

Louisville-Jefferson County Local Government Consolidation

On January 6, 2003, Louisville became the largest city in nearly three decades to merge its city and county governments. It took four votes over 40 years before the citizens of Jefferson County said "yes" in November 2000 to creating a consolidated local government.

For more information about Louisville merger, contact Louisville Deputy Mayor, Joan Riehm at (502) 574-8141 or joan.riehm@loukymetro.org.

Louisville – Before and After Merger (2000 Census, US Census Bureau)

	<u>Before</u>	<u>After</u>
Area (sq. miles)	60	386
Population	256,231	693,784
Rank in U.S. City Size	67	16
Median household income	\$28,843	\$39,457

Service Improvements (since merger)

Public Safety

- Committed to creating the MetroSafe Emergency Communications System, a \$50 million single network to link police, fire, EMS and other first responders throughout Louisville Metro.
- Combined the two police departments under a new management structure that placed more officers on the street.
- Consolidated former City and County EMS systems to create the Louisville Metro Emergency Medical Service, and for the first time, hired a doctor with emergency medical experience to head EMS.

Finance

- Achieved a AA+ credit rating from Fitch Ratings, the Wall Street agency's second highest city ranking after San Diego's AAA, and a AA rating from Standard and Poor's, upgraded from the AA- rating of the former City of Louisville.

Project D.R.I. (Drainage Response Initiative)

Largest drainage initiative in the community's history: \$66 million for 350 neighborhood drainage projects in first phase. A second, \$55 million phase begins in July 2005.

Economic Development

- Launched the Corridors of Opportunity in Louisville (COOL) program to identify commercial and retail areas along major transportation corridors for potential redevelopment.
- Extended tax relief on property and equipment, formerly available only in the old City of Louisville, to all of Louisville Metro to encourage the location and expansion of manufacturing businesses.
- Opened a one-stop shop for development, combining offices for planning, design, inspection, permitting and licensing previously scattered across several locations.

MetroCall

- Information service via phone and e-mail that connects callers to live operators 24/7.
- Concern/complaint entered into computer system, and tracked for follow-up.
- Service operated from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the former City of Louisville when Metro Government began. Service was extended countywide and 24/7.
- Calls received: about 5,000 weekly.

Mayor's Community Conversations

Mayor and representatives of all Metro departments and agencies, plus some state agencies, are available the third Monday of every month in rotating neighborhoods of the Metro area, to talk directly with citizens.

Music in the Metro

Metro Government sponsors summer concerts rotating to different Metro Parks on Sunday evenings, to encourage citizens to visit parts of the Metro area they may not have been to before.

Mayor's Neighborhood Summit

For the first time in the community's history, representatives of all neighborhoods, incorporated cities and unincorporated areas were invited to an all-day workshop to learn about Metro Government, network with other neighborhood leaders, and to exchange tips on successful neighborhood organizing. Some 200 citizens were expected – an overflow crowd of 500 attended, and a number of new neighborhood organizations are being formed as a result. The Summit has become a yearly event.

Mosquito Control

When Metro Government began, the Louisville-Jefferson County Health Department had lead responsibility for mosquito control, with about a dozen employees to cover the entire 386 square miles of Louisville Metro.

The Metro Government, concerned about a recurrence of West Nile virus and seeking efficiencies, identified field employees from various Metro departments who could be trained in mosquito control techniques. Now, while performing their regular duties, as cross-departmental team of 200 employees is focused on mosquito control. In 2003, there were no cases of West Nile virus in Louisville Metro.

Planning

- Gave citizens a stronger voice in planning and development through "Innovations in Planning", a 15-point program of changes to simplify and improve the quality of planning decisions. Improves citizen access to hearings and review meetings, and requires developers to meet with adjoining property owners and neighborhood groups before filing plans.
- Created the Neighborhood Planning College to educate citizens about the planning process.

Beautification

- Expanded the former City of Louisville Brightside program throughout all areas of Louisville Metro to beautify neighborhoods and fight litter. Twelve new landscaped "BrightSites" are located in incorporated suburban cities.

Housing

- Began developing a comprehensive communitywide housing plan to create housing at all price points throughout all areas of Louisville Metro.
- Merged the City of Louisville and Jefferson County Public Housing Authorities to work throughout Louisville Metro.

Suburban Cities

- Mayor's Liaison to Suburban Cities is visiting with Mayors of all 83 incorporated cities to assess their needs and concerns.
- Suburban cities invited to join with Louisville Metro on bids ranging from office supplies and salt to asphalt and bulk fuel. Cities who have joined are saving money.
- Services once available only in the former City of Louisville that now are available countywide include cutting vacant lots and removing junked cars.

