

CGR

Options for the Future of Law Enforcement in Watkins Glen

Presented by Paul Bishop and Scott Sittig, June 3, 2013



Agenda

- ▶ Review of Process
- ▶ Overview of Baseline Report
- ▶ Explanation of Options
- ▶ Public Comments
- ▶ Next Steps

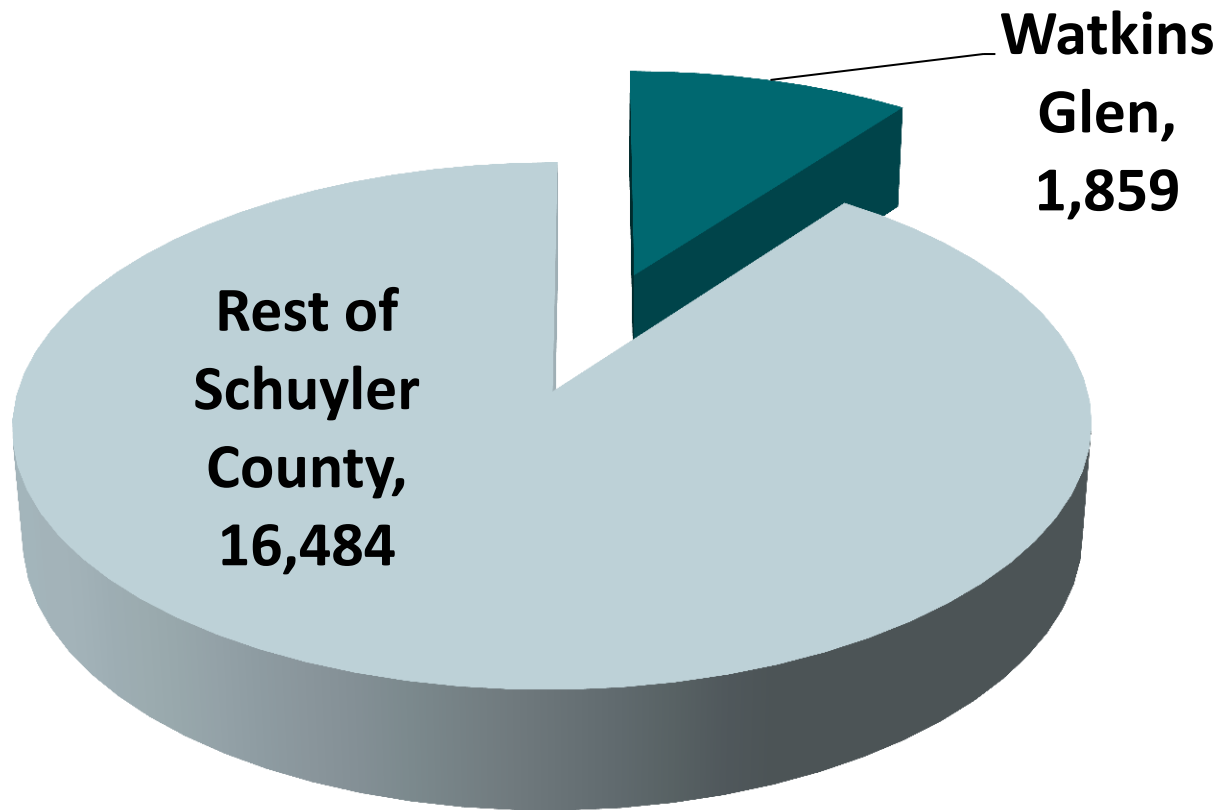
Review of Study Process

- ▶ 2012
 - ▶ Village of Watkins Glen received a New York State Local Government Efficiency grant to evaluate police services
 - ▶ Village selected CGR to conduct the study
- ▶ January 2013 -- CGR and study committee met
- ▶ February /March 2013 --CGR completed thorough study of both organizations
- ▶ April 2013 -- Baseline Report Submitted
- ▶ May 2013 -- Options Report Submitted
- ▶ June 2013 – Public comments
- ▶ June/July -Implementation plan will be developed

