

**Economic Vitality Incentive Program
Consolidation Plan (First Time Filer)
As of: January 1, 2013**

**Local Unit Name: Tuscola County
County: Tuscola**

Plan Available to the Public in Municipal Offices and County Internet Web Site

Tuscola County Previous Service Base Consolidations					
	Date	Jurisdictions	Realized	Description of Cost	Other Consolidation
<u>Service Consolidation</u>	<u>Consolidated</u>	<u>Involved</u>	<u>Savings/(Loss)</u>	<u>Savings(Loss)</u>	<u>Benefits</u>
TUSCOLA COUNTY CONSOLIDATIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES					
Elimination of Tuscola Animal Control department - agreement with Sanilac for Animal Control	January of 2003	Tuscola/Sanilac Counties	\$100,000 annual - \$1,000,000 since 2003	Expenditures exceed revenues by \$100,000 - delinquent dog license enforcement closed gap	Police agencies relieved of animal control issues - allowed time for higher priority public safety issues - joint financing saved animal control in Sanilac
Joint Tuscola/Huron Equalization Director	October of 2007	Tuscola/Huron Counties	\$40,000 annual - \$200,000 since 2007	Huron pays Tuscola for Equalization Director services	Huron is saving an estimated \$35,000 to \$40,000 annually not hiring a full-time Level 3 Equalization Director
Tuscola provides assessing services to the City of Caro	January of 2009	Tuscola County /City of Caro	\$20,000 revenue to Tuscola or \$80,000 since 2009	Caro became a City - required to perform assessing services - contracted to County	City of Caro saves by not having to hire an assessor
Joint Tuscola/Huron Health Officer	June of 1998	Tuscola/Huron Counties	\$85,000 annual or \$1,232,000 since 1998	Huron pays Tuscola for Health Department Director services	Huron saving an estimated \$85,000 annually by not hiring a Certified Health Officer Director
Joint Tuscola/Huron Environmental Health Director	December of 2009	Tuscola/Huron Counties	\$67,000 annual or \$206,000 since 2009	Huron pays Tuscola for Health Department Environmental Director services	Huron is saving an estimated \$67,000 annually by not hiring a Certified Environmental Director

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Tuscola has joint Medical Director services with four counties	January of 1990	Tuscola and four other counties	\$100,000 annual savings or \$2,200,000 since 1990	Avoiding one county cost for a Medical Director	Medical Director can specialize in needs of government public health operations
Tuscola has joint Medical Examiner services with four counties	January of 1990	Tuscola and four other counties	\$50,000 annual or \$1,100,000 since 1990	Avoiding one county cost for a Medical Examiner	Medical Examiner can specialize in needs of government sector
Tuscola/Huron Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) backup capabilities	April of 2012	Tuscola/Huron Counties	One time saving \$1,235,000 (cost to purchase equipment for a back up dispatch center)	Through effective planning compatible equipment purchased over time enabling backup ability	Flip of a switch allows CAD back up - if both counties bought their own independent systems for back up costs as much as \$2.5 million
County prepares tax bills for many local units of government in the county	June of 1993	Tuscola County and many local units of government	\$50,000 revenue to Tuscola or \$950,000 since 1993	County costs of production are about half of individual units of government	Too small of scale for most local units for efficient tax bill/roll production
Elimination of County Building Codes Department contracted with South Central Michigan Construction Code Incorporated (SCMCCI)	September of 2002	Tuscola County	\$80,000 annual or \$800,000 since 2002	County was forced to subsidize building codes department by estimated \$80,000 annually	Change to SCMCCI provided improved public service, elimination of labor disputes resulting in annual county savings
Joint funding of Tuscola County Economic Development Corporation	January of 1984	Tuscola County	\$20,000 annual from local governments or \$560,000 since 1984	County, local government and grants required to fund EDC operation	Combining resource has enabled productive economic development program
Administration of local government sewer and water projects through the Controller Office and Board of Public Works	Unknown at least 20 years	County and local units of government	\$15,000 annual or \$300,000 since 1992	Local units of government benefit service is provided by county without charge	Bonding for projects through the county can also reduce local units costs capitalizing on higher county bond rating

