



BUFFALO NIAGARA
PARTNERSHIP

LEGISLATIVE

SUPPORT

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Lancaster Village and Town Boards

Date: February 11, 2003

RE: Public Hearing on Merger of Lancaster Village and Town Police Departments

In 2001, the Who Does What? Commission brought forward recommendations for Erie County, and continues to advocate for, specific ways to reduce the overall cost of providing services in order to reduce the burden of local property taxes; maintain, if not improve the quality of local public services, and increase inter-municipal cooperation. The proposal for a consolidated police department in the Village and Town of Lancaster incorporates all of these principals. The operation of both departments has been smooth under new Chief Gary Stoldt and with funding for the newly created department in place, the consolidation should be completed by April 1st.

Lancaster will serve as a model for other municipalities to achieve these benefits through regionalism.

For reasons of public safety and potential cost savings for taxpayers, the Buffalo Niagara Partnership urges you to vote in favor of this measure and to continue to work with other partners in the community and follow the leadership of Mayor Cansdale and Supervisor Giza to help make this concept a reality.

Thank you for your consideration.