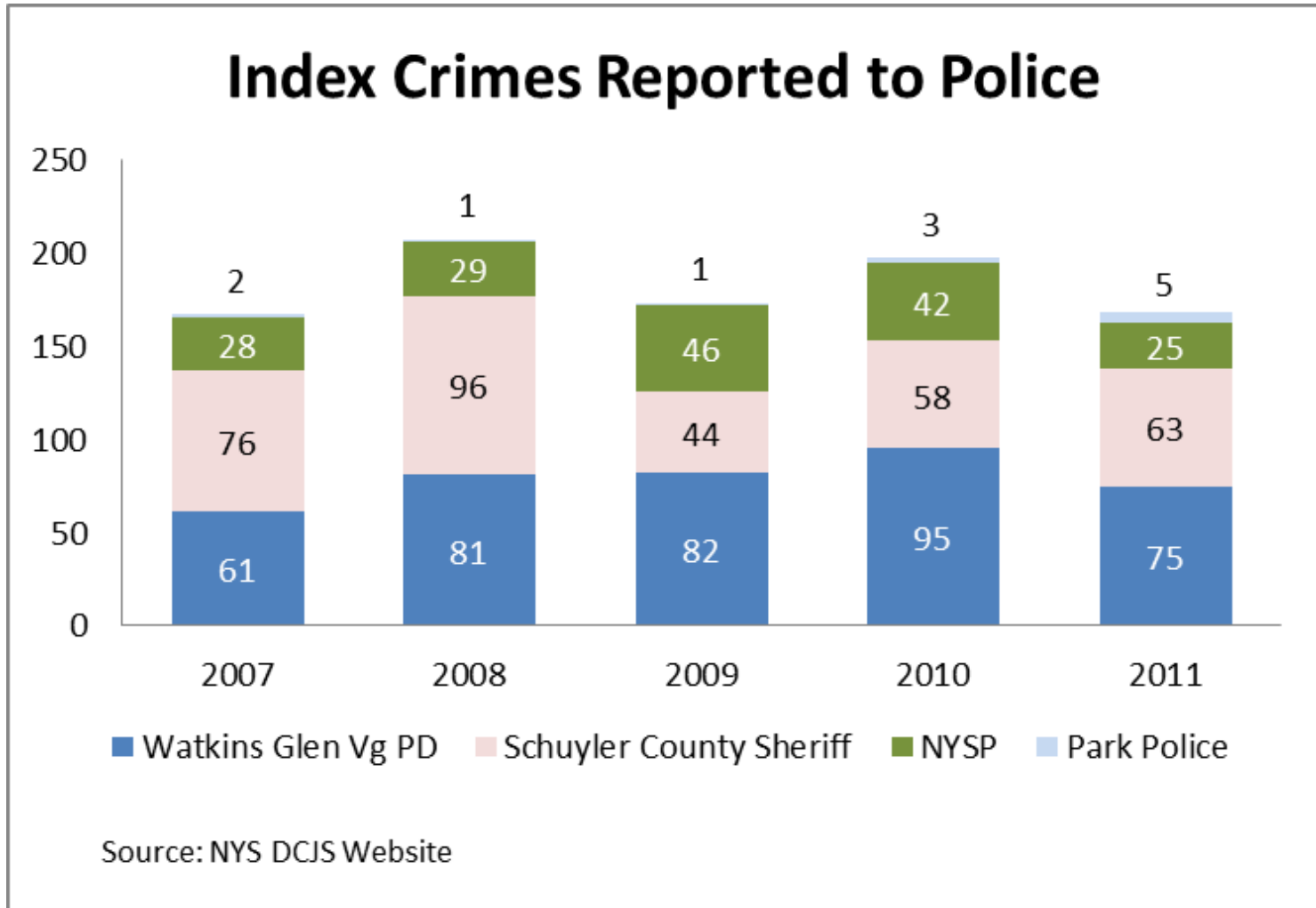
Study Committee

- ▶ Phil Barnes, County Legislature Public Safety Committee Chair
- ▶ Dennis Fagan, Chairman of the Schuyler County Legislature
- ▶ Anthony Fraboni, Village Trustee
- ▶ Scott Gibson, Village Trustee
- ▶ Tim O’Hearn, County Administrator
- ▶ Thomas Struble, Police Chief
- ▶ Mark Swinnerton, Mayor
- ▶ Bill Yessman, County Sheriff

