

Attachment 2

Proposed Standing Panel Strategic Plan

Should the NAPA Standing Panel on Intergovernmental Systems (SP) adopt goals and strategies for the coming year or two? If so, what should they be?

This document suggests what those goals and strategies might be. We look forward to discussing the idea of having goals and strategies as well as these specific proposed goals and strategies with SP members at our October 19 SP business meeting.

Standing Panel's Proposed Goals for the coming year or two

Working closely with the Academy's Center for Intergovernmental Partnership and others, the Academy's Standing Panel on Intergovernmental Systems seeks to:

- Build an understanding of the importance of effective governmental arrangements, recognizing that most people's ears glaze over when they hear the word "intergovernmental" and that many think "federalism" brings a political point of view.
- Build an understanding of practices distinguishing more from less effective intergovernmental arrangements and how what works well can vary by situation.
- Increase adoption of better practices and reduce the use of less good ones to improve outcomes, operational quality, and public understanding of and trust in government.

Standing Panel's Proposed Strategies for the coming year or two

Working closely with Academy's Center for Intergovernmental Partnership and others, the Academy's Standing Panel on Intergovernmental Systems will:

- Look for and share examples of well-functioning intergovernmental partnerships as well as examples of less well-functioning ones
- Identify practices and other elements that distinguish more and less successful intergovernmental partnerships, noting, too, when situational differences are likely to affect the success
- Develop and promote use of boilerplate legislative and administrative language and tools that encourage adoption of better practices
- Develop and share an understanding of resourcing and roles needed to strengthen partnerships, initially focusing on the federal and possibly the university role supporting SLT&T governments
- Create a resource hub to support those working to strengthen intergovernmental partnerships with both original material and links to helpful resources available elsewhere, with Federalism.us housing that hub
- Network those interested in contributing to stronger intergovernmental partnerships
- Catalyze and sometimes lead projects to strengthen intergovernmental partnerships. Some projects will focus on improving essential processes affecting many policy areas, such as intergovernmental data handling, incentive structures, and networking to support continuous learning and improvement. Some projects will focus on high-priority policy areas, such as climate change, social services, emergency response, and infrastructure.

Why now? We believe this is an especially opportune time to make progress on intergovernmental partnerships for several reasons. They include the Academy's launch of the Center for Intergovernmental Partnership, but also three major challenges facing the world necessitating strong intergovernmental partnerships -- the pandemic, climate change, and growing inequities in this country and the world.

We also believe the Academy is uniquely well-situated to lead in this area as the only organization that brings together current and former federal, state, and local government leaders alongside top academic thinkers.