

**Reorganization Outline  
for  
Greenwood City Council  
&  
White River Township Board**

*July 20, 2009*

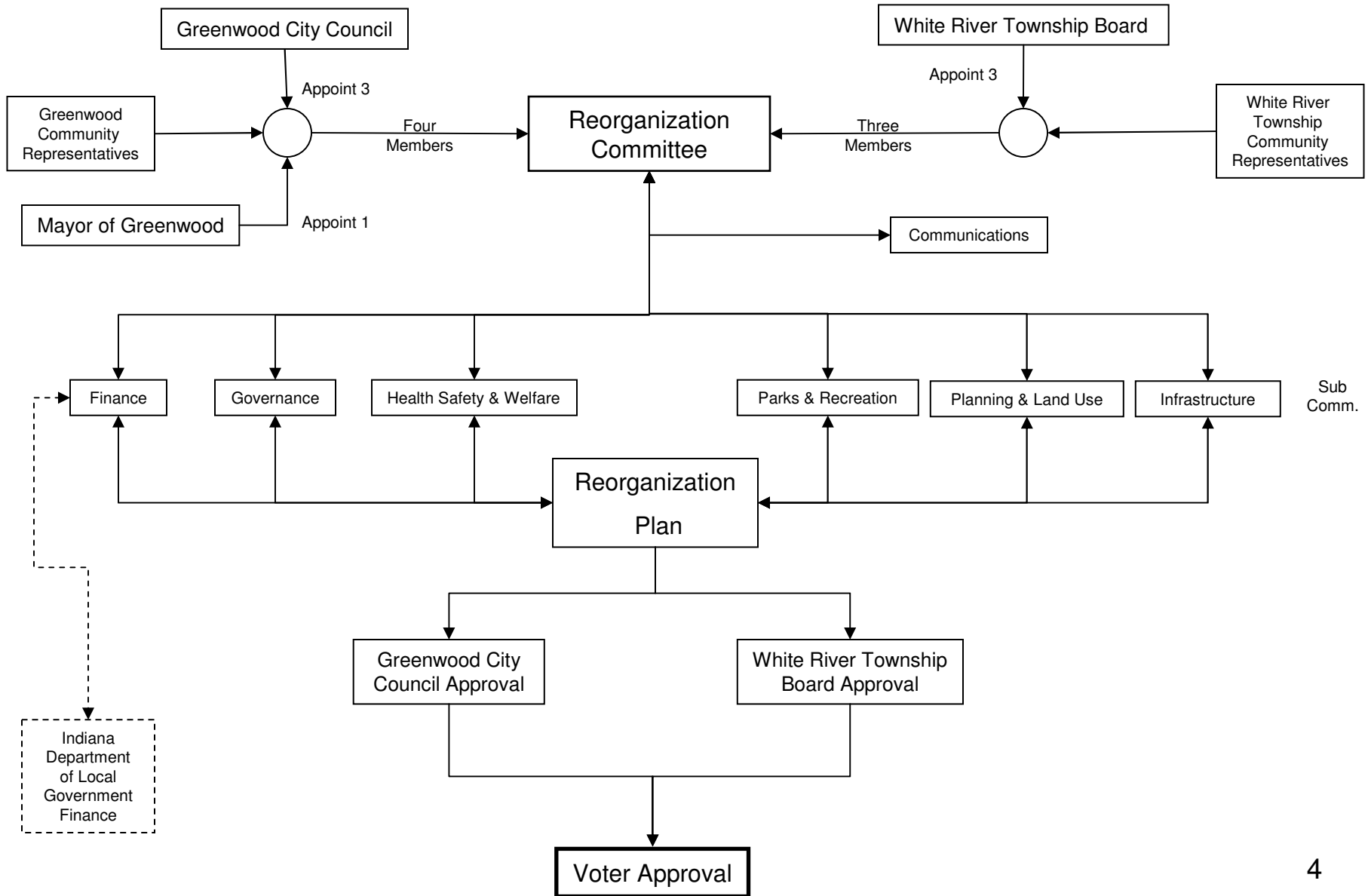
# Agenda

- Mission Statement
- Reorganization Process
  - Process Diagram
  - Description
- Subcommittee Objectives
- Building Partnerships
- Current recommendations and findings
- Status

**White River Township / Greenwood  
Reorganization Committee  
Mission Statement**

To develop, in a **fair and equal manner**, plan of reorganization for the communities of White River and Greenwood that will create an **efficient, effective, accountable and representative** government.

