

Theodore Roosevelt Council

July 28, 2025 Town Hall

Proposal for Combining with Suffolk County Council

Questions and Answers, plus Additional Information

Question	Reply as provided during the webinar	Additional Information
what is the total # of Eligible voters? If an individual is a MAL, Charter Rep and maybe on the executive board Is it One man. One vote And have charter reps been advised of their opportunity to vote. I have heard many Charter reps know nothing of this process/ Opportunity	We will go over this later in the presentation. Notices have been sent to all MALs. Thanks for your feedback on Charter reps	There are 212 voting members. In addition to multiple mail and email notifications already made, each voting member is receiving a phone call from a member of the Steering Committee to ensure that they know of the merger, information meetings, and the vote on August 13th.
I see a lot of publicity of Baiting hollow , 100's of posted pictures Is this the writing on the wall as far as choosing between Baiting Hollow and Schiff	Initial response - We will address camps later in the presentation. Similar to the last virtual presentation. Subsequent response - Baiting Hollow is an active summer camp. Schiff is not at this time. OSR is actively posting on social media, too	We believe the Baiting Hollow publicity, as it's called here, is due to their active Cub summer programs. There is no correlation to be inferred between this and our expectation that <u>all three camps</u> (Onteora, Schiff and Baiting Hollow) will be maintained and effectively utilized post-merger, assuming approval.
Is there an options to vote while away for those of us that will be with our units at summer camp? How is only in peron voting keeping with your wanting to do due diligence to find what it is those in our council want? If I'm wanting to vote am i supposed to leae my scouts at summercamp to have a say in what happens with our council?	This will be covered later in the presentation. The national Scouting America by-laws require in person votes for a merger. We do not have any flexibilitiy on this.	We are encouraging as many people as possible to come out and vote, no matter which way they plan to vote. See above re our attempts to ensure that all voting members are aware of the meeting on August 13th.
Is it possible we could get this data in a tabluar version? It would be great to see the raw numbers and YoY % change.	[name], thanks for your question. We have been sharing this presentation in this format. Hopefully, it is demonstrative of the trends being described. We considered how to share this and agreed on this format - this presentation material is also being used by SCC.	
Hi, As a fyi, I am a COR and was only advised of the meeting by my Scoutmaster. I did not hear through the council.	Initial response - [name] - thank you. We sent out notices for the meeting about 30 days ago. We can follow up off line. Subsequent response - [name] - you should have received a hard copy mailing. Note, you unsubscribed from email mailings in 2019.	See above regarding our ongoing attempts to contact all voting members and ensure that they are aware of the meeting, as well as available information regarding the proposed merger.

Question	Reply as provided during the webinar	Additional Information
So, Like Long Island Catholic Grammer Schools, There were mergers of schools that left a lot of Parochial school famalies very upset with their schools merging with the neighboring communities Catholic Grammer school. So, the attendance of the new merged school went up, but only temporarily Have other merger type programs been spoken to re the pros and cons of a merge	We've learned about other Council mergers, and to our understanding, membership has not suffered as a result of the mergers.	As discussed during the webinar, membership will be a key focus, if not the key focus, going forward. It is imperative for the sake of all Scouting that we provide every opportunity possible for the youth in our Council to participate.
How will camp staffing be handled for theoretically 2-3 camps when can barely seem to keep consistent and well trained staff for our single 'active' camp?	[name], camp staffing has been an issue. Will need to address program and staffing for each camp if we move forward with the merger.	It is possible (though no guarantee) that a merged Council will be able to utlize a larger pool of staff candidates to better address needs - either for a full summer (eg, at Onteora) or ad hoc (eg, weekend programs at Baiting Hollow).
Is there a moretorium on any potential disposal of 1 of the camps should the need arise	[name], we will go over that again tonight. Mike and Chris will cover.	Our expectation is that all three camps will continue to be integral to the success of Scouting on Long Island. There is no plan, formal or informal, dispose of any camp properties.
you say better training opportunities, whats stopping any scout or scouter from exploring other training opportunities outside of either TRC or even SCC? Scouts come to us for NYLT from out of council, why is this a point to be made for merger talks when thats been for a while now? What trainings does SCC have that we have theoretically been unable to provide to our youth and scouters?	Appreciate your point. The presentation emphasizes that there are opportunities to have more Island-wide activities for our youth. We believe programs currently only for TRC or SCC will now be available to all Long Island Scouts, providing opportunities for our Scouts to participate in a wider variety of activities and experiences, including at all three of our camps	Our experience has shown that, while certain units will support sending their Scouts out-of-Council for training and other program opportunities, many units do not take advantage of this.
What is the counci rankings right now vs what it could be in 3 years?	I believe that Mike and Chris will cover this. There are about 250 councils around the country. if the merger moves forward - we will be come one of the top councils in the country - top 15/20. Note, we have already received the Lily grant to support membership growth. Separately, both councils are in the top 40/50 councils.	There is no way to predict what our Council ranking "could be" in 3 years. Our emphasis, rather than being concerned about a national ranking, will be to grow the Scouting program as much as possible.
Are you going to be able to handle the volume for things like camporee	That's the plan. We navigated camporees when we had 10,000 scouts.	A terrific "problem" (which is really an opportunity) would be to have sufficient demand for camporees and other Council-level events that we want to offer more. If the quality and excitement around camporees can create this buzz, we look forward to challenging ourselves to address this demand.

