

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER 1-63

SUBJECT: City Policy and Internal Procedure for Effective Metropolitan Cooperation through Intergovernmental Agreements.

POLICY: The future growth of Philadelphia is tied to developments in the Metropolitan Area. This City is an integral part of an expanding region made up of many individual local government units.

Because many public problems cannot be solved wholly within one local government jurisdiction, area-wide cooperation is necessary to effectively provide public services, develop the region and meet the needs of a new metropolitan civilization. City officials should continually seek new ways in which to improve relationships with neighboring jurisdictions and maximize cooperation among local governments, wherever possible.

The City's approach to Metropolitan Cooperation is to reach agreements for joint action on common problems through voluntary arrangements among existing governmental units.

In any joint arrangement among governments, the City firmly believes that local governments should retain their individual, corporate identities; that no one jurisdiction should try to dominate the other and that local government officials should continue to exercise their all jurisdictional powers and responsibilities.

The intergovernmental agreement offers the best possibilities for facilitating cooperation within the context of City policy. It is a valuable device for getting results on area-wide problems while preserving the many benefits of strong local government. This approach presents an opportunity to solve metropolitan problems without any drastic change or modification of existing governmental structure.

PURPOSE

At present, the City of Philadelphia has a number of mutually beneficial agreements with neighboring governments. But to provide more effective cooperation through a comprehensive, continuing and integrated program for Metropolitan Cooperation, all such agreements must be related to and coordinated with:

- A. All existing and proposed City Agreements, and
- B. The City's over-all program and policy for Metropolitan Cooperation.

Those City Departments and Agencies concerned with inter-governmental agreements should be aware of existing and proposed agreements to avoid conflict or duplication. Most important, all agreements must be considered as integral parts of the City's over-all program and policy for Metropolitan Cooperation. Effective coordination requires that careful attention be given in the planning stage to the inter-relationships among agreements and the City's Program - before negotiations begin or agreements are made.

PROCEDURE.

In line with the present responsibilities of the Office of Development Coordinator for program and policy coordination, all City Agencies are requested to:

- A. Notify the Development Coordinator's Office before any approach is made to another jurisdiction to work out a joint agreement on any government activity. The Development Coordinator's Office will inform the agency of any existing or proposed agreement with the jurisdiction involved.
- B. Inform the Development Coordinator's Office on the progress of negotiations with officials of other jurisdictions.
- C. Send to the Development Coordinator's Office a summary of agreements worked out, along with other relevant information.
- D. Enlist and utilize the assistance of the Development Coordinator's Office: to obtain information on agreements or Metropolitan Area problems, to make contacts with public or private officials in the area, to aid in negotiations or participate in discussions, and to define City Policy on Metropolitan Cooperation.

/s/ JAMES H. J. TATE  
Mayor