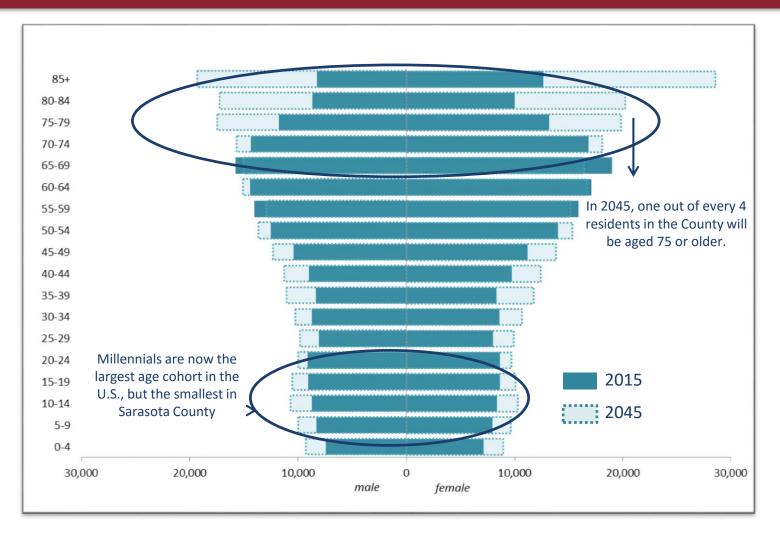
## What's behind the fence?

Thomas A. Harmer Administrator, Sarasota County Government





### Sarasota County population pyramid



### Sarasota Countyat a glance...

> 412,569 Total resident population

> 55.5 Median age

> \$51,766 Median household income

➤ 92.4% High school graduate or higher

> \$181,400 Media housing value

Source: www.census.gov

### Sarasota County Employees

- Total FTEs: 2,289
- > Average age: 47.6
- Average years of service: 9.78
- Average annual turnover rate 11.4%
- Number of employees eligible for retirement within the next three years: 21.8%

### Managing up and reaching down



### Interruptions and fences...



## I don't know if I'm allowed to talk to you.



#### **EIG – What is it?**

- > Informal
- Awareness and networking
- Senior management time with employees
- Employee time with senior management
- Not a working group

### Membership

- Voluntary
- > Invited
- Reputation
- > Attitude
- > Interest
- > Inclusive



### **Typical initial meetings**

- Quarterly
- ➤ 30-plus participants
- Agendas
  - Icebreakers
  - County Administrator update
  - Roundtable discussions on county priorities, SWOT, best practices, etc.

### What's behind that fence?





#### What's the solution?



# HELLO my name is

CONSULTANT



### Why?

- > Areas that need attention
- Departments may be lacking the resources
- May be other competing priorities
- Have expertise
- > Opportunity for professional development and scope stretch

### A typical team and process

- > From any internal source
- Sanctioned by Administration
- Multidepartment and multidiscipline team
- Project charter signed off
  - Defines how to measure success
  - Process map
  - Best practice research
  - Benchmarking (comparable peers)
  - Recommendations (short- and long-term)
  - Review steps and final draft review

### **Outcome - Disposal of surplus vehicles**



Reduced the time to dispose of surplus vehicles from eight months to four to six weeks.

### PIT #2 Standards for development and review

Developed 36 recommendations for improving the development review environment.



#### PIT #3 Time allocation for Real Estate Services

Created a methodology to track billable hours for Real Estate Services.



### PIT #4 Standardize protocols for security cameras

Documented an inventory of cameras as well as established enterprise-wide policy for equipment.



### The future of EIG



#### **EIG 2.0**

- > PIT team influencers
- Sourcing for future PTS (most are members of EIG)
- > Turnover and sourcing of new members
- > Integration of PIT concepts into departmental operations
- Current agendas
  - County Administrator update
  - Senior manager deep dive
  - Training component
  - Access to programs and webinars

