

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LA CROSSE AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE**

This Agreement is made and entered into between the City of La Crosse ("The City") and the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System on behalf of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse ("UWL") on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The City wishes to contract with UWL for research to look at possible duplication of services between The City and La Crosse County which may be resulting in an increased tax burden for the residents of The City. To accomplish this, UWL will put together a research team which will perform this research and publish its research findings in a formal report submitted to The City's Mayor's Office and Common Council.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES

The City: The City shall cooperate in the gathering of data for this research and will provide a total of \$20,000.00 to UWL to cover the expenses associated with this project.

UWL: UWL shall provide student and staff labor to perform this research and will publish and present its research findings on this topic.

COMPENSATION

The \$20,000.00 provided by The City will be paid in installments as follows:

1. \$5,000.00 at time of the signing of this Agreement
2. \$5,000.00 on April 1, 2015
3. \$5,000.00 on June 1, 2015
4. \$5,000.00 on August 1, 2015

CONTACTS

For UWL: John Kovari, Ph.D
 425E Wimberly Hall
 1725 State St.
 La Crosse, WI 54601

For The City:

It is so agreed:

City of La Crosse

FOR THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM on
behalf of the UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA
CROSSE

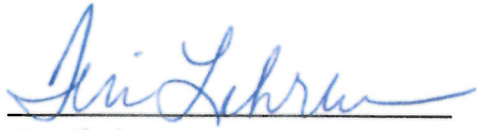


Mayor

Robert J. Hetzel
Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance

Date

And/Or



City Clerk



Mark T Reeves
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Finance

2-10-15

Date

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse GRANT/CONTRACT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Last updated: 07/2013 Office Use Only: Date Received: _____ Database Entry By: _____

- To use this form, use the tab key to complete each section, beginning with Sponsor Information.
- This transmittal form must be completed for all extramural funding including subcontracts with other institutions.
- Please see the [website](#) for current consultation, budget review, and submission deadlines.
- A copy of the full proposal must be submitted to Grants Office within three (3) business days after the proposal submission.

Funding Agency: City of La Crosse		Proposal Submission Deadline:	
Address: 400 La Crosse Street		<input type="checkbox"/> Electronic Submission-Grants Office	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mailed by PI/PD	
PI/PD: John Kovari	Department/Division: Political Science/Public Administration		
Co-Investigator: TBD	Department/Division:		
Co-Investigator:	Department/Division:		

Project Title: La Crosse City-County Service Duplication Analysis

Proposal Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Supplement <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal/Continuation	Grant Begin Date:	Grant End Date:
Total Request: \$19,998	Direct: \$17,390	Indirect/overhead*: \$2,608

* If no or reduced overhead is included, provide documentation from the funding agency regarding their policy.

Cost-sharing Information: <input type="checkbox"/> Required <input type="checkbox"/> Voluntary <input type="checkbox"/> In-Kind (If in-kind box is checked, attach a brief statement or description)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash Amount \$	<input type="checkbox"/> SAH <input type="checkbox"/> CLS <input type="checkbox"/> CBA <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	Dean / Division Director's Signature
OR <input type="checkbox"/> University Amount \$		

BUDGET RELATED CLEARANCES – does the project involve:

- Funds in the budget for hiring new personnel? No Yes
- Funds in the budget for faculty reassigned time? No Yes
- Funds in the budget for hiring graduate/undergraduate assistant (s)? No Yes
- Action involving space, remodeling, or construction (current or future)? No Yes
- Any collaborators? Internal External No

If yes is checked for a budget-related clearance, the Dean / Division Director should indicate approval by initialing here:

COMPLIANCE CLEARANCES – check those that apply:

- IRB IACUC IBC Chemical/physical safety RCR (NSF only) FCOI (all federal) International travel / partnerships

FOR NSF GRANTS: All investigators must complete and submit the [RCR Student Training Plan Form](#) along with this transmittal form.

FOR FEDERAL GRANTS: All investigators must complete Financial Conflict of Interest disclosures. See the [FCOI site](#) for details.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR/PROJECT DIRECTOR

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, the above information is correct. I also certify that the plan detailed in the proposal complies with all campus, state, and federal regulations and policies and reflects University, College, and Departmental goals. This project is achievable as described, including the limitations of time, resources, and personnel. I understand that the grant will be awarded to UW-L, and generally all equipment and other tangible property acquired with grant funds shall vest in the institution.

<i>John Kovari</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	1-14-15	8436
Printed Name	Signature	Date	Extension #

DEPARTMENT CHAIR/UNIT DIRECTOR

I certify that I have reviewed the proposal and found it to be complete, including required assurances, budget, and commitments involving space, faculty/staff time, and matching funds (current or future).

<i>Jo Arney</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	12-13-15	6641
Printed Name	Signature	Date	Extension #

COLLEGE DEAN/DIVISION DIRECTOR

I certify that I have reviewed the proposal and found it to be complete, including required assurances, budget, and commitments involving space, faculty/staff time and matching funds. In addition, I certify that all resources and other provisions of any award will be fulfilled.

<i>JULIA JOHNSON</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	1/15/15
Printed Name	Signature	Date

CHANCELLOR OR REPRESENTATIVE

By signing this transmittal, I certify that this proposal has been thoroughly reviewed by the appropriate University officials and is consistent with University goals and its research/service/instructional mission.

Melissa A. Nielsen	<i>[Signature]</i>	1/30/15
Printed Name	Signature	Date

Resolution appropriating ~~\$17,500~~ \$20,000 for the creation of a City-County services duplication analysis.