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Mutual Aid for police, fire, ambulance services	Unknown at least 20 years	Tuscola County and local units of government in county	Unknown	Mutual aid agreements have been signed	Significant additional equipment and staff would be required without mutual aid - has been tremendously beneficial
Sheriff Police Services contracts with Vassar, Arbelo and Millington Townships	Varies but estimated 10 years on average	Tuscola County and townships	Direct savings to township	Townships avoids administrative costs	Sheriff has backup officers in an emergency and some scheduling flexibility
Community Corrections program to reduce jail time served	January of 1990	Tuscola/Lapeer Counties	\$250,000 annual or \$5,500,000 since 1990	Estimated 20 beds saved daily	Without jail correction programs prisoners housing costs in other county jails increases
Implementation of Tire Recycling program	January of 2011	Tuscola County and local units of government in county	Value Added - tremendously successful program	Financial assistance from Mosquito Abatement and coordination with local governments	Huge numbers of unsightly tires have been removed from the landscape and number of mosquitoes/disease potential reduced
Member of Michigan Renewable Energy Collaborative	May of 2010	Tuscola, Huron, Sanilac, Mason and Gratiot Counties	Value added - consolidation of counties to fairly assess wind generators	At issue is an estimated \$9.4 million in revenue	Group formed to collectively protect financial position and revenue base produced from wind generators
Tuscola County and National Association of Counties (NACo) Prescription Drug Discount Card Program	June of 2009	Tuscola County and NACo	\$370,000 since 2009	Citizens of the county receive prescription drug discounts by county participation in the plan	This joint consolidated program has produced significant savings
County Treasurer began issuing dog licenses for most local units of government	January of 1995	Tuscola county and local governments	\$2,000 annual \$34,000 since 1995	County no longer pays local governments for issuing dog licenses	Centralized information for dog bite cases
County Road Commission maintenance repair work on certain City of Caro heavy equipment	January of 2013	Road Commission and City of Caro	Unknown	City of Caro reduces heavy equipment maintenance costs	Road Commission gains revenue from City of Caro

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County Clerk coordinates statutory required elections with townships and cities	January of 2005	Tuscola County and cities and townships in county	\$1,250 every two years \$5,000 since 2005	Cost of each entity running a separate notice versus the county running one notice	Information is in one location, less confusing, clear and concise
Member Michigan Risk Management Authority (MMRMA)	January of 2001	Tuscola and many other governmental entities	Unknown	Consolidation and entry into this public insurance pool has reduced insurance costs	MMRMA also provide grants where the proposal can reduce insurance risk and exposure
County changed workers compensation coverage to the Michigan Association of Counties Citizen's Management Pool	January of 2012	Tuscola and many other governmental entities	\$15,000 annual	Consolidation and entry into this public insurance pool has reduced insurance costs	Dividends
CONSOLIDATIONS WITHIN TUSCOLA COUNTY GOVERNMENT					
Reduced number of County Commissioners from 7 to 5	January of 2003	Tuscola County	\$20,000 annual or \$200,000 since 2003	Savings include health insurance, per diems, etc.	Lead by example
Combining of Buildings/ Grounds Director and Recycling Coordinator positions	January of 2011	Tuscola County	\$35,000 annual or \$70,000 since 2011	Position cost divided between millage based Recycling Fund and General Fund	Dual position is working well
Combining of administrative positions in the Controller-Administrator Office	January of 2010	Tuscola County	\$110,000 annual or \$330,000 since 2010	Two positions eliminated and most functions reassigned	33% cost reduction
Joining of Brownfield Development Authority and Economic Development Corporation	June of 1998	Tuscola County	\$10,000 annual or \$140,000 since 1998	Board consolidation saves per-diem and mileage costs	Efficient because meetings are held on same date and time

