



## **CLIFTON AND FINE EFFICIENCY/CONSOLIDATION PROJECT**

### **GOVERNMENT MODERNIZATION**

In an effort to reduce taxpayer burdens, the Town Boards unilaterally decided to study current operations to improve efficiencies and investigate consolidation. We asked ourselves, is our existing structure of government outdated and inefficient or is it sustainable? This study began in January of 2015 and is expected to be completed and presented, independently, to both Town Boards, by the fall of 2016.

A citizens committee was assigned the task of shaping the vision of a more effective and efficient government structure for the Clifton-Fine region. Local governments are legally separate entities, but serve communities and constituents that are vital parts of a broader regional economic marketplace. Encouraging knowledge based and data-driven solutions, Clifton-Fine's governance structure can be modernized to meet the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with local resources focused equitably and effectively to help our economy and protect our community assets.

Through the committee's work, the community has taken the leadership role for expressing how we want to be organized and governed locally – with public services that meet high quality standards at an affordable price. It is time to reverse the downward trajectory of our struggling region and strengthen our once vibrant community.

Hours of discussion, careful consideration, and review have resulted in the completion of our existing conditions report. The committee has now begun the "Evaluation of Alternatives" process that will identify potential viable alternatives for delivering municipal services. There is no substitute for a healthy, robust, and engaging community dialog as part of this effort. The committee encourages public engagement, participation and respectful comments or criticisms throughout this process.

Please visit the project website to follow our progress,  
<http://www.danc.org/operations/engineering/clifton-fine-efficiencyconsolidation-study>,  
and submit any comments, questions and other feedback to our consultant representative  
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