SURVIVING CULTURE CHANGE

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November 9, 2017



"What exactly is Culture Change?"



Defines *culture change* as "a term used in public policy making that emphasizes the influence of **cultural** capital on individual and community behavior. It has been sometimes called repositioning of **culture**, which means the reconstruction of the **cultural** concept of a society."



Defines culture change as "modification of a society through innovation, invention, discovery, or contact with other societies."



"Changing an organization's culture is one of the most difficult leadership challenges. That's because an organization's culture comprises an interlocking set of goals, roles, processes, values, communications practices, attitudes and assumptions."





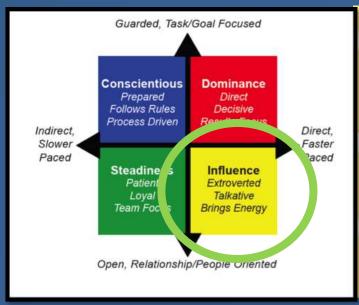
Culture Change Survivalist

- Five Public Transit Agencies in 24 years
 - Small, Medium, and Large
 - Organizational Structure & Governing Boards
 - Modes (Bus, Paratransit, &/or Light Rail)
 - Varying Degrees of Financial Capacities
 - Multiple Position(s) and Responsibilities
 - Nine Bosses
 - Responsible for Groups Ranging in Size from 5 to 1,250 people
 - Each with a new CEO/GM who asked for Culture Change!

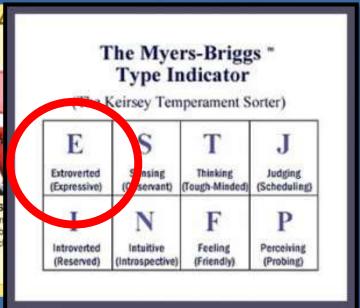
Culture Change Survivalist



My Personality Tests







"Roman Toes"







Building a Team

- Setting Culture Change in Motion
 - Clearly define the new culture
 - Involve everybody
 - Embody the new culture (actions, words, & behavior)
 - Hold employees accountable
 - Follow up with ongoing support & encouragement
 - Be Persistent
 - Get them to engage





Not Engaged



Direct Reports & Frontline

- Frontline Supervisors
 - Ask for their input!
 - Meet with them often and schedule (monthly works best)
 - Yes, they will complain.... First meeting rough
 - Follow up with their issues and concerns
 - Provide training and educational

"Been saying this for years"

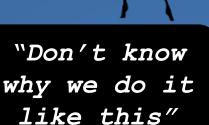
> "We've always done it this way"



Direct Reports & Frontline

- Your Direct Reports
 - Mentor!
 - Encourage, Support, & Recognize Constantly
 - Set clear expectations
 - Set goals (for their personal development department, agency)
 - Before implementing a major change get their buy in.
 - It's their idea
 - Let them loose!

"We were told not to..."





Direct Reports & Frontline

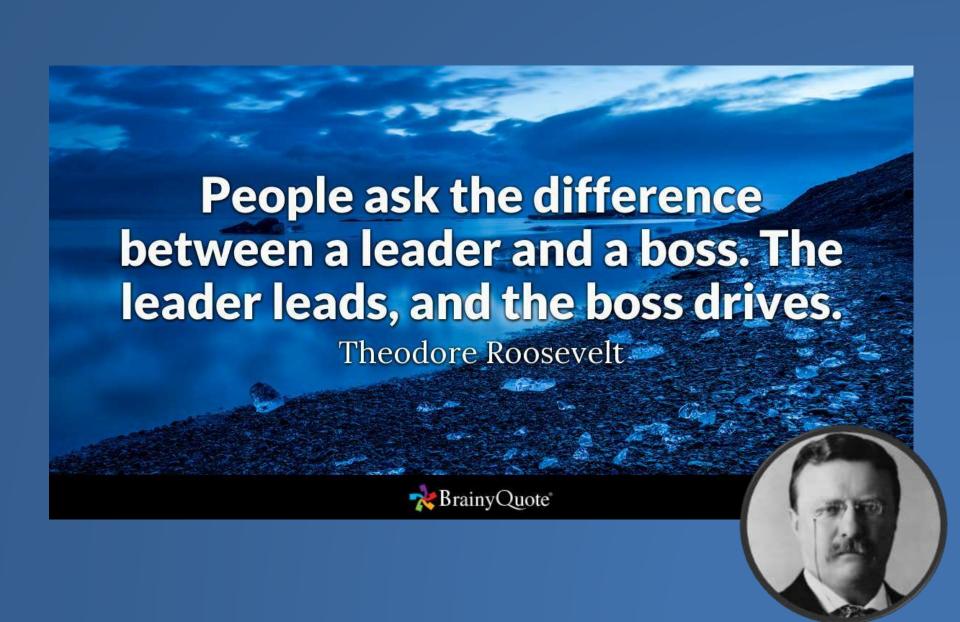
- Frontline Employees (Operators, Mechanics)
 - Make yourself visible
 - Get their input (service, safety, equipment)
 - Listen to their issues and concerns. Follow up!
 - When are you going to fix...?
 - Make tangible changes that affect their working environment. (Safety, Cleanliness, Customer Service)

act. Don't say,

iust show.

Don't promise.

– They are part of your team too!



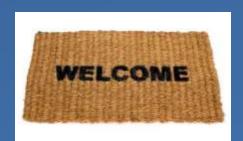
Boss vs. Leader

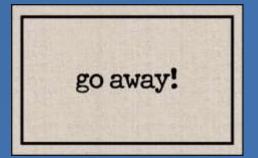




Co-workers & Peers

- The Welcome Wagon
 - Already done their research on you
 - Contacted people at your former agencies
 - Invite you to a group lunch
 - Will reach out to offer their assistance
 - Warn you about what potholes to avoid
- The Resistance
 - Already done their research on you
 - Contacted people at your former agencies
 - Figured out your salary
 - Standoffish
 - Formed an opinion of you







Co-workers - Peers

- Accumulating Allies
 - Build collaborative relationships
 - Communicate.... (in-person, lunch, cup of coffee, office drop in, the hallway, etc.)
 - Make them want you on their team/side
 - Volunteer to help
 - Don't turn down offers for help
 - Don't suck up to the boss
 - Don't take it personal!





BUT,.....

.....you find out that your Boss:

- Indecisive
- Lies
- Gossips
- Mood swings
- Micromanager
- Bullies staff
- Panic's easily
- Lashes out
- Doesn't let you make decisions
- Is part of the problem/or is the problem





Opportunity NEXT EXIT

Culture Change

- Change is good!
 - Embrace challenges as opportunities
 - Pace yourself
 - Don't attempt to do it all yourself
 - Lean on your support network
 - Always teach and mentor
 - Continue to learn and grow











