



South Carolina Association of Counties

Role of County Council

Anna Berger SCAC Staff



Thank You!









- Be open-minded and committed to civility
- Seek to understand council and staff roles and responsibilities
- Tap into county resources
 - rules of procedure, agenda setting
 - council minutes
 - budget
 - strategic plan















Council's Job Description



- Representation building and sustaining linkages with stakeholders
- Policy leadership setting direction; establishing policy; making decisions; working with CAO





Council's Job Description

- Policy leadership
 - Role/perspective of elected officials

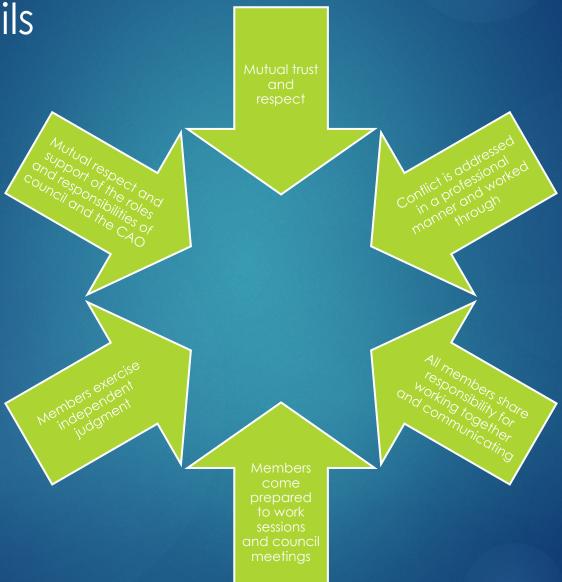
 focus on what citizens need and
 expect from county; charting the
 course for the county
 - Role/perspective of staff technical expertise in policy areas; provide recommendations and advice
 - Setting direction; establishing policy; making decisions; working with the CAO
 - Complimentary roles that help the county be successful when expectations are clearly communicated

Council's Job Description

- Representation building and sustaining linkages with stakeholders
- Policy leadership setting direction; establishing policy; making decisions; working with County Chief Administrative Officer
- Accountability monitoring organizational performance



Characteristics of Effective Councils





Five Things to Know

1

Embrace your leadership role moving from campaigning to governing 2

Learn &
appreciate roles
and
responsibilities of
council, chief
administrative
officer, staff, and
other elected
officials

3

Learn about your council's rules

4

Understand your county's finances

5

Contribute to effective meetings



Important Agencies & Officials

- Other Countywide Elected Officials
- Local & Federal Legislative Delegation*
- Municipalities
- School Districts
- Special Purpose Districts
- Councils of Government
- Local Boards & Commissions



SCAC Advocates for County Government

- Legislative Advocacy
 - Policy Development Process
 - Legislative Alerts, Friday Reports
- Legal Advocacy
 - Amicus Briefs
 - ▶ Technical Bulletins
 - Draft Resolutions
 - Legal Research



SCAC Assists Counties as Stewards of Public Resources

- Insurance Trusts & Financial Service Programs
 - S.C. Counties Workers' Compensation Trust
 - S.C. Counties Property & Liability Trust
 - OPEB Trust Program
 - Setoff Debt Collection Program





SCAC Builds Knowledge & Competencies of County Leaders

- Institute of Government for County Officials
- Orientation for Newly Elected Council Members
- Annual Awards Competition







SCAC Connects Counties to Resources & Information



Legal & research publications



Online <u>research</u> <u>resources</u>



Information from NACo, state agencies



Career Center



Tapping Into SCAC Resources



An Education Program of the South Carolina Association of Counties

m cooperation with

The Joseph P. Riley Jr. Center for Livable Communities at the College of Charleston and The Strom Thurmond Institute of Government and Public Affairs at Clemson University

- President's Report
- Institute of Government for County Officials
- E-learning
- Friday Reports
- What's New E-mails
- Online Publications



Welcome to the Company of the Compan

- Update contact information
- Register for conferences, meetings, and Institute classes
- Download Institute transcripts
- Clerk to Council typically registers council members
- Contact Jennifer Haworth, SCAC Member Services
 Coordinator, at jhaworth@scac.sc or (800) 922-6081 for login
 information







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