

The Public Interest. The public interest, in terms of government and public administration, is the wants and needs of the public which you serve. When in the process of making policy, whether as elected officials or administrators, the public interest should be considered when defining problems and setting objectives. As a public administrator, city manager for example, you should always be available to residents of your community and holding town halls to gauge the public interest.

Social Equity. Social equity is the idea of opportunities and service being available to everyone in society. Ideally, public goods should be equitable, like parks, emergency services, roads, etc. When working as a public official, I believe it is your duty to make sure all services you help provide or policies you create are equitable, as applicable. For example, if you work in human resources, you should be creating policies that don't discriminate or put others at an unfair advantage.

Respect for Citizens. I believe respect for citizens means acting with integrity, professionalism, and accountability. You must have respect for citizens when your income is provided by their tax dollars. Again, as a public official, you should show this respect by always being available to these citizens and making sure they feel heard. If a public official has an identity of a humanitarian or a communitarian, I imagine they have an inherent respect for citizens that drives their passion and involvement.