Stronger Together: City Manager and City Council Relations

Trainers:

Mike Conduff
President of the Elim Group and
Former City Manager

Jim Hunt
President & Founder of Amazing Cities and
Past President of NLC
Building Strong Elected-Appointed Official Relationships

Mike Conduff, President & CEO of The Elim Group – Your Governance Experts
And
Jim Hunt, Founder and President, Amazing Cities

Based on the Book:
The OnTarget Board Member – Eight Indisputable Behaviors
Mike Conduff is the President and CEO of The Elim Group – Your Governance Experts, a leadership training and organizational governance consulting firm headquartered in Denton, Texas. Mike is a gifted speaker, multiple time bestselling author, and corporate coach, and has extensive leadership, management and governance experience. During his 30+ year career in local government he served as the City Manager of four highly acclaimed University communities in the United States, two in Kansas – Pittsburg and Manhattan, and two in Texas – Bryan and Denton.

Mike served on the Board of Directors of the International City/County Management Association, and is a Fellow in the prestigious National Academy of Public Administration®, a member of The Academy of Best Selling Authors and is the Special Liaison for Governance for ICMA, where he writes a regular Governance Column for the internationally distributed Public Manager Magazine.

Mike is the Past Chairman of the Board of the International Policy Governance Association, a worldwide organization of leading governance practitioners. His books on governance have been widely recognized and his book, The OnTarget Board Member – 8 Indisputable Behaviors, now in its fourth edition, has been nominated for numerous awards. He also won the highly coveted “Quilly” for his work with Jack Canfield (of Chicken Soup fame) on Outcomes, and has been featured in USA Today.

Mike numbers among his clients dozens of local governments, many Chambers of Commerce, and numerous local, state and national non-profit and for-profit firms. In addition he has presented multiple programs internationally and worked directly with the President and Cabinet of the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Considered a master of motivation, his four decades as an employee, supervisor, CEO, speaker and consultant provide a unique background of learning experiences that he enthusiastically shares with his audiences. Mike believes that as local government leaders – both Elected and Appointed – we can help craft the future of our communities through Good Governance.

Jim Hunt speaks, trains, and writes on leadership development in local government and assists communities in maximizing their potential. He is the founder of Amazing Cities, an organization dedicated to creating excellence in municipal government. Jim served in elected local office for 27 years and has played a prominent role on a state, national and international level in advancing the cause of effective local governance. In 2006, American City and County Magazine named Jim as "Municipal Leader of the Year".

Jim has presented throughout the world on the topics of leadership, community revitalization and inclusiveness. He was a featured speaker at the Connecting Communities Conference in Caux, Switzerland in 2001 and traveled to the Peoples Republic of China in 2002 as part of a U.S. State Department mission. In 2005, he was a RUPRI Fellow in Brussels, Belgium. During his tenure as President of the National League of Cities, the oldest and largest organization representing municipal governments, Jim traveled throughout the United States speaking to over 25,000 local municipal officials on excellence in local government.

Jim writes on issues important to local government and is the author of The Amazing City – 7 Steps to Creating an Amazing City. Additionally, with Mike, Jim is the Co-Author of Bottom Line Green-How America's Cities are Saving the Planet (And Money Too!)

Jim is probably best known for creating the Partnership for Inclusive Communities, a national effort to create an inclusive approach to government. The partnership was featured in a front page article in USA Today and has grown to include over 161 cities representing over 20 million citizens.

Jim has appeared on C-Span, NPR and is regularly quoted in national media outlets on issues concerning local government. He has also been a contributor to National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" program.

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The Council Manager Relationship Use Good Governance to Get Good Management & an Amazing City!

Hunt expertly describes the key elements of successful cities through stories and examples that can help city leaders capitalize on opportunities to make their cities amazing!

Clarence Anthony CEO of NLC

Democracy at the Doorstep
What You Do Makes Democracy Work!

The Council-Manager Relationship
When It’s Good It’s Really Really Good When It’s Bad It’s...
28 Years as an Elected
25 years later as NLC President
Still Young at Heart
AmazingCities.org

30 Years as an Appointed
Mike at 27
City Engineer then
City Manager
Mike at 62
Governance Expert
The Elim Group

Name
From
Elected
Appointed
Position
How Long
Share Why
You are
Here Today

Introductions
NLC

Council Dilemma! NLC
Have You Ever Felt Like This?

I Thought I Had a Mandate!
The Darn City Manager Keeps Telling Me No! Not to Mention the City Attorney!

Anyone Play Sports or Any Trained Musicians? How Often Practice? How Often Play (Perform?)
I Thought I Was Here to Run the City!
Other Duties
Promote Future
Good Governance

Before we are elected we want you to educate and train us. After we are elected we want you to listen to us!

A Positive Attitude Changes Every Thing!

Presume Good Intentions
State League CoGs
NLC
Don’t Point and Tell, Go and Show!
Put the Big Rocks In First!

**The Big Rock Theory of Governance!**

**Council Process Manual**

Think of it as a Council Job Description

Where Else Would We Allow Total Inexperience?

17 to 25% Brain Power – What is Coming Next

**Put the Big Rocks In First!**

**After Filing Deadline**

Before Elections

Non Partisan

Education Only

Conducted by Staff

Provide Avenue for Fact Checking While Campaigning

**As Soon As Practicable**

after Elections

Conducted by Current Mayor / Electeds

Council Process Manual

Practical Stuff – iPads, iPhones, Dropbox, Mailboxes

Policy Stuff Too!
New Challenges Require New Thinking First

The world we have made as a result of the level of thinking we have done thus far creates problems we cannot solve at the same level of thinking at which we created them

Albert Einstein

The Power of the Council is as a Group
Encourage Diversity
Respect Differences
Once the Vote is Taken the Council Has Spoken!
**Concept of Early Wins**

**NLC-SLWP**

**Public Private Partnerships**

**Energy Savings**

**At Your Tables:**

Share one thing you are doing to be sustainable

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Just refrigerator efficiency saves more energy than all that we’re generating from renewables, excluding hydroelectric power... I cannot impress upon you how important energy efficiency is. It doesn’t mean you eat lukewarm food and your beers are lukewarm. You can still have it; you just make a better thing.

Steven Chu

**AT QUOTES**

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**Who Do You Know?**

**Have Fun**

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**USE WHAT IS AVAILABLE**

**DREAM BIG**

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DON’T FORGET THE LITTLE THINGS

AMAZING!

THANK YOU

JIMHUNT@AMAZINGCITIES.ORG
Key Take-Aways
Stronger Together: City Manager and City Council Relations
March 11, 2017
9:00am-12:00pm

Presenters: James C. Hunt & Michael Conduff

[KEY TAKAWAY 1]

- The participants will participate in role playing exercises to demonstrate ways to improve and understand the relationship between elected officials and administrative.

[KEY TAKAWAY 2]

- The participants will gain a deeper understanding of the critical governance role that each brings to the process.

[KEY TAKAWAY 3]

- The participants will learn techniques to diffuse conflict and improve relations between the elected officials and administrative staff.