



NEWS RELEASE

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Crow Wing County earns national award for Crosslake Collaboration

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Crow Wing County Land Services has been recognized with an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its partnership with the City of Crosslake to implement a land use program and customer service improvements. The award honors innovative, effective county government programs that enhance services for residents. Due to the exceptional results and unique innovations of this program, the partnership has been chosen to receive the honor of Best of Category in County Resiliency: Infrastructure, Energy & Sustainability.

"It is an honor for Crow Wing County to be recognized nationally as best in class for our partnership with the City of Crosslake," stated Commissioner Paul Koering, Board Chair. "Land Service's commitment to finding an innovative solution to improving customer service, lowering costs, and implementing consistent land use program within the city demonstrates government providing taxpayers with better service at lower cost."

In September of 2013, the City of Crosslake and Crow Wing County entered into an agreement for the County to administer the Land Use Program for Crosslake. The innovative collaboration has decreased the cost to the City while improving the services provided to the citizens of Crosslake. Crosslake chose to implement the Crow Wing County Land Use Program model which focuses on excellent customer service through clearly communicated policies and procedures and proactive communication to help customers and contractors understand ordinance requirements

NACo President Riki Hokama, council member, Maui County, Hawaii, said, "The National Association of Counties applauds county governments that are embracing innovative and more effective ways to serve their constituents. The Achievement Awards recognize counties' outstanding efforts to strengthen services and deliver results for residents across the country."

Nationally, awards are given in 21 different categories that reflect the vast, comprehensive services counties provide. The awards will be presented at NACo's 2015 Annual Conference and Exposition July 10–13 in Mecklenburg County, N.C.

Started in 1970, NACo's annual Achievement Award Program is designed to recognize innovative county government programs. Each nominee is judged on its own merits and not against other applications received.

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) unites America's 3,069 county governments. Founded in 1935, NACo brings county officials together to advocate with a collective voice on national policy, exchange ideas and build new leadership skills, pursue transformational county solutions, enrich the public's understanding of county government and exercise exemplary leadership in public service. Learn more at www.naco.org