10 Things I Wish I Knew

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Panelists
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5 Themes

• Relationships
• Mentoring
• Balance
• Active Learner
• Stop Worrying/Start Living
Thoughts from Dave
1. Relationships
Relationships

Katherine
- City management is as much about working with elected officials as it is about running an organization.
- Choose the right life partner because they live in the fishbowl with you.

Wynetta
- Government isn’t intuitive for average humans.
- Cultivate acquaintance with many whom you meet.

Ray
- “What’s in it for me?”
- Accolades & arrows (external) vs. purpose & validation (internal).
2. Mentoring
Mentoring

Katherine
• The best career moves can also be the most unexpected

Wynetta
• There is an art to navigating the grey
• Never do math in public

Ray
• Evolving “Mentoring” needs and roles over your career
3. Balance
Balance

Katherine
• There is only one municipal government in every community- so be ready to move.
• Don’t quit your gym, book club, or photography club.

Wynetta
• If someone is dead set on hanging themselves, never hand them the rope, but don’t feel obligated to hide it
• Start with the assumption that everyone is trying to do good

Ray
• Leading without losing everyone along the way
4. Active Learner
Active Learner

Katherine

- Raise your hand and volunteer for the unpopular projects.

Wynetta

- Government runs on myth and lore
- It’s better to know why the bodies were buried rather than where

Ray

- Strategic perspective needs an attention to detail
- Taking calculated risks while being sufficiently “afraid to fail”
5. Stop Worryin’, Start Livin’
Stop Worryin’, Start Livin’

Katherine

• You do not have to know how to fill a pothole.
• Don’t let salary drive your decisions.

Wynetta

• Things are never so bad they can’t be worse
• When asked your opinion, give it

Ray

• Public service is a calling – not a life sentence
Thank you!