

BUILDING CULTURAL COMPETENCY: TRIBAL-CITY- COUNTY COOPERATION

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Outline

- Why is tribal, county, and municipal cooperation important?
 - Why is this important?
 - Why is being culturally competent so important?
- How do you promote and sustain tribal, city, and county relations?
- What are the tools needed to achieve a successful intergovernmental agreement?



WHY IS TRIBAL, COUNTY, AND
MUNICIPAL COOPERATION
IMPORTANT?



Tribal-City-County cooperation is increasingly relevant because:

- **Federal and state devolution is pushing more responsibility to tribes, counties, and cities**
- **Wicked-problems do not adhere to strict geo-political boundaries**
- **Limited financial and staffing resources are making it often forcing tribes, counties, and cities in having to do more-with-less**
- **The cost of litigation is never a win-win**


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Why is demonstrating cultural competency important:

- Learning as much as you can about the culture, history, and rights of the tribe you will be working with can help you deepen the level of trust with the tribes within your area.
 - Just because some tribes share similar cultures and customs, do not assume all of tribes that you work with are the same.
- How can you demonstrate cultural competency between the tribes, counties, and cities in your area?



HOW DO YOU PROMOTE AND
SUSTAIN TRIBAL, CITY, AND
COUNTY RELATIONS?

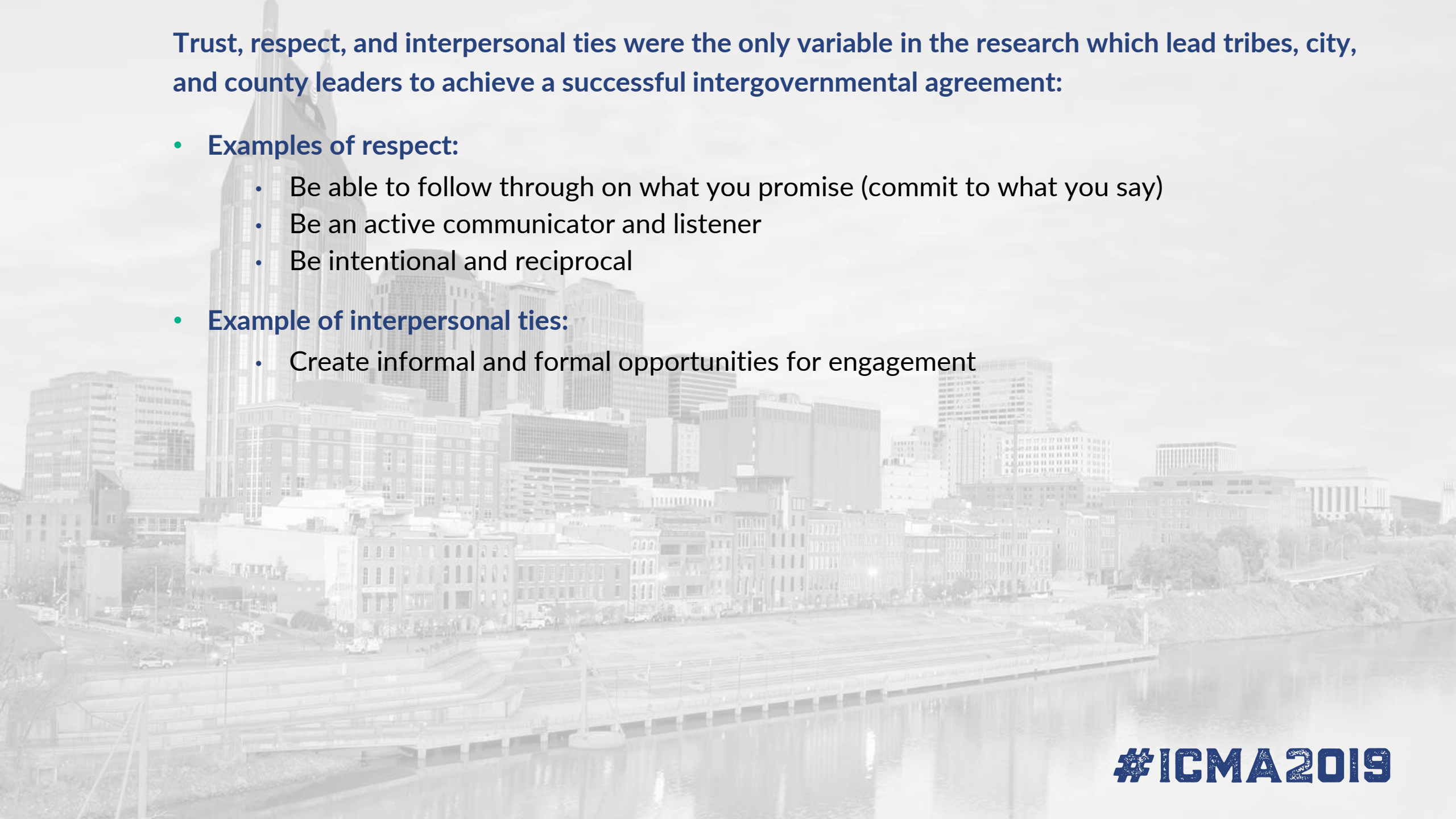


Trust was the only variable in the research which lead tribes, county, and municipal leaders to want to promote cooperation:

- **Definition of trust:**
 - Firm belief in the character, strength, or truth of someone or something He/she placed his/her **trust** in me. 2 : a person or thing in which confidence is placed. 3 : confident hope I waited in **trust** of their return. 4 : a property interest held by one person or organization (as a bank) for the benefit of another.
- **How do you build trust with other individuals and groups?**

The background is a solid teal color with abstract geometric elements. On the left, there are several thin, dark teal diagonal lines. In the center-left, there is a large, semi-transparent dark teal circle. To its right, there is a large, semi-transparent light teal circle. The text is centered in the upper right quadrant of the image.

WHAT ARE THE TOOLS NEEDED TO
ACHIEVE A SUCCESSFUL
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT?



Trust, respect, and interpersonal ties were the only variable in the research which lead tribes, city, and county leaders to achieve a successful intergovernmental agreement:

- **Examples of respect:**
 - Be able to follow through on what you promise (commit to what you say)
 - Be an active communicator and listener
 - Be intentional and reciprocal
- **Example of interpersonal ties:**
 - Create informal and formal opportunities for engagement

intergovernmental cooperation

- Meaningful and reciprocal communication and dialogue between the parties is essential to building trust and respect
- Opportunities to engage face-to-face helps to promote trust and respect – i.e. when both groups are permitted to have an equal voice and “equal” seat at the table
- Cultural competency is essential to building trust and respect. Commit towards learning.
- Leverage partners who can help you build trust and respect



So what are the take a-ways

- Establishing an intergovernmental working group is a low-cost solution to building trust and respect.
- If creating an intergovernmental working group does is not feasible, initiate contact and build a relationship with the tribal executive director or tribal department head.
- If there is not a lot of history with the tribe, begin with focusing on a small-win to build and earn the trust between you and the tribe.
- Commit to being culturally competent. Commit to learning more about the culture, history, and rights of the tribe.



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THANK YOU

Questions?

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