New Internal Operating Systems:

Inherited two payroll systems run on two different computer systems, paid weekly and bi-weekly.

- January 9, 2004, ran first biweekly payroll run using PeopleSoft platform for payroll and human resources management.
- Established new Oracle-based financial system
- Developing workforce compensation and work rule strategy, to be integrated into overall financial and management planning and practices.

Savings

Restructured Executive Branch from two governments to one, eliminated overlapping functions.

Savings: \$700,000/year

Moving Metro departments from leased space into buildings the government owns.

Savings: \$2 million/year (est.)

Outsourced functions performed by security guards, Corrections commissary, youth detention food service, and custodial services

Savings: \$700,000/year

Fleet Operations Reform

Affects 4,700 pieces of rolling stock; includes about 2,800 police and passenger vehicles

Former governments bought and sold 300-400 vehicles a year at a cost of \$7-8 million/year

We found savings by asking questions like:

- How many vehicles do we need and what kind?
- How are the vehicles maintained?
- Who has take-home cars and who needs them?
- What's the most appropriately-sized car for the job to be done?
- Are fueling stations and maintenance garages located and staffed for convenient access?

Solutions:

- Buy no new vehicles in FY 2003; keep vehicles longer before they are replaced
- Sell excess vehicles; convert take-home to pool vehicles;
- Downsize models where possible
- Partner with other agencies on vehicle maintenance

Switched from 89 octane to 87 octane gas in Metro police cars.

Savings: \$100,000/year

Courier Service

A previous contract for courier service was costly, with Metro Parks alone spending \$2,500/month.

A new contract, focusing on consolidated deliveries to departments, reduces costs.

Savings: \$100,000/year; \$1,500/month for Metro Parks alone.



KENTUCKY LEGISLATURE

HB659

WWW Version

HB 659/LM (BR 1237) - L. Clark, R. Crimm, D. Horlander, C. Miller, J. Wayne

AN ACT relating to consolidated local governments.

Create new sections of KRS Chapter 67C to clarify that the mayor assumes all appointment authority for boards and commissions in a consolidated local government (CLG); clarify that all powers, privileges, and immunities conferred to cities and counties are conferred to a CLG; permit removal of elected officers for misconduct, incapacity, or willful neglect as prescribed; require charges to be preferred by 5 members for officers and 10 members to prefer charges against the mayor; give an officer the right to a public hearing; require 2/3 vote of those eligible to vote for removal, appealable to Circuit Court and Court of Appeals; prohibit a removed officer from being eligible to fill a vacated office until the end of the original term; permit the division of the CLG into service districts for tax purposes upon petition of residents; permit a CLG to alter or abolish the districts but not expand them unless approved by petition of voter residents; prohibit a CLG from changing a district if it would adversely affect other local governments as prescribed; amend KRS 64.250 to remove salary provisions for justices of the peace in a CLG; amend KRS 65.540 to transfer appointment of authority members from the county judge/executive to the mayor in a CLG; amend KRS 65.570 to permit the executive director to be appointed by the mayor; amend KRS 67.120 to permit the CLG to have its own clerk and a deputy clerk; amend KRS 67.722 to remove the provisions for the road fund expense funds for the county judge/executive in a county containing a CLG; amend KRS 67C.101 to clarify a CLG as a separate class of local government with sovereign immunity; amend KRS 67C.103 to exempt notice of special meetings of a CLG from newspaper publication but require other public notice pursuant to KRS Chapter 424; amend KRS 67C.105 to clarify that the mayor has all appointment powers in a CLG; amend KRS 67C.107 to clarify that contracts under renegotiation upon the establishment of a CLG shall continue; amend KRS 67C.115 to establish an order of preference relating to the reconciliation of existing city and county ordinances; amend KRS 68.160 to require the mayor to appoint a purchasing agent for a CLG as prescribed; amend KRS 76.030 to establish 3 year terms of appointment for board members in a CLG; amend KRS 76.060 to permit the mayor to appoint prescribed MSD board members in a CLG; amend KRS 77.070 to permit the mayor to appoint the board members on the air pollution control board in a CLG; amend KRS 80.450 to permit the mayor in lieu of the county judge/executive to appoint the executive director of the housing authority in a CLG; amend KRS 80.480 to permit the mayor to appoint housing authority members in a CLG; amend KRS 91A.370 to outline the duties of the mayor and the Governor to appoint the members of the tourism commission in a CLG; amend KRS 96.240 to increase the board of the water company in a CLG from 4 to 6 members; amend KRS 96A.010 to establish the mayor in a CLG as the appointing authority; amend KRS 96A.040 to change from 4 to 3 years the term of office for board members in a CLG; amend KRS 96A.070 to authorize the mayor to appoint the executive director of the transit authority in a CLG; amend KRS 97.035 to change from 4 to 3 years the term of office for board members in a CLG; amend KRS 98.310 to authorize the mayor in a CLG to appoint the director; amend KRS 98.350 to authorize the mayor in a CLG to appoint an advisory board in the department of welfare; amend KRS 100.127 to delete the requirement for the adoption of a planning agreement in a CLG; amend KRS 100.141 to exempt a CLG from legislative oversight