# WRT / Greenwood Reorganization Process



# The Reorganization Process...

- Six subcommittees study their respective issues
  - The “Findings” are supported by research
  - Findings are submitted to Committee
- Committee accepts, or accepts with modifications, the Findings
  - They become “Recommendations”
  - Will be included in the Plan of Reorganization
- The Plan of Reorganization will be presented to WRT Board and GW City Council for:
  - Adoption
  - Adoption with modifications
  - Rejection
- Present to the community in a series of public forums
- Community determines final approval via a ballot referendum
- Community acceptance requires favorable vote of at least 50+% of each political subdivision

# Sub-Committee Objectives

- Defined by a document issued to each Committee and Subcommittee member
  - A “road map” for the study
  - Supported by a schedule
  - Both are available on the web site
- Each subcommittee has a set of objectives
  - Common: standard for each subcommittee
  - Unique: specialized for each subcommittee
- This work is very interdependent across these subcommittees

# Building Partnerships

- Indiana Department of Local Government Finance
  - Assuring our actions under IC 36-1.5 are proper
  - Assuring our financial analysis are correct and acceptable
- Johnson County
  - Assuring a coordinated transition of assets and services
  - Assuring accurate utilization of parcel information
- Community
  - Providing transparency via our web site and public meetings ([www.WRT-GW.com](http://www.WRT-GW.com))
  - Interviews and press releases with media
  - Emphasis on doing what is right for all citizens
  - A balanced representation of Greenwood and WRT residents in this effort

# Current Recommendations

- New community name
  - GREENWOOD
- Multiple land use concept
  - Agricultural zoning within the new community
  - We are working on the “rural” tax rate issue
- Deliver Plan of Reorganization
  - December 2009
- Public ballot question
  - May 4, 2010

# Current Key Findings – Parks and Recreation

- Proposed Parks board configuration:
  - 4 from existing Greenwood
  - 4 from unincorporated WRT
  - 3 invited from current local school boards (GW, CG, CP)
  - Staggered interim terms initially – then for four years beginning 2012
- The Director of Parks and Recreation will be appointed by the mayor and approved by the Parks Board
- Proposed recreational impact fee and parks and recreation property tax fee will be considered by the financial sub-committee
- Transfer tax considered

# Parks and Recreation Findings – continued

- New 3 member Pathways Board
  - 2 appointed by the mayor (1 from Greenwood / 1 from unincorporated WRT)
  - 1 representative from Parks Board
  - Staggered initial terms through 2012
- Pathways network will connect to surrounding communities
- Network will be well-maintained, planned with all user types in mind, and accomplished without burdening taxpayers
- This will be implemented by careful planning and by strategic use of grants, donations, public resources and developer obligations

## Current Key Findings - Governance

- If this is approved in a public question, effective July 1, 2010, the political entity of Greenwood and the political entity of White River Township will cease to exist and merge into a new Greenwood
- The new City of Greenwood will be a second class city with an elected mayor, clerk, and common council. The common council may provide for the mayor to appoint one or more deputy mayors
- The new City of Greenwood Common Council will have 11 members
- An interim council will serve until January 1, 2012, consisting of;
  - Existing Greenwood City Council (7)
  - Existing WRT Board (3)
  - Existing WRT Trustee (1)
- The common council will be encouraged to establish standing committees that parallel the major departments, boards, and commissions of the executive branch and/or specific services and functions

## Governance Findings - continued

- The Mayor will appoint, as provided by State law, a certificated public accountant as city controller to be head of a department of finance
- The mayor will provide for the maintenance and care of abandoned cemeteries in White River Township through the Parks and Recreation Department
- The elected city clerk will serve as clerk of the common council and clerk of the city court and will perform other duties as prescribed by state law and city ordinances
- The city clerk will administer poor relief in White River Township
- The new City of Greenwood will have both a three-member Board of Public Works and a three-member Board of Public Safety
- Until January 1, 2020, city boards and commissions will have residency requirements that guarantee representation from both the old City of Greenwood and the old unincorporated portions of White River Township

## Governance Findings - continued

- The city judge of the new City of Greenwood will appoint four members and the mayor of the new City of Greenwood will appoint one member of a non-partisan Council Redistricting Commission to prepare the ordinance creating common council districts after each decennial census
  - Initial salary levels and ranges recommended for the new city:
    - City Mayor - \$85,800.00
    - City Clerk - \$56,500.00
    - City Council Members - \$15,700\*
    - City Judge - \$47,500.00 \*\*
    - City Attorney - Between \$72,000 and \$82,000
    - City Controller - Between \$72,000 and \$82,000City
    - Engineer - Between \$72,000 and \$82,000
    - Board & Commission Members - The same as current compensation
- \* Not to exceed a total of \$173,000 for all council members.  
\*\* Does not include income from court fees and probation duties

# Status

- Estimated that more than 2000 volunteer hours have been invested in this work by July 1st.
- Continuing work on Planning & Land Use, Infrastructure, Health Safety & Welfare, and Financial
- Currently developing three year budgets and tax model based on a number of assumptions that will be clearly stated in our report
  - For example – salaries for the New City will increase 0-2% per year and benefits will increase 4% per year
- Next meetings with Council and Board
  - August....Review Health & Safety, Infrastructure, and Land Use sub-committee findings
  - September....Draft of Plan of Reorganization, including Finance sub-committee
  - October / November....Presentation of Plan of Reorganization

Questions?