AMENDED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the citizens, organizations, and businesses of the City of La Crosse want high quality services provided fairly and efficiently and at the lowest cost possible; and

WHEREAS, recent reports indicate that the City's cost of home ownership exceeds neighboring municipalities due primarily to property taxes; and

WHEREAS, other recent studies and surveys indicate the importance of crime, neighborhood conditions, and property taxes in deciding where to live; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of factors that determine the City's level of property taxes including the predominance of low-valued residential property, floodplain impacts and limitations, the amount of tax exempt property, services duplication, and free riders who enjoy services without having to pay for them to name a few; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse desires to learn more about the costs of services duplication and the free rider problem.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of La Crosse hereby appropriates ~~\$17,500~~ \$20,000 from the Reserve Fund account to prepare a City-County services duplication analysis per the attached proposal document.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Common Council directs the Finance Department, other appropriate departments and City officials to take the actions necessary to effectuate this Resolution and to assist in the development of said analysis.

adpt 12/11/14

AMENDED Proposal for City-County Service Duplication Analysis (\$19,998)

Prepared by

John Kovari, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science/Public Administration
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
425E Wimberly Hall
1725 State Street
La Crosse, WI 54601
Telephone: (608) 785-8436

Introduction

A recent UW-Extension report revealed that the city of La Crosse's cost of living exceeded neighboring municipalities in La Crosse County, with a major discrepancy found in terms of taxes paid. What drives the tax burden differential across La Crosse County municipalities? A cursory review of municipal and county budgets/services suggests that the City of La Crosse and La Crosse County may be duplicating services. That is, city of La Crosse taxpayers may be partially financing County services offered to neighboring municipalities; many of these services the City of La Crosse already provides on its own, which drives up County property tax bills for city of La Crosse taxpayers. Potential areas of duplication include law enforcement, library services, sanitation, parks and recreation services, transportation/transit, and planning/economic development. Another aspect is the potential for underassessment by outlying La Crosse County municipalities.

Proposed Outcomes

A comprehensive analysis of municipal and county services/budgets will help determine whether any duplication of services actually exists. This project proposes to publish research findings in a formal report submitted to the City of La Crosse Mayor's Office and Common Council. The report will highlight: (1) the monetary impact of service duplication (if any) on city of La Crosse property taxpayers, and (2) offer policy alternatives for reducing any measurable impact on city taxpayers.

The research team will also be available to present findings in-person when invited or necessary, including any municipal or county meetings.

Methods

This project will utilize multiple research methods. First, the research team will conduct in-person and/or telephone interviews with municipal and county officials (both elected officials and department heads/staff) to gather initial data about services provided in the various jurisdictions.

Next, the research team will conduct an analysis of local and county budgets to help shed light on the specifics of service provision within the area, including an analysis of any service-delivery agreements between municipal and county governments. Municipal and county departmental budgets (both revenues and expenditures) will be analyzed to determine what services are provided. Most likely it will be necessary to conduct follow-up interviews if budget narratives are found to be lacking.

A survey of some existing municipal-county service agreements will also be provided; this requires reaching out to various professional organizations, including the WI Counties Association and League of WI Municipalities. Lastly, policy alternatives will be presented to address potential solutions/remedies, based on existing best practices identified in academic and practitioner studies and reports.

Budget

Amount	Category
Principal Researcher	\$ 5,000
Fringe Benefits	\$ 2,507
Co-Faculty Researcher	\$ 1,250
Fringe Benefits	\$ 833
Research Assistant (wages & fringe)	\$ 5,600
Peer-Review (Public Policy Forum)	\$ 1,500
Travel	\$ 350
Printing	\$ 350
UW-L overhead costs (15%)	\$ 2,608
Total	\$ 19,998

Budget Justification

This proposal includes a budget request of \$19,998, which includes salary/wages, fringe benefits, travel, printing, and overhead costs. The majority of funding is planned for salaries/wages for researchers and research assistants. The principal investigator, a UW-L Political Science/Public Administration faculty representative, would receive \$5,000 for the responsibility of coordinating research activities, authoring the final report, and presenting research findings at the appropriate forums. Another faculty member would assist these efforts.

One ad hoc research assistant would provide support to the researchers in collecting budget data, scheduling, and conducting interviews of local officials. The research assistant would work 20 hours for week at \$10.00/hour for a total of 26 weeks.

Fifteen hundred dollars is also included for a "peer-review" by a public policy research organization, which may also be able to consult on project objectives/strategies. The Public Policy Forum, which has conducted several analyses of municipal/regional service agreements, has been identified as a potential consultant.

The proposal includes \$350 for travel reimbursement to-from interviews with local officials, as well as \$350 in printing costs associated with releasing the report.

UW-L also charges 15% in overhead costs for administering the contract, including legal costs and managing the contract funds.

Lastly, this project may come in under budget. In that case, all unspent funds from within each line-item listed above will be returned to the City.

Proposal for City-County Service Duplication Analysis (\$20,000)

Prepared by

John Kovari, PhD
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science/Public Administration
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
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1725 State Street
La Crosse, WI 54601
Telephone: (608) 785-8436

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Budget

Amount	Category
Principal Researcher	\$ 5,000
Fringe Benefits	\$ 2,507
Co-Faculty Researcher	\$ 1,250
Fringe Benefits	\$ 627
Research Assistant (wages & fringe)	\$ 5,600
Peer-Review (Public Policy Forum)	\$ 1,500
Travel	\$ 350
Printing	\$ 350
Misc.	\$ 207
UW-L overhead costs (15%)	\$ 2,609
Total	\$ 20,000

Budget Justification

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