force at the Town Chairs meeting so I will not duplicate those efforts here.

The Blue Ribbon Task Force has been working very hard the past six months; however, the results may not appear that way. In your considerations I ask that you keep in mind that the DCTA is only one entity of CARPC and that the other entities have not been very willing to talk publically about their suggestions to improve CARPC. Of the other entities:

- Dane County has talked privately and may provide results sometime soon.
- I am not unaware of where the City of Madison is at on this topic.
- The Dane County Cities and Villages Association appears to believe that the existing system is adequate, perhaps with some minor modifications to the structure.

People tend to want change and they want it now. I caution everyone to consider that without a plan B in place we are better served by allowing the process to continue to seek the reforms that we want.

I recently shared an idea with the Blue Ribbon Task Force that we should ask Dane County to form a Task Force to publically discuss CARPC reforms. The Task Force would be similar in representation to the representatives of the BPP (Budget and Personnel Panel of CARPC). This Task Force would hold open meetings, a minimum of once a month for six months, to come up with ideas for reform. The Task Force would need to be endorsed by a vote of the member Towns of the DCTA. If after six months of meeting, it was determined there was a lack of progress, then the member Towns of DCTA could vote for dissolution of CARPC, if that was the determination at that time.

I will tell you from personal experience; negotiations do not always follow the timeline that we want them to. People need to meet and talk. The process should be evaluated on the continuation of the talks and the progress that is being made. I urge everyone to allow this process to continue and believe there are positive steps being taken to come up with the solutions that people are looking for.

Sincerely,

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