



## Community Engagement Framework

*Council is committed to open, accountable, and responsive decision making, which is informed by effective communication and engagement between Council and the community. Council acknowledges that the community has a right to be involved in, be informed of, and provide their feedback on decisions that affect them.*

### Spectrum of Public Participation

A spectrum of public participation informs Council's community engagement activities, and provides a structure for levels of engagement based on the community's potential for impact on a decision:

*INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION* →

INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Providing the public with balanced and objective information to assist with the understanding of a problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions	Obtaining public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions	Working directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered	Partnering with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution	Placing final decision-making in the hands of the public
<i>Looks like:</i>	<i>Looks like:</i>	<i>Looks like:</i>	<i>Looks like:</i>	<i>Looks like:</i>
Keeping the public informed via social media, website, and newsletters	Keeping the public informed, and using surveys and public comment tools to listen to and acknowledge community concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how input influenced decision	Working with the public using workshops, working groups, and other formats to ensure community concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in alternatives presented, and provide feedback on how input influenced decision	Looking to the public for direct advice in formulating solutions using participatory decision-making activities, and incorporating advice and recommendations into decisions to the maximum extent possible	Implementing what the public decides, using citizen's juries, ballots, and other appropriate formats

### Decision Making Process

Council's *Community Engagement Framework & Policy* inspires community involvement throughout the entire decision-making process, rather than solely once a decision has been made. Using this plan, both Council and the public can work to achieve outcomes that are mutually beneficial, and improve the quality of life of all residents.



For more information, view our [Community Engagement Policy](#).