

Community Involvement in Decision Making



The City currently 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
- a referendum on the three year Capital Plans
- public processes for planning programs and rezonings
- special surveys such as the Framework for Action survey in early 2001
- public task forces like the Bus Impact Task Force
- advisory committees to City Council like the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Seniors Committee
- notification letters on development proposals
- the City's home page on the Internet

Public input is important to the City. Its Public Involvement Review is now developing:

- new initiatives (such as a Newcomers Guide to City Services and an expansion of the City's website to give the public more information)
- improvements to various City processes (such as notifications concerning development/rezoning proposals, liquor license applications, or traffic management initiatives)
- increased translation of City communications
- improved structures for City Council's advisory committees

While recognizing these practices, this Vision Direction suggests improvements: people could be made more aware of the opportunities to participate; the timing of input could be improved; and the input could have more influence on the decisions which are made.

33 Community Involvement in Decision Making

33.1 Community Involvement in Decision Making

Approved

Community residents should have greater, and more timely, input into decision making about changes in their community, involving matters like provision of facilities and services, development projects, street and traffic changes, transit changes, and park design

Percent agree 92%/86%

People's Ideas...

- require more public input and co-ordination in City, Parks, and community centre policy decisions
- have the City and Parks inform people about ways to advocate for change
- integrate more school, park, and community centre functions – learn from each other
- hold resident meetings to work on specific community projects