

COMMUNITY

INVOLVEMENT in DECISION MAKING

The City regularly provides information to, and consults with, residents and groups on many different types of decisions, in many different ways. Examples of current processes include:

- local improvement petitions for new curbs and sidewalks
- referendums on the three year Capital Plans
- public processes for planning programs and rezonings
- advisory committees to City Council like the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee on Seniors' Issues
- on-going outreach to youth as part of the Civic Youth Strategy
- notification letters on development proposals
- the City's homepage on the Internet
- some park planning processes.

Public input is important to the City. Its recent initiative to improve public involvement (i.e. the Public Involvement Review) has resulted in:

- Publications such as a Newcomers Guide to City Services and a Civics Manual for high school students
- Community Web Pages — an expansion of the City's website to give the public more information (www.vancouver.ca/community_profiles)
- improvements to various City processes (such as notifications concerning development/rezoning proposals, and/or traffic management initiatives)
- improved structures for City Council's advisory committees
- multicultural outreach and translation guidelines.

Vision participants considered public involvement to be very important when dealing with a number of community issues, and it was referenced in a number of Directions in the Vision including 4.1 Traffic Calming Programs, 5.6 Extensive Community Consultation When Planning for the Arbutus Corridor, 5.8 Local Involvement in Transit Decisions, 7.3 Community Actions to Reduce Crime, 7.5 Prevent Youth Crime, 7.6 Community Consultation on the Location of Treatment Centres, 12.2 Public Involvement in Review of New Single Family House Design, 18.5 Add a Supermarket, and 24.6 Encourage Community Involvement in Parks. Beyond these references regarding specific issues, public consultation should be the rule respecting all important City decisions affecting residents of ARKS.



27 Community Involvement in Decision Making



ARKS Community Vision Fair

27.1 Community Involvement in Decision Making

Approved

ARKS residents should have greater, and more timely, input into decision making about changes in their community on matters ranging from major initiatives like the planning of the Arbutus Corridor or the provision of facilities and services, to recurring decisions relating to street and traffic changes or the review of development proposals.

Percent Agree 89%/85%