

ROAD TO A CEA AWARD

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CAP
CON
2024

MML COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE AWARD



2023
City of Bridgman
Bridgman Courtyard



2022
Village of Cassopolis
Imagine Cass: Small, Rural, & Exceptional!

THE BRIDGMAN COURTYARD



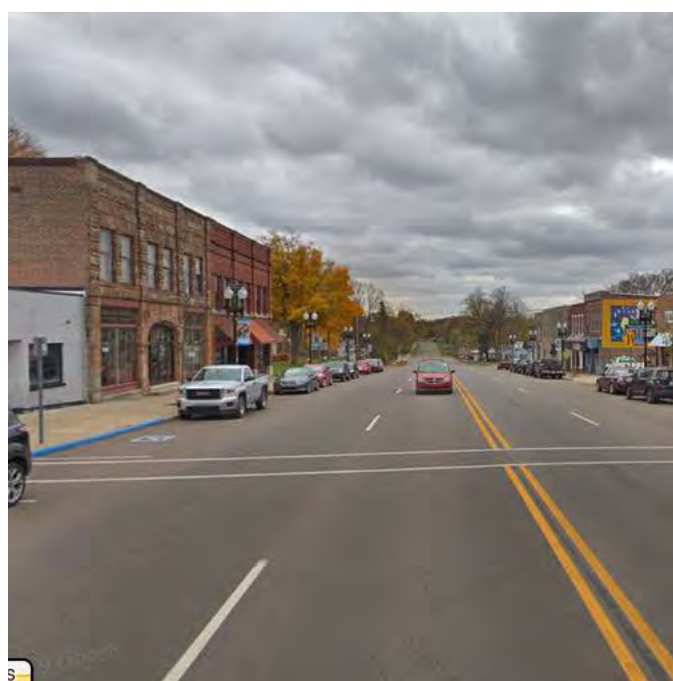
BEFORE



AFTER



IMAGINE CASS: SMALL, RURAL, & EXCEPTIONAL!



