



The New York State Conference of Mayors
and Municipal Officials
presents a

SPECIAL FORUM IN CENTRAL NEW YORK
Local Government Consolidation and Dissolution:
Myth vs. Reality and How to Lead on the Issue

Thursday, October 22, 2009

6:00-8:00 pm

East Syracuse-Minoa High School Auditorium
6400 Fremont Rd, East Syracuse

Co-Sponsored by:
Onondaga County Mayors Association

In these difficult economic times, consolidation and even dissolution of local governments have been identified by many in state government and the media as the panacea for all of New York's ills. Unfortunately, the essential value of municipal government has been disregarded in what has often been an attempt to distract the public from the real causes of New York's high property taxes, such as unfunded state mandates.

Furthermore, The New N.Y. Government Reorganization and Citizen Empowerment Act ("The Act"), which goes into effect in March 2010, creates a new framework for local government consolidation and dissolution. This law enables a small minority of people to send a community down a painful and uninformed path toward lower quality services, less responsive government, and, too often, no meaningful reduction in taxes.

It is imperative that local leaders understand and are able to articulate the critical importance of village government as the efficient providers of essential services and protectors of the value of homes and businesses. Equally important is the need to comprehend the new process under The Act, so that you can address consolidation and dissolution issues in a balanced, proactive and informed manner that protects your community and its residents.

Featured Speaker: Wade Beltramo, NYCOM General Counsel

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LEGISLATORS, FELLOW LOCAL OFFICIALS, AND LOCAL MEDIA.**