

# So You Want to Change the Government?

Youth Leadership Fort Wayne

March 10, 2011

# How Many Units of Local Government Are There?

- Name all the units of local government in Allen County
  1. ?
  2. ?
  3. ?
  4. ?
  5. ?
  6. ?
  7. ?
  8. ?
  9. ?

# How Many Units of Local Government Are There?

- Name all the units of local government in Allen County
  1. County
  2. Township
  3. Municipality
  4. Airport
  5. Library
  6. School
  7. Transportation
  8. Southwest Fire District
  9. Solid waste district

# What Does the Government Do?

- What is the first word or phrase that comes to your mind when you hear the word \_\_\_\_\_?

# What Does the Government Do?

- Finish the rest of this sentence. Local governments \_\_\_\_\_.

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Assists with the establishment of neighborhood associations
- True or False

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Assists with the establishment of neighborhood associations
- True

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Designates areas as historic districts
- True or False



# Does Local Government Do This?

- Designates areas as historic districts
- True

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Issues permits to street vendors
- True or False

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Issues permits to street vendors
- True

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Verifies the accuracy of scales and pumps throughout the county
- True or False

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Verifies the accuracy of scales and pumps throughout the county
- True

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Uses the City County Building as the residence address for homeless people when they register to vote
- True or False

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Uses the City County Building as the residence address for homeless people when they register to vote
- True

# Does Local Government Do This?

- Counts the number of rats in the city
- True or False



# Does Local Government Do This?

- Counts the number of rats in the city
- True

# More Interesting Facts

- The Indiana Constitution requires that we elect:
  - Sheriff
  - Clerk of the courts
  - Coroner
  - Surveyor
  - Auditor
  - Recorder
  - Treasurer

# More Interesting Facts

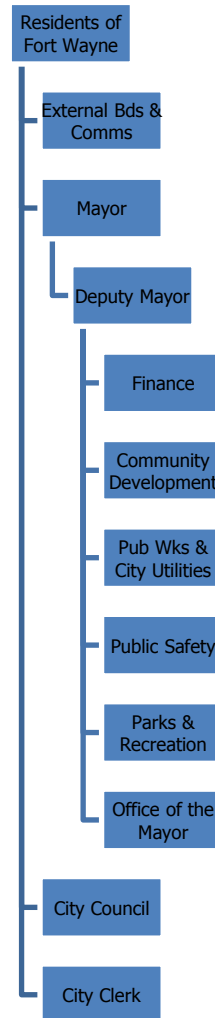
- You do not have to have any financial training to be the county treasurer
- You do not have to be a doctor to be the county coroner
- Indiana Code places the executive and legislative duties in the hands of the board of county commissioners
- The structure of local governments is determined by the Indiana Constitution and the Indiana Code



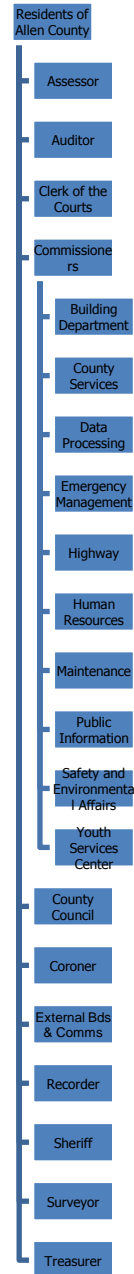
# How To Change the Constitution

- Two separately elected general assemblies must pass identical legislation
- A majority of the voters of the state must vote in favor of the amendment after the general assemblies have taken their action

# City of Fort Wayne Organization Chart



# Allen County Organization Chart



# Why Is It So Hard To Change?

- The Indiana Constitution and Code shape what local governments can do
- The General Assembly and Governor are reluctant to give too much authority to local governments
- The structure does not lend itself to change
- It is difficult to get a majority of elected officials to agree on what changes should be made
- It is difficult to get a majority of the public to agree on what changes should be made
- We don't want to make it too easy to change