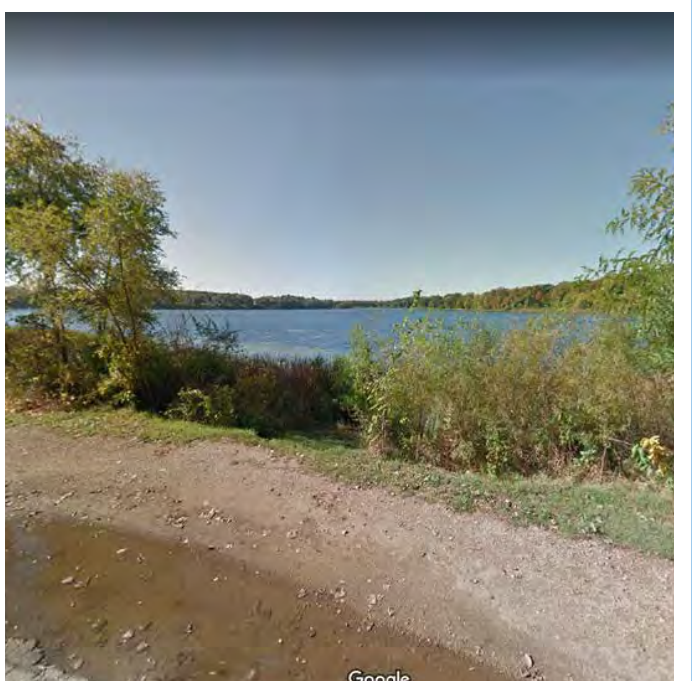
STREETSCAPE



PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE



BEACH ENTRANCE



STONE LAKE BEACH



BOARDWALK





WATER THE BAMBOO



- **Vison**
- **Faith**
- **Patience**
- **Persistence**
- **Focus**

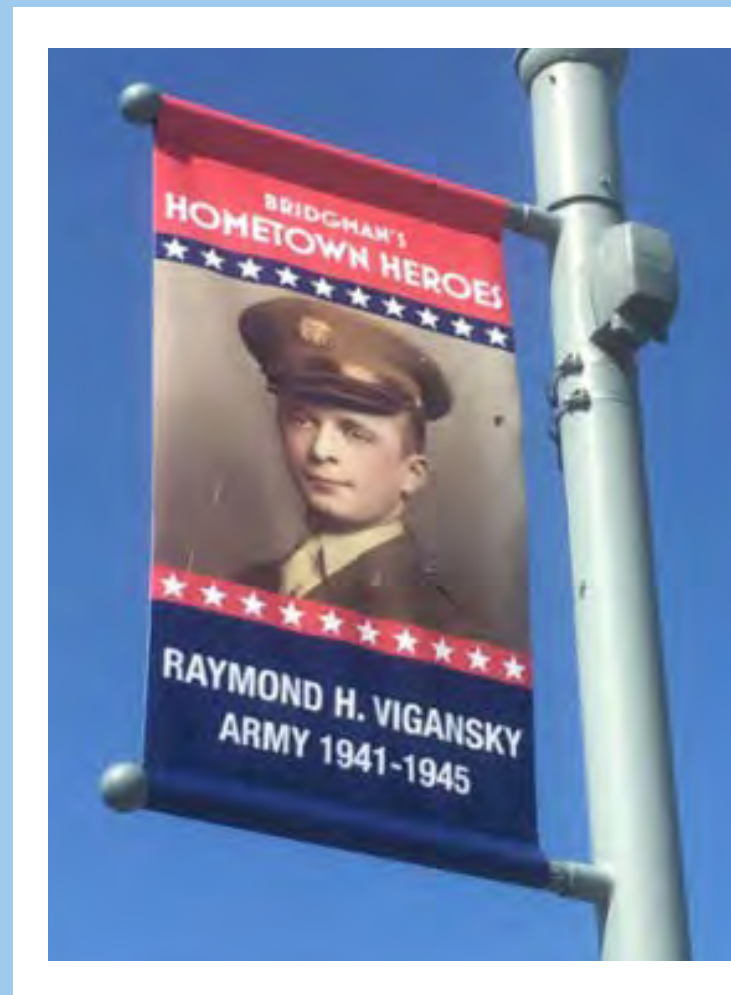
BE ACTIVELY INSPIRED



**World's Largest Tire
1 Mile Ahead**

- Being a leader means widening your aperture (get out of town!)
 - Why do you vacation where you do?
- Embrace new approaches – and be a government that never stops listening.
- Share the inspiration you find and test it - start with your community's youth.
 - (Civics and AP Govt doesn't have to be boring)