Question	Reply as provided during the webinar	Additional Information
so why the rumor if we dont merge now, National will do it	Suffolk is operating under a conditional charter. They don't have a scout executive. The expectation is that longer term there would be a forced merger. So, this is a matter of timing - expect a merger to happen	Suffolk is currently operating under a conditional charter from the National Office. They have been provided an Interim Scout Executive from the territory. There have been rumors of a forced merger or that this is a matter of timing - that we should expect a merger to happen. To date, the National Office has not forced any mergers but they have the ability to do so. Both Councils' leadership have discussed the idea of a merger and believe that it would strengthen Scouting on Long Island.
I live in Western PA in a council of ~10,000 Scouts. We've merged twice in the last 13 years. Our success operationally has been to cap our board at 50 people. With the additional individuals, form an advisory board or leadership committee.	Thanks - we are leaving all members on the board as of date of the merger (if it happens). We expect board members to roll off and others to join. Over time and to establish a board of under 50.	Board members are generally key donors, as well as providing expertise in various areas of governance/operation. Further, there will be an Executive Committee of the Board, comprising approximately 15-20 Scouters, that will effectively lead the management of the Board/Council.
Suffolk County apparently missed its payroll a couple of times this past spring. Are we bailing them out of their poor financial planning		Candidly, there are many false rumors being spread - about both Councils. Suffolk County Council is meeting its payroll and operating obligations, and we are <u>not</u> "bailing them out of their poor financial planning."
So is he saying the BiLaws are dictaed by the New York Attorney Genera	Dictated by National - and meet requirements under NYS law too	
How many voting memebbers are their in Suffolk County	Around 170	
Is Suffolk county conducting its vote same [date]	same	Yes - both Councils are holding meetings on August 13th at 6pm.
is it a majority vote requirement to pass	Chris is covering	To pass, the proposal to merge will require a 2/3rds affirmative vote.
If the COR cannot vote in person, can the deputy COR vote in his stead?	only the COR.	The bylaws require that only the voting members (members at large, chartered organization representatives and Board members) can vote, and they must be present in-person to vote for themselves.
Do we have to register to attend and vote?	Must be registered to vote	Voting members will "check in" and be handed a paper ballot when they arrive on August 13th.
Please repeat the location and timeframe of the vote. Does Suffolk vote the same day?	Suffolk votes the same day - they preferred this date. A	The vote will take place at 6pm on August 13th at the Nassau County Executive Building, 1550 Franklin Avenue, Mineola.
Please post the numbers (anonomously) results of the vote TRANSPARANCY Thanks	will be counted live	
I really think the time of the vote should be written in stone	The meeting is at 6 pm.	Confirmed - 6pm.