



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
SCENIC TRAILS COUNCIL

September 16, 2011

TO: Voting members of the Scenic Trails Council:
Charter Organization Representatives
Council Members at Large
Executive Board Members

FROM: Council President, Michael J. Ennis
Council Commissioner, William J. Ewing
Council Scout Executive, Daniel C. Hogan

RE: **CROSSROADS RECOMMENDATION – “Unit Focused Scouting”**

Last night at the Executive Board Meeting of the Scenic Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America, a resolution was passed 25 to 4 to call a special meeting of the eligible voting members of the Council to consider the **Crossroads Recommendation**. As one of these voting members, we wanted to inform you of this action and the process over the next 45 days that will occur. Additionally, we will be providing you with information related to the implications of this recommendation and the impact it will have for your Scouting unit(s) and your organization.

The **Crossroads Recommendation** creates a dramatic update to the delivery of Scouting, while remaining true to the values, aims, and methods of the Scouting Movement which has provided the finest in values-based youth development for over 100 years.

The work of over 110 volunteers and professionals (including several from our local Council) over the past year (over 9,000 man-hours of meetings alone) recognized the downward trends in youth membership, volunteer involvement, and financial support for Scouting across all Councils during the past 20 years. The recommendation creates an ideal structure to promote Scouting to a new generation of youth and their parents as we begin our second century of Scouting.

The **Crossroads Recommendation** proposes the restructuring of the delivery of the Scouting Program to: (1) substantially increase the number of properly tasked Unit Serving Executives; (2) focus both professionals and volunteers on local unit service, retention, and membership growth; (3) consolidate almost all administrative functions and governance at an coordinating council level; and (4) re-purpose what are now called Councils to facilitate these efforts.

Your Executive Board endorses this recommendation and encourages a “Yes” vote. As a Charter Organizational Representative, Council Member-at-Large, or Executive Board Member it is vital that **YOU** vote on these changes. To become familiar with the proposed changes, informational meetings will be scheduled for you to attend and to learn about this important proposal and the positive impact it can have for youth and your community. You will receive more information on the date, time and locations of these informational meetings.

You will receive a ballot regarding this recommendation in a few weeks. Please complete the ballot and return it prior to the November 1 deadline. (Complete instructions will be included with the ballot.) Every vote is critical to make the best decision possible for the future of Scouting and the impact it has on youth and your community.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
SCENIC TRAILS COUNCIL

The full **Crossroads Recommendation** is posted on the website, www.bsaareaproject.org, as is all the Area Project Task Force work that was conducted to bring this recommendation to you. If you have a question or a comment, go to: www.bsaareaproject.org/ask-a-question/ or contact your local Scout Executive by calling Dan Hogan at 231-947-7071 x111. You can also submit questions or comments through our website at www.stcbsa.org. We would be happy to hear from you and consider your comments as we proceed together in bringing more youth to Scouting and more Scouting to youth.

Thank you for all you do for Scouting and your commitment to excellence.

Yours in Scouting,

Michael J. Ennis
Council President

William J. Ewing
Council Commissioner

Daniel C. Hogan
Scout Executive



RESOLUTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD
OF
SCENIC TRAILS COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried at a meeting of the Executive Board of the Scenic Trails Council, Boy Scouts of America held on September 15, 2011, the following Resolutions were duly adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Executive Board present at the time, a quorum being present at such time:

RESOLVED, that the Executive Board recommends that the Scenic Trails Council join in the Coordinating Council and that said recommendation be submitted for approval by a vote of the members of the Council entitled to vote thereon at a special meeting to be called on November 1, 2011 for that purpose, notice of which meeting is to be given to each member, together with a copy of said proposed plan.

RESOLVED, a comment period of thirty (30) days be established for the receipt of comments and concerns from the membership of the Scenic Trails Council as to the proposed plan to join the Coordinating Council. Said comments to be sent to the Scout executive and to be addressed at the November 1, 2011 special meeting of the Scenic Trails Council.

RESOLVED, the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation of the Scenic Trails Council are hereby amended to authorize the voting by absentee ballot on the Resolutions of the members of the Council entitled to vote.

Dated: September 15, 2011