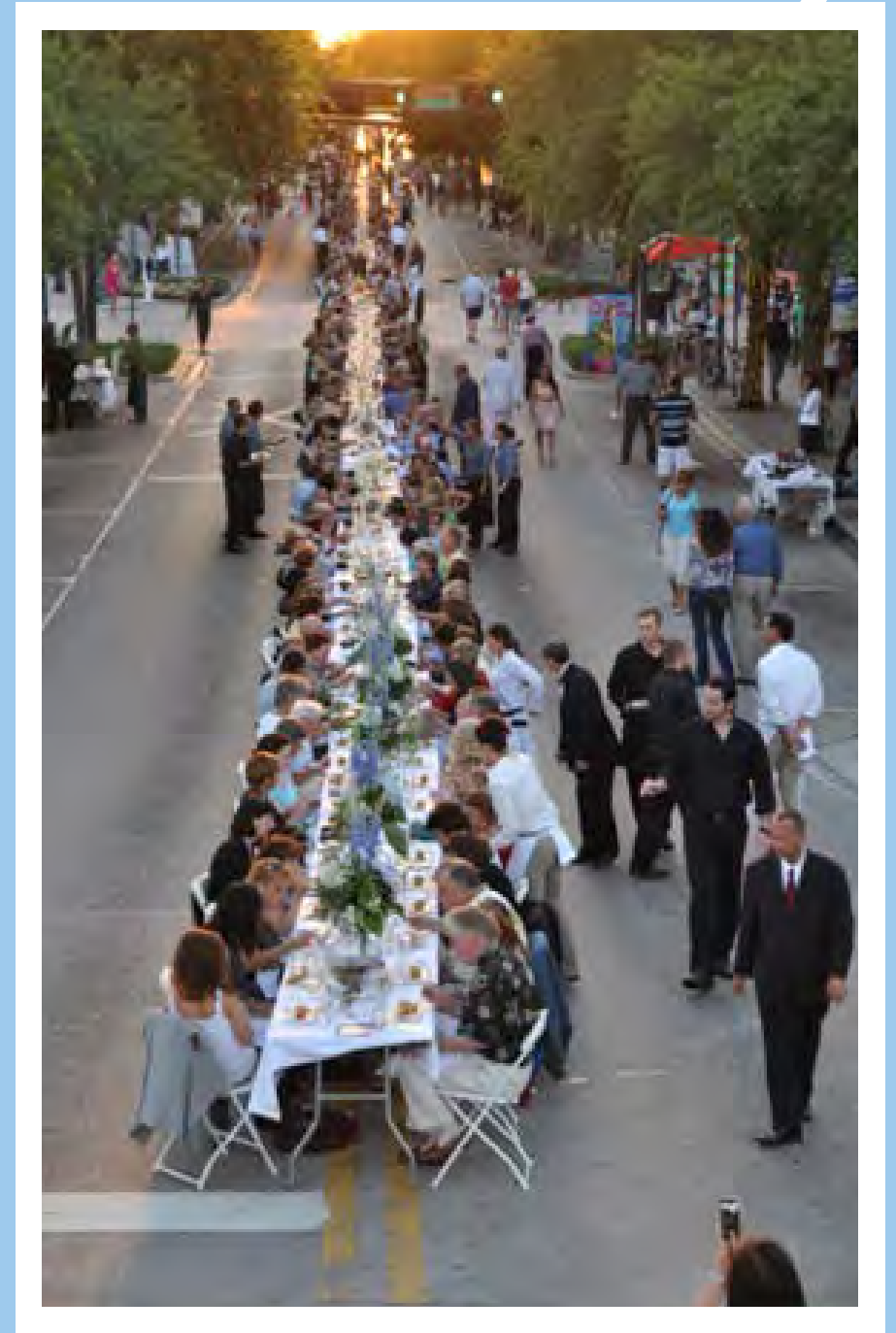
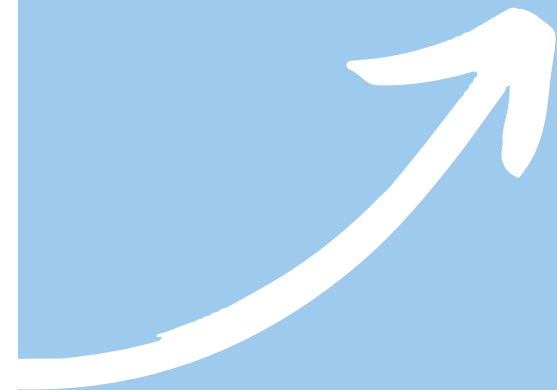
Why you should listen to your city attorney



Seek inspiration and share it widely



Fire and Ice (cream) - the perfect combination!