of appointments to the planning commission; amend KRS 100.217 to require only 1 board of adjustment in a CLG; amend KRS 100.403 to expand the definition for "land use officer" in a CLG as prescribed; amend KRS 173.106 to direct that funds donated to the library be transferred directly to the CLG; amend KRS 212.380 to permit the mayor in a CLG to appoint the board members of the board of health; amend KRS 241.170 to give the ABC administrator in a CLG county-wide control except in those cities who have opted to hire their own administrators; amend the following KRS sections to establish a reference to KRS 67C: 15A.305, 15.760, 31.185, 39B.020, 39C.050, 39F.200, 45A.345, 61.080, 61.210, 61.220, 62.055, 63.220, 64.345, 64.350, 64.5275, 65.003, 65.156, 65.158, 65.170, 65.192, 65.245, 65.410, 65.466, 65.490, 65.499, 65.570, 65.680, 65.7701, 65.940, 66.041, 66.131, 67.077, 67.705, 67.712, 67.825, 67.830, 67B.010, 67B.020, 67B.030, 67B.040, 67B.050, 67B.060, 67B.070, 67C.109, 67C.121, 67C.123, 68.130, 68.140, 69.130, 69.210, 69.320, 70.030, 70.260, 70.262, 70.320, 70.542, 71.110, 72.435, 72.450, 72.455, 75.031, 77.065, 77.115, 77.127, 77.135, 77.140, 77.275, 81.028, 81.380, 81.050, 81A.410, 82.025, 82.085, 82.095, 82.400, 82.650, 82.700, 91.375, 91.560, 91.610, 91.620, 91A.350, 91A.390, 91A.392, 96.030, 96.040, 96.230, 96.260, 96.550, 98.300, 99.595, 99.615, 99.620, 99.660, 99.700, 99.705, 99.710, 99.720, 99.730, 99A.010, 100.111, 100.121, 100.137, 100.157, 100.201, 100.202, 100.205, 100.208, 100.209, 100.211, 100.212, 100.214, 100.217, 100.237, 100.253, 100.277, 100.324, 100.331, 100.347, 100.401, 100.405, 100.985, 100.987, 108.060, 132.010, 132.015, 132.017, 132.018, 132.023, 132.275, 132.400, 132.590, 132.635, 133.240, 134.140, 134.380, 134.590, 153.440, 153.460, 161.710, 162.300, 172.200, 173.105, 173.106, 173.107, 173.860, 177.9771, 178.020, 178.040, 178.117, 178.330, 178.333, 178.337, 178.350, 178.405, 179.070, 179.330, 179.470, 181.850, 181.851, 181.853, 183.132, 198A.067, 198B.290, 210.040, 211.1751, 211.370, 212.350, 212.360, 212.380, 212.390, 212.432, 212.600, 212.750, 212.990, 226.060, 230.377, 238.555, 241.075, 241.160, 241.170, 243.030, 243.050, 243.060, 243.070, 277.050, 278.650, 278.665, 279.310, 304.8-060, 304.8-090, 345.010, 381.440, 393.100, 416.560, 424.130, 424.220, 424.240, 439.315; and amend KRS 100.201, 100.202, and 100.205 to conform.

HB 659 - AMENDMENTS

HCS/LM - Retain provisions of original bill relating to consolidated local governments (CLG); amend Section 1 to include a procedure for the appointment of members to agencies, boards and commissions as prescribed and amend various sections to conform; exempt the county judge/executive from the salary schedule provisions of KRS 64.5275; clarify provisions relating to the naming of a CLG; require all meetings of the CLG to conform to open meetings laws; clarify appointment of board of trustee members for fire districts; amend KRS 96.270, 96.280, 96.290 and 96.310 relating to waterworks in a CLG to clarify which public agencies and purposes qualify for free water usage and insert references to a CLG in said statutes; and make conforming changes.

SFA (1, D. Seum) - Delete language to clarify the appointment process to agencies, boards, and commissions in a consolidated local government; and make technical correction.

CCR - Cannot agree.

