



**MICHIGAN
ASSOCIATION
OF MAYORS**

Council-Manager Relations

**Jason Smith, MPA
City Manager, City of Belleville**

I Was But One Car In A Traffic Jam



Directing Traffic



The Importance Of The Council-Manager Relationship



TOP 5

1. Start on a Solid Foundation

- ❑ Understand what you need from each other to be successful. – Clear expectations
- ❑ Understand the “why”
- ❑ Communicate, Communicate, Communicate

2. Emphasis on Solutions

- ❑ What is the problem?
- ❑ What is the endgame?
- ❑ How to we get from where we are to where we want to be?

3. Understand and Respect the Roles and Rules



4. Learn, Learn, Learn

Mistakes WILL happen

Invest in the future

It Never Ends

5. Embrace the Media Together





Thank you for helping build better communities.