Baseline Summary: Population



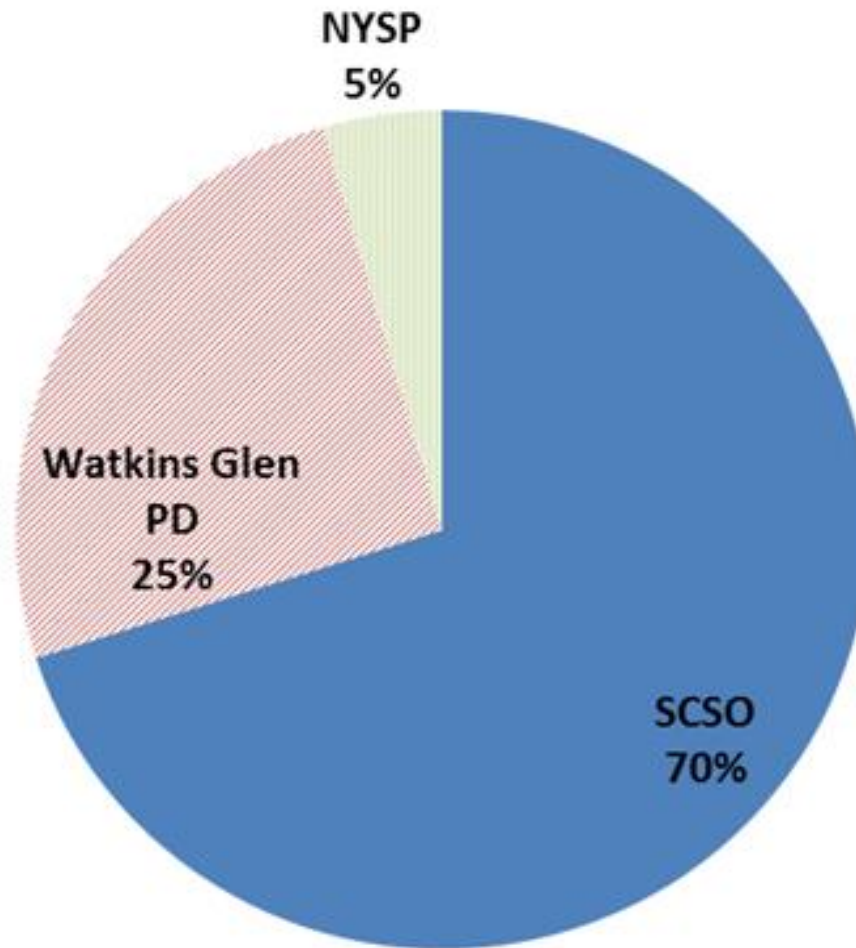
Baseline: Crime Rates



Baseline: Departments Side by Side

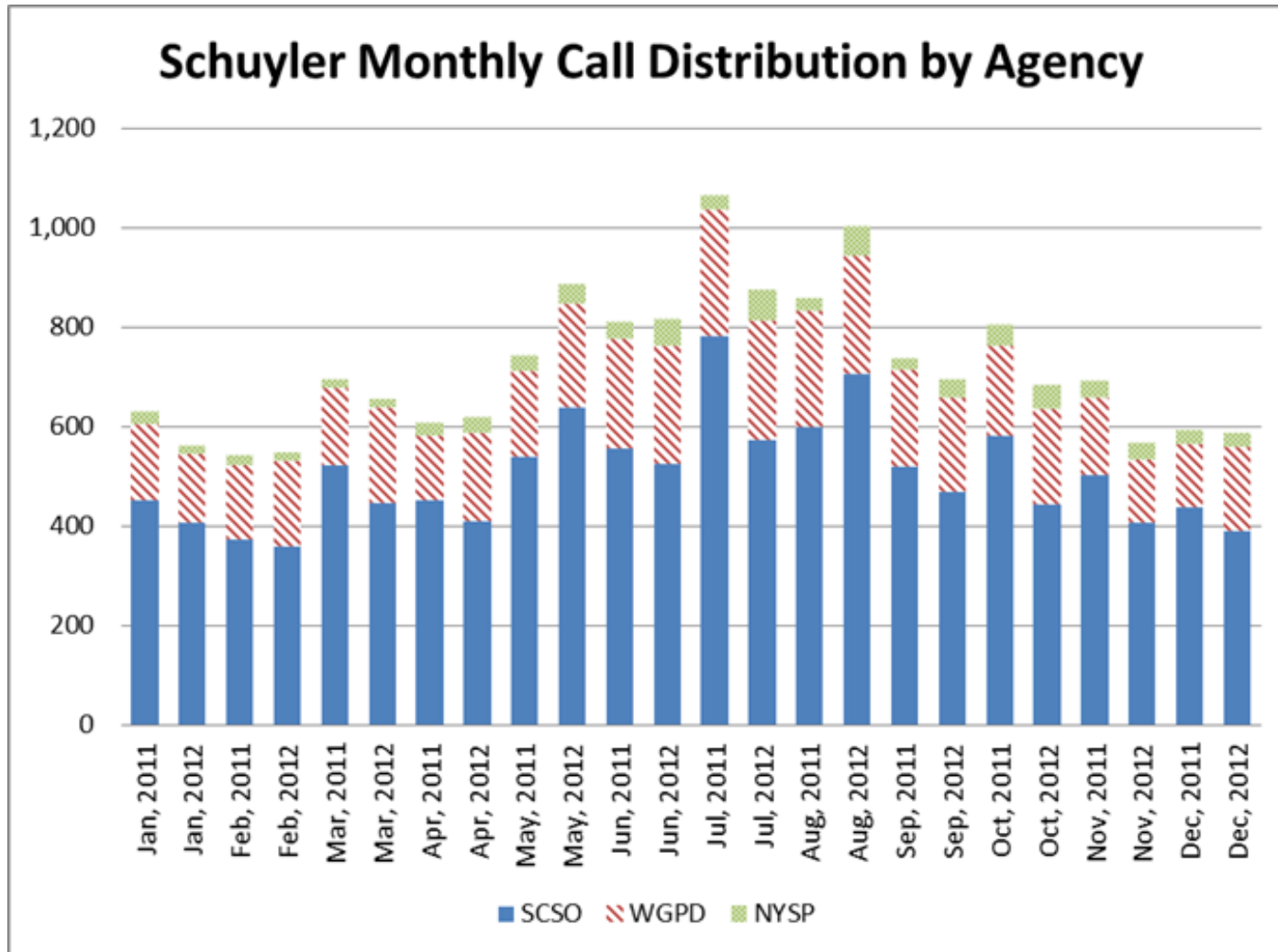
Category	Watkins Glen Police Department	Schuyler County Sheriff's Office– Road Patrol
Full Time Staff	4	13 plus Sheriff
Part Time Staff	10- Used for road patrol, events and investigations	None used for road patrol
Vehicles	4	11
Normal Patrol Units On Duty	1	2
2012 Calls for Service	2,279	5,784
2012 Tickets Issued	693	821
Departmental Expenses	\$517,482	\$1,277,278 + fringe benefits