FCCR (1) - Retain original provisions; make technical correction; create a new section of KRS Chapter 77 relating to vehicle emissions testing programs to require the air pollution control board to eliminate such programs by November 1, 2003, following the adoption of a consolidated local government if the county was notified by December 1st of the county's attainment of federal air quality standards as prescribed; prohibit the air pollution control board from renewing or entering into contracts for the operation of such programs; authorize the consolidated local government to determine the means and methods of achieving attainment of air quality standards should the county fall below federally established air quality standards at a later date; amend KRS 238.535 to

clarify part of the qualifications for licensure as a charitable organization to further define "established" to mean having an office physically located in the Commonwealth, and creating an exception to this requirement for a nationally recognized charitable organization with a chapter located outside the Commonwealth that can document that it has been providing charitable services to residents of the Commonwealth for a period of 3 years prior to application for licensure; require that such licensed and exempt charitable organizations expend all of the net receipts derived from charitable gaming activities in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and require reporting to the department; create a new section of KRS Chapter 2 to designate the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage in Louisville as the official center for the celebration of Kentucky's African American heritage; and amend title to read, "AN ACT relating to the public good."

FCCR (2) - Retain original GA provisions; make technical correction; create a new section of KRS Chapter 77 relating to vehicle emissions testing programs to require the air pollution control board to eliminate such programs by November 1, 2003, following the adoption of a consolidated local government if the county was notified by December 1st of the county's attainment of federal air quality standards as prescribed; prohibit the air pollution control board from renewing or entering into contracts for the operation of such programs; authorize the consolidated local government to determine the means and methods of achieving attainment of air quality standards should the county fall below federally established air quality standards at a later date; create a new section of KRS Chapter 2 to designate the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage in Louisville as the official center for the celebration of Kentucky's African American heritage; amend 2002 Ky. Acts, ch. 247, sec. 1, to clarify that the requirements for residency within the Commonwealth contained in the Act shall not apply to an agency law enforcement employee employed by that agency on the effective date of the Act until the termination of their employment with the agency; amend KRS 238.535 to clarify that the "establishment and continuous operation" of a charitable organization means that the organization conducts activities from an office in the Commonwealth for 3 years immediately preceding its application for a charitable gaming license and throughout its possession of the license; exempt those charitable organizations operating in more than 10 states from the 3-year waiting period if the organization can document that it has been actively engaged in charitable activities and has made reasonable progress toward licensure by its conduct of charitable activities or the expenditure of funds in the Commonwealth as prescribed for a period of 3 years, and require the organization to operate an office or place of business for charitable purposes in the county where it proposes to conduct charitable gaming for 1 year prior to application for licensure as prescribed; authorize Eastern Kentucky University to expend \$422,000 in bond funds from its 2000-2002 Capital Renewal and Maintenance Pool allocation for water line construction to its Corbin campus; clarify that the provisions of Section 235 of this Act shall prevail over any conflicts with 02 HB 618 as prescribed; and amend title to read, "AN ACT relating to the public good and making an appropriation therefor."

Feb 13-introduced in House
 Feb 14-to State Government (H)
 Feb 15-posted in committee
 Feb 19-reported favorably, 1st reading, to Calendar with Committee Substitute
 Feb 20-2nd reading, to Rules; posted for passage in the Regular Orders of the Day for Thursday, February 21, 2002
 Feb 21-3rd reading, passed 98-0 with Committee Substitute
 Feb 22-received in Senate
 Feb 26-to State and Local Government (S)
 Mar 19-reported favorably, 1st reading, to Consent Calendar
 Mar 20-2nd reading, to Rules; floor amendment (1) filed
 Mar 21-posted for passage in the Regular Orders of the Day for Tuesday, March 26, 2002
 Mar 26-3rd reading, passed 37-0 with floor amendment (1)

Mar 27-received in House; posted for passage for concurrence in Senate floor amendment (1)

Mar 28-House refused to concur in Senate floor amendment (1)

Mar 29-received in Senate

Apr 1-posted for passage for receding from Senate floor amendment (1) for Monday, April 1, 2002; Senate refused to recede from floor amendment (1)

Apr 2-Conference Committee appointed in House and Senate; Conference Committee report filed in House and Senate; Conference Committee report adopted in House and Senate; Free Conference Committee appointed in House and Senate; Free Conference Committee report filed in House

Apr 15-Free Conference Committee report #(2) filed in House and Senate; Free Conference Committee report # (2) adopted in Senate; bill passed 28-5; received in House; Free Conference Committee report #(2) adopted in House; bill passed 80-0; enrolled, signed by each presiding officer; delivered to Governor

Apr 23-signed by Governor (Acts ch. 346)

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