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Court Video Arraignment System implementation	January of 1994	Tuscola County and County Courts	\$60,000 annual or \$1,080,000 since 1994	Video arraignment camera replaced the cost of at least one police officer	Also has been beneficial improving safety of transporting prisoner from jail to courthouse
Combining of Law Clerk and Assistant Court Administrator positions	April of 2005	Tuscola County and County Courts	\$30,000 annual or \$240,000 since 2005	Reassignment of functions required	Financial limitations required changes
Combined District Court and Juvenile Chief Probation Officer positions	January of 2012	Tuscola County and County Courts	\$60,000 annual	Combined two positions into one	Savings of almost one FTE
Combining Friend of the Court and Referee positions	January of 2011	Tuscola County and County Courts	\$30,000 annual or \$60,000 since 2011	Reassignment of functions required	Financial limitations required changes
Central purchasing programs by the NACo, police vehicles, MiDeal etc.	January of 1986	Tuscola County	Unknown	Purchasing in volume reduces costs	Reduced staff administrative costs
Road Commission contracted with the Sheriff to provide Weigh Master Services	October of 2011	Tuscola County and Tuscola County Road Commission	\$10,000 annual	Certified deputy can perform this function	Road Commission avoids annual certification costs and training
CONSOLIDATIONS WITH PRIVATE SECTOR BUSINESSES					
Contracted with a private sector company (Zimco) to provide "Turnkey Computer Support Services"	January of 2011	Tuscola County	\$50,000 annual or \$100,000 since 2011	Savings achieved by not hiring full-time Computer Systems Director	Zimco has experienced well trained staff with extensive computer/technology experience
Courts obtaining bids and contracts with local attorney's to provide court appointed attorney services	Mid 1990's	Tuscola County and local attorney's	Tuscola County	Contracting with private sector to provide court appointed attorney services	Competition and economies of scale have reduced costs
County Jail food service contracted to private company (Canteen)	June of 1995	Tuscola County and Canteen	\$75,000 annual or \$1,275,000 since 1995	Economies of scale allows Canteen to provide food at a lower county cost	Legacy costs savings by not employing cooks and other staff

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Prisoner medical care in the jail contracted to private service provider (Correctional Health Care Company)	NA	Tuscola County and Correctional Health Care company	Unknown	Most cost effective approach to date - have had other approaches over the years	Aggressive bidding process has reduce costs - many safety concerns were resolved by providing medical care in the jail versus taking to private doctors
Thumb Cellular lease of property for communications tower with the county	January of 1985	Tuscola County and Thumb Cellular	\$20,000 annual or \$540,000	Thumb Cellular pays the county to lease land for their communications tower	County also uses tower for computer communications - significant saving not building or renting a tower for county use
Rent of county property for farming	January of 1985	Tuscola County and local farmer	\$13,000 annual or \$135,000	Idle land was put into a revenue generating venture	Bidding process has recently increased rent payment amount
PROPOSED POTENTIAL FUTURE CONSOLIDATIONS					
Study feasibility of providing dental care to Medicaid eligible residents through county and local dentists joint venture	Mid-year 2013	Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties	Unknown	Valuable new value added service to meet the dental needs of many area residents	Important quality of life issue, cost unaffordable for one county (See Footnote 1 Below)

Footnote 1 :

A summary of the estimated timeline for implementation of the Thumb Area Dental Clinic is as follows:

January and February 2013 review of the draft contract explaining public and private roles, responsibility and requirements

January and February 2013 make contract modifications by both public and private sector entities

March 2013 contract signed

April through June 2013 local dentists acquire building and convert for dental uage along with acquisition of dental equipment for clinic operations

April through June 2013 counties learn details of implementing the intergovernmental transfer of funds intergel to the program

July 2013 dental clinic program becomes operational