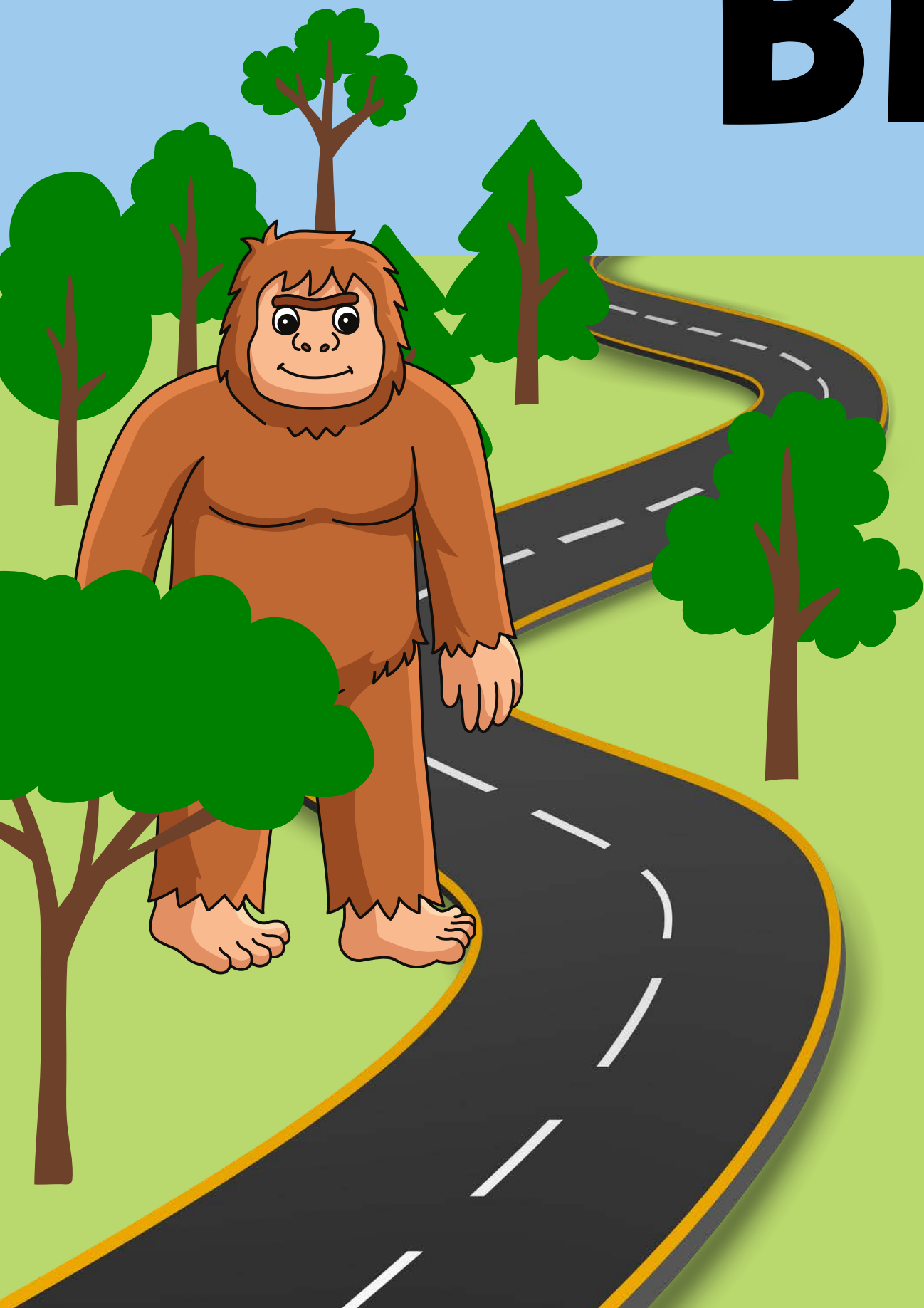


THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE



- Leadership from anywhere
- Valuing volunteers
- Recognition as a tool

BE THE GIANT



- **Imagine Cass - Small, Rural and Exceptional**
- **David vs. Goliath**
- **It's not the size but the impact**

PROGRESS INVOLVES RISK



- **Government tends to be risk averse – is it political accountability or fear of making mistakes?**
 - **The humans don't have to walk in a straight line...**
- **Increase your tolerance for risk, but be mindful of your community's culture**

