



For Immediate Release

Township Manager Richard Gestrich Credentialed By International Local Government Management Organization

LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP (*October 7, 2015*) – Richard Gestrich, Manager for Lower Providence Township, recently received Credentialed Manager designation from ICMA, the International City/County Management Association. Mr. Gestrich is one of over 1,300 local government management professionals currently credentialed through the ICMA Voluntary Credentialing Program.

ICMA's mission is to create excellence in local governance by promoting professional management worldwide and increasing the proficiency of appointed chief administrative officers, assistant administrators, and other employees who serve local governments and regional entities around the world. The organization's nearly 9,000 members in 27 countries also include educators, students, and other local government employees.

To receive the prestigious ICMA credential, a member must have significant experience as a senior management executive in local government; have earned a degree, preferably in public administration or a related field; and demonstrated a commitment to high standards of integrity and to lifelong learning and professional development.

Factors that led to Mr. Gestrich's credentialing eligibility include:

- Full member of ICMA
- MPA and 7 years of local government executive experience
- Completion of an Applied Knowledge Assessment Exam (120 multiple choice questions across 17 professional assessment areas developed by ICMA and Georgia State University)
- Completion of a Self-Development Plan based on test scores

The ICMA Credentialing Advisory Board reviews the Self Development Plan and Exam and renders a recommendation. Recommended names are published in the ICMA newsletter for general member review and the filing of objections. Following the review period, the ICMA Executive Board reviews and grants Credentialed Manager Status.