



Opportunities in Change

Implementing Local Government Reform



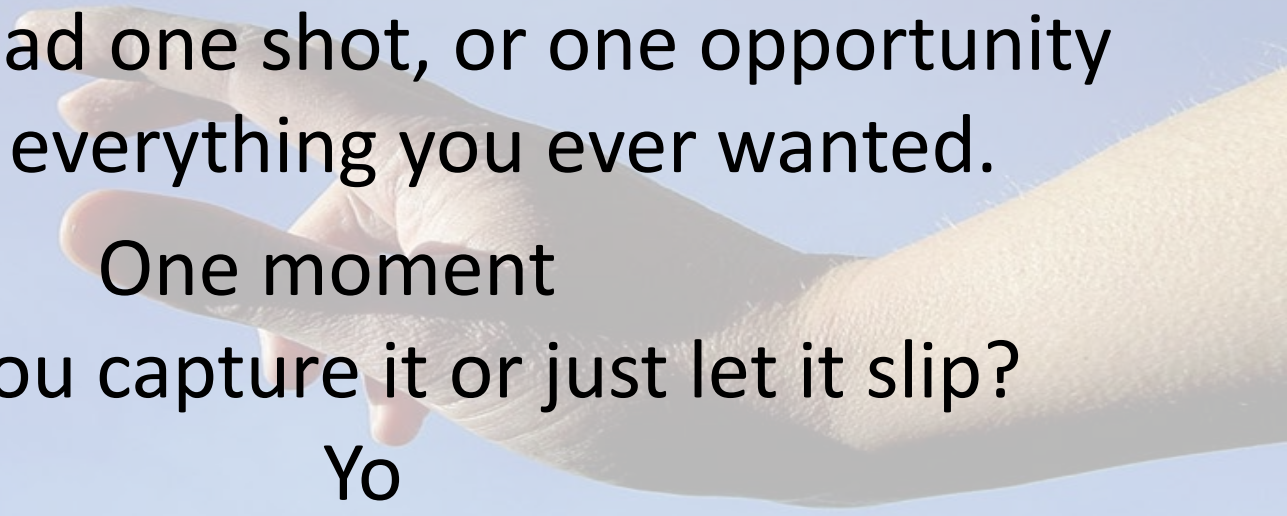
Opportunities for the Future

Jim Dodds

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**Opportunities for the
future
Jim Dodds**

A close-up of a human hand reaching out from the right side of the frame. The hand is positioned with the palm facing slightly towards the viewer and the fingers slightly curled. The background is a clear, light blue sky. The text is overlaid on the hand and sky.

Look, if you had one shot, or one opportunity
to seize everything you ever wanted.

One moment
Would you capture it or just let it slip?
Yo

Eminem

What are some of the strengths of Local Government?

- It is close to the community
- Governance and administrative systems
- An integrated “planning” process
- Relationships with community organisations
- Place based organisation, plans on that basis manages and administers on that arrangement.

What opportunities could there be?

- Increased strategic capacity
- A capital city with regional influence
- Ability to work better with State Government
- Ability to partner with private industry
- Some opportunities for efficiencies in service delivery and infrastructure
- Resolve some issues around governance
- Better able to move into new areas of good governance such as well being and environment

A large, diverse crowd of smiling people of various ages and ethnicities, filling the background of the slide. The people are of various ages, from young adults to seniors, and of various ethnicities, including African American, Asian, and Caucasian. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is slightly faded to make the text stand out.

People

- Two Levels
 - The people who make up the community
 - The people who help the community meet its aspirations
- Local government brings both together and create a place for them to work together

Community becoming society

- Community
 - Not Just Infrastructure though it plays a role
 - Libraries and art galleries
 - Programs that support and enable
 - The Four R's
- Society
 - Something different to community
 - It is about enduring things
 - Culture arts and beliefs

Support in Policy and Planning

- Regional Centre Service Agencies
- Significant Development proposals
- Public Health Plans

Keeping the best (not the biggest)

- Inevitable that initially one organisations systems will dominate
- Trying to identify the innovative systems and make them the break through
- Create opportunities for those innovative arrangements to continue

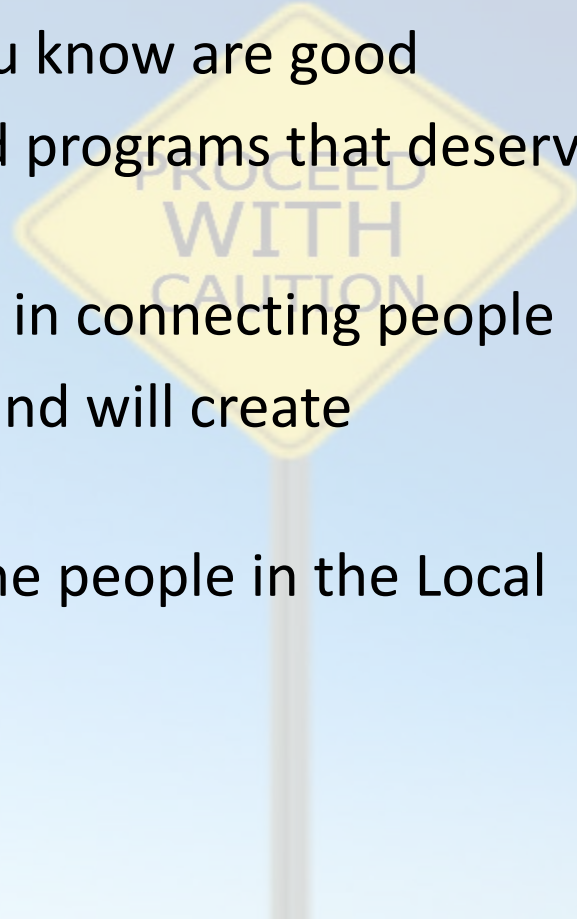
“The perfect is the enemy of the good”

Voltaire



How should we proceed?

- Talk up the programs and actions you know are good
- Actively encourage those people and programs that deserve to thrive
- Make links yourself and be generous in connecting people
- Build relationships which are equal and will create opportunities
- Recognise the value and quality of the people in the Local Government



So What?

- We have a Local Government system with lots of strengths
- State government officers have an opportunity to engage in a different way and build different relationships
- The new found strategic capacity will mean opportunities for some new approaches
- Innovation must be retained to keep delivering on community aspirations



Questions