



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
- ongoing 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 like the Newcomers Guide to City Services and a Civics Manual for high school students
- Community Web Pages which expand 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 traffic management initiatives)
- improved structures for City Council's advisory committees
- multicultural outreach and translation guidelines.

Vision participants felt public involvement is very important when dealing with many community issues, and it is referenced in several Directions in this Survey. Participants suggested improving public involvement with regard to transportation and transit, new community facilities, new single family houses, and redevelopment of large sites and malls (i.e. King Edward Mall and Oakridge). Participants also suggested the need for ongoing public involvement in Vision implementation.

34 Community Involvement in Decision Making



Workshop participants creating Vision Directions

34.1 Community Involvement in Decision Making

Approved

RPSC residents should have greater, and timelier, input into decision making about changes in their community. Community involvement should be included in major initiatives like the redevelopment of large sites, the implementation of 'master plans' (e.g. Riley/Hillcrest and Mountain View Cemetery), and the introduction of Canada Line rapid transit stations. It should also be part of recurring decisions such as changes to streets and traffic patterns, the provision of facilities and services, and the review of development proposals.

Percent Agree 87%/92%

Peoples Ideas...

- need a process for ongoing community review of development

34.2 Community Involvement in Vision Implementation and Monitoring

Approved

Community residents should be involved with the City in the implementation of Vision Directions, and in monitoring and evaluating how well implementation actions work toward achieving Vision Directions.

Percent Agree 87%/91%