Baseline: Call Distribution for County



Source: 2011 & 2012 SCSO Data

Baseline: Monthly Call Distribution



Options

- ▶ **Status Quo**
- ▶ **Option One** – Minor Adjustments
- ▶ **Option Two** – Part Time Village Patrol
- ▶ **Option Three** – Police Schuyler as a single jurisdiction
- ▶ **Option Four** – Village only performs patrol
- ▶ **Option Five** – Village stops police service and contracts for dedicated patrol
- ▶ **Option Six** – Village stops police service without a contract

Options: Status Quo

- ▶ All current services remain in place
- ▶ Department costs will rise in areas of healthcare and retirement funds.
- ▶ Aging vehicle fleet will require capital expenses in next few years
- ▶ A \$25,000 change in budget will cause a \$0.19 per \$1,000 change in tax rate

Option One: Minor Changes to Status Quo

- ▶ Bill event promoters for full cost of officers
 - ▶ Benefits and administrative costs could be charged
- ▶ Increase School Resource Officer charges
 - ▶ Currently WGSD pays for wages of replacement officers - \$25,000
 - ▶ A contract increase to cover benefits or full cost
- ▶ Reinstitute a defibrillator program
 - ▶ Total cost of program would be less than \$3,500

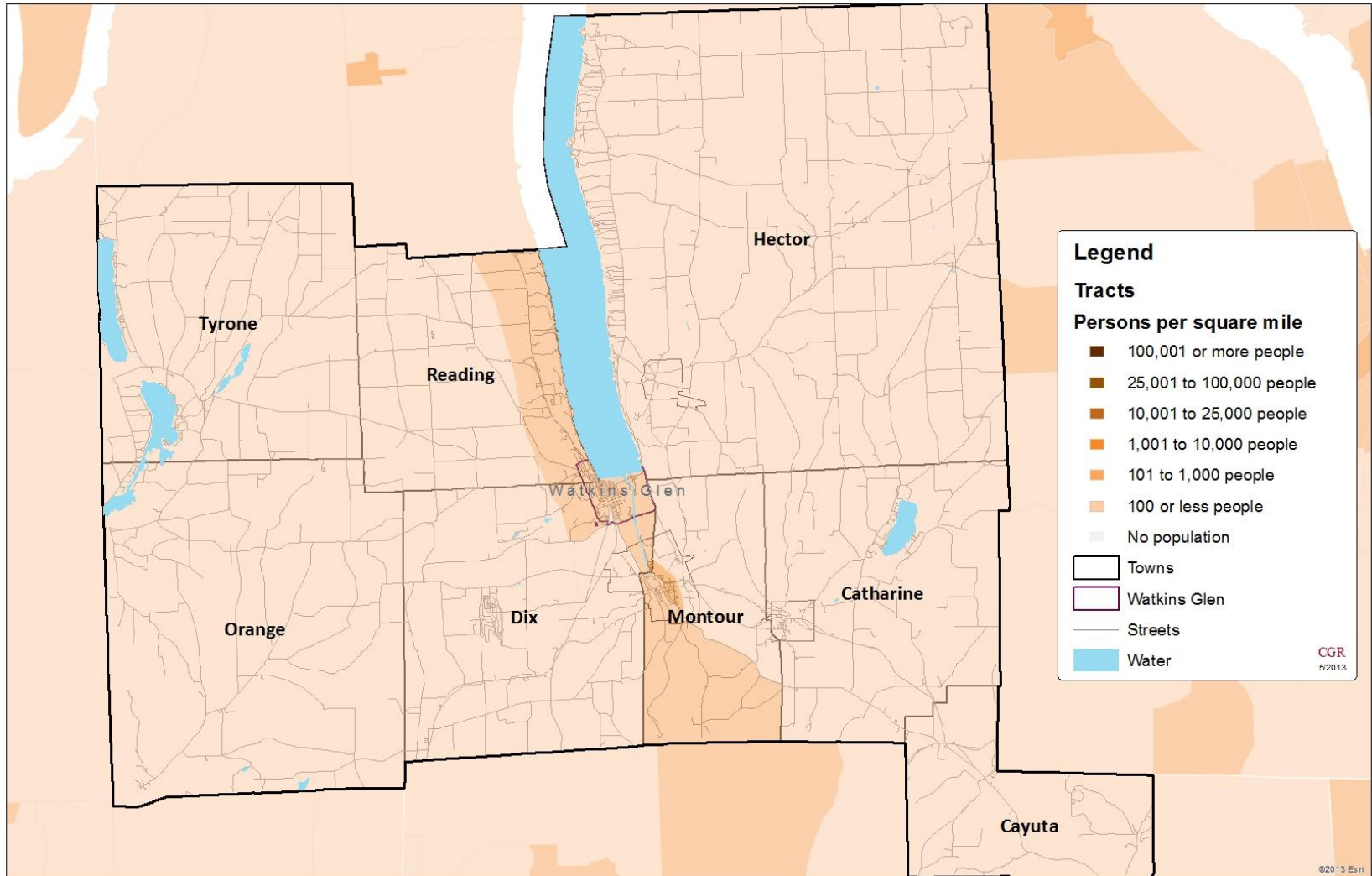
Option Two: Part Time Patrol in Village

- ▶ Eliminate WGPD patrol from 0200 to 0700 Monday to Friday mornings
- ▶ Only 129 calls in Watkins Glen during that time in 2011-12 (less than 1 call every five days)
- ▶ Potential annual **savings** of \$27,300
 - ▶ \$0.20 per thousand or \$18 per year for a median home - \$89,000

Option Three: Police Schuyler County as a Single Jurisdiction on Overnight Shift

- ▶ There are 4.2 calls per 8 hours on the overnight
- ▶ 2 officers plus NYSP resources could handle volume
