STRENGTHS BASED LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
WHAT IS IT?

- 12 two hour session course for elected or appointed officials or those aspiring to be an elected official.
- A course designed to help participants identify and build on their own and others strengths.
- A course designed to help participants learn how to use the “Strengths Philosophy” in their work as an elected official.
Leading from a strengths perspective.

Citizen engagement from a strengths perspective.

Ethical decisions from a strengths perspective.

Collaboration from a strengths perspective.

Economic development from a strengths perspective.

Regionalism from a strengths perspective.
HOW DO YOU INTRODUCE STRENGTHS?

- Ask unconditionally positive questions.
- Identify movement toward goals.
- Focus on the desired state.
- Work to look beyond current goals.
When are we at our best?
What does it look like when we are really “humming”? 
In what ways are we currently making the vision a reality?
IDENTIFY MOVEMENT TOWARD GOALS.

- What forces or factors made our success possible?
- When you look at the complexity of the task what sticks out as stepping stones to success?
- When we look at what we have already achieved what ways of working together have led to big and small gains.
FOCUS ON THE DESIRED STATE.

- What will it look like if we achieved everything we hope to achieve?
- What are our deepest hopes and dreams for our group, organization, community?
- What does the ideal look like?
WORK TO LOOK BEYOND CURRENT GOALS.

- What might be just beyond our current goal and how might we get there?
- What new and as yet undiscovered possibility may exist that would be beyond our current vision?
- What is the next chapter in our story of success?
WHAT CHANGES AS YOU ASK THESE QUESTIONS?
ROADBLOCKS

- Mechanistic thinking
- Problem focus
- Constricted imagination
- Success