DON'T BE A ROADBLOCK

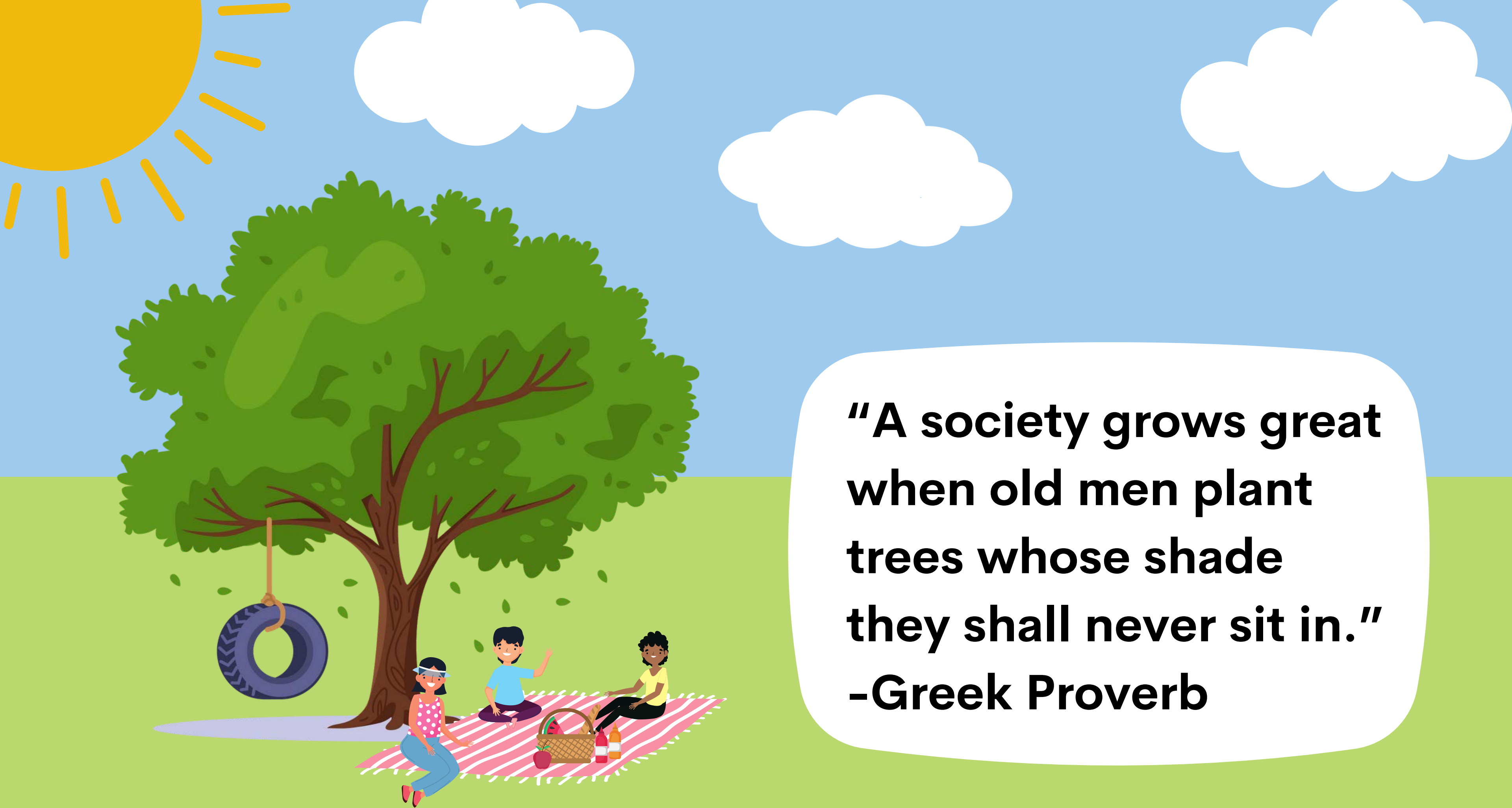


- **Embrace and adapt to change**
- **Listen, collaborate, and value input**
- **Empower and trust others**

ENJOY THE RIDE



- **Teamwork makes the dreamwork**
- **Seize the moment**
- **Government CAN be fun**



**"A society grows great
when old men plant
trees whose shade
they shall never sit in."
-Greek Proverb**