 - ▶ 1 from each agency instead of 2 SCSO & 1 WGPD
 - ▶ Closest car concept
- ▶ Reduction of a single deputy 8 hours per day could save \$99,000
- ▶ Example agreement would have County pay Village \$42,000 for half it's overnight shift costs
- ▶ **Net savings for Village of \$42,000**
 - ▶ **\$0.32 per thousand or \$28 for a median home**

Population Density in Schuyler County



Option Four: Village Does Patrol Only

- ▶ WGPS eliminates administrative and investigative functions
- ▶ Chief no longer has dedicated administrative time
- ▶ SCSO investigates all serious crimes and handles most administrative tasks
- ▶ Financial impact is estimated as a **maximum savings of \$35,000**
 - ▶ Could be reduced if SCSO negotiates a charge
 - ▶ \$0.26 per thousand or \$23 for a median value house

Option Five: Village Contracts for Dedicated Patrol

- ▶ The Village would abolish WGPD and contract with SCSO for dedicated patrol
- ▶ Dedicated patrols would be 16 hours per day
- ▶ It would take 3 deputies and 1 sergeant to handle the additional work
- ▶ SRO and special events would be a separate question for SCSO
- ▶ **Estimated cost of \$337,000, a savings of \$180,000**
 - ▶ **A reduction of \$1.35 per thousand or \$120 per year for median home**

Option Six: Village Stops Police Service Without a Contract

- ▶ Village abolishes the police department
- ▶ Estimated additional cost to County would be \$337,000 to provide the additional services
- ▶ SRO and special events would be a separate question for SCSO
- ▶ **Savings of \$517,482 to village**
 - ▶ Reduction of \$3.88 per thousand or \$345 for median home
- ▶ **Increase of \$337,000 for all county taxpayers**
 - ▶ Increase of \$0.17 per thousand or \$23 for median home

Summary of Options for Future of Law Enforcement

	Option	Estimated Tax Savings Impact *
1	Minor Changes to Status Quo	\$ 2 ↓
		\$ 1 ↓
		\$ 2 ↑
2	WGPD goes to part time patrol	\$ 18 ↓
3	WGPD and SCSO perform joint overnight patrol	\$ 28 ↓
4	WGPD patrol only, SCSO does administration and investigations	< \$23 ↓
5	WGPD Abolished and Village contracts with SCSO	\$ 120 ↓
6	WGPD Abolished and no contract for service	\$ 345 ↓
		\$ 23 ↑

Future Steps

- ▶ Study committee will identify an option(s) and request CGR to create an implementation plan
- ▶ CGR will present an implementation plan to the study committee for further actions

Questions and Comments

- ▶ Please complete and return the survey
 - ▶ If completing online, please complete by 6/10/2013
- ▶ Brief comments will be taken
- ▶ Visit the study website at www.cgr.org/watkinsglen
- ▶ Contact Information
 - ▶ Paul Bishop
 - ▶ pbishop@cgr.org
 - ▶ (585)327-7068

Study Website

Strategic Review of the Village of Watkins Glen Police Department

Restructuring Options and Planning for the Future

CGR

- Home
- About the Study
- Meetings
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- Links
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This website is designed to facilitate community engagement as the Village of Watkins Glen and Schuyler County consider options for providing consolidated police services. The study process began in January 2013 and is expected to take six months.

The report on the different options for police service has been added to the [documents page](#).

Please check back often for updates, and be sure to sign up online to receive email alerts as new information is added.

EMAIL STUDY TEAM

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL ALERTS

ABOUT THE STUDY

The Process

The Village of Watkins Glen has initiated a police department restructuring study to proactively assess the potential of restructuring the Village of Watkins Glen Police Department including the possibility of consolidating with the Schuyler County Sheriff's Department.

The Study Committee

The process is being overseen by a [study committee](#) of Village and County Officials, with assistance from the Center for Governmental Research (CGR), a nonprofit management consulting organization with expertise in government management, public finance

Feedback

The Study Committee and CGR encourage public engagement in this process. Please submit your comments, questions and other feedback by [clicking here](#) and visiting the [public engagement page](#).

www.cgr.org/watkinsglen/index.aspx

Study Documents

Strategic Review of the Village of Watkins Glen Police Department

Restructuring Options and Planning for the Future

[Home](#)[About the Study](#)[Meetings](#)[Documents](#)[Public Engagement](#)[Links](#)[FAQ](#)

REPORTS

The Options Report includes all the information from the Baseline Report and describes six different options for service modifications for law enforcement in Watkins Glen.

Please complete [this survey](#) regarding the future of Watkins Glen Police. The information describing the options in detail is in

[Options Report](#) (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/watkinsglenpolice>)

The [Tax Calculator](#) allows a person to project the impact of the different options on their property tax bill.

- [Options Report](#) (Approved May, 2013)

The Baseline Report documents the current state of law enforcement in Watkins Glen and Schuyler County.

- [Baseline Report](#) (Approved April, 2013)

STUDY BACKGROUND

- [The Study Committee](#)
- [Watkins Glen RFP](#)
- [CGR Project Proposal](#)

Total Tax Bill

Enter the value of your home: \$

Calculate

Your Current Tax Bill:	\$2,761				
Seneca County Tax	\$470				
County Medicaid Share	\$278				
Town of Dix Tax	\$234				
School District Tax	\$1,047				
Library Service Tax	\$15				
Village of Watkins Glen Tax	\$717				
The Options	Estimated Village Tax Bill	Percent Reduction	Estimated Total Tax Bill	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Option 2 - Part Time Patrol:	\$699	-3%	\$2,743	\$-18	-1%
Option 3 - Joint Overnight Patrol:	\$689	-4%	\$2,733	\$-28	-1%
Option 4 - Patrol Only:	\$694	-3%	\$2,738	\$-23	-1%
Option 5 - Village Contracts for Service:	\$597	-17%	\$2,641	\$-120	-4%
Option 6 - Village Dissolves without a contract:	\$372	-48%	\$2,416	\$-345	-12%