



DEI Committee

Meeting Date: August 9, 2022	Subject: Wilsonville Framework for Inclusive Engagement Staff Member: Daniel Pauly, Planning Manager Department: Community Development
-------------------------------------	---

ISSUE BEFORE COMMITTEE:

Discuss the Wilsonville Framework for Inclusive Engagement (Attachment 1) which will be an important resource for the City's ongoing public engagement efforts.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City has long valued public input and included public engagement as a key part of its work, especially for legislative and policy items that come before the City Council. Policy 1.1.1 of the Comprehensive Plan states "The City of Wilsonville shall provide opportunities for a wide range of public involvement in City planning programs and processes."

Recent projects, exemplified by the Town Center Plan, have made substantial efforts to hear a wide range of voices using a variety of public engagement methods. Currently, efforts are being redoubled to make sure historically underrepresented groups have meaningful impact on City decision making. This is driven locally by Council and others, exemplified by the efforts to set up and support the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. It is also driven by requirements of grant funding agencies including Metro and the State of Oregon. Strong momentum exists to do the best ever on public engagement to understand historic inequities, address them, and remove barriers historically faced by different minority groups.

Using Metro grant funding, the City initiated a project to further develop and refine initial ideas from a planning project around middle housing for a framework for inclusive public engagement that could be applied by various City departments and initiatives.

Bill de la Cruz and Pat Noyes have provided technical assistance and support to City staff for the completion of the framework. Since beginning their work in February, Mr. de la Cruz and Ms. Noyes reviewed the City's past public engagement efforts including Town Center and the Middle Housing project, coordinated with and advised the team working on Frog Pond East and

South public engagement, interviewed a number of past outreach participants who are members of historically underrepresented groups, held four hours of training with a large group of City staff. One product of their effort is the attached Wilsonville Framework for Inclusive Engagement (Attachment 1). The DEI Committee provided input on a draft version of Framework during in May. The attached version incorporates Committee comments along with those from City Council, Planning Commission, and staff from a number of City departments.

The intent of this project and the attached Framework is to provide a strong foundation on which City public engagement efforts can be based across a variety of projects to substantially increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in decisions by bringing meaningful engagement to all members of the community, particularly members of the community historically marginalized and underrepresented in public engagement efforts. The Framework provides resources, steps, and questions to consider to answer how to do improved public engagement. In addition, it lists barriers to engagement and actions to remove or minimize the barriers.

While the current consultant contract has concluded, the City is committed to continuing this work and welcomes City Council's feedback) on ideas for implementing the Framework. City staff will had or will have similar discussions with the City Council and Planning Commission.

As noted in the report, City staff is particularly interested in hearing from the DEI Committee about groups, communities, organizations that should be considered in developing an engagement approach that includes historically underrepresented groups. The Committee can share at the meeting or can share outside of the meeting by contacting Daniel Pauly, Planning Manager, at 503-570-1536 or pauly@ci.wilsonville.or.us

EXPECTED RESULTS:

Continue momentum to raise the bar for inclusive public engagement building upon and implementing the Wilsonville Framework for Inclusive Public Engagement.

TIMELINE:

While the consultant contract has concluded as of the end of June, this will be an ongoing effort across various City projects involving public engagement.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS or BENEFIT TO THE COMMUNITY:

A strong foundation on which City public engagement efforts can be based across a variety of projects to substantially increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in decisions by bringing meaningful engagement to all members of the community, particularly members of the community historically underrepresented in public engagement efforts. This work can help the City further its values of equity and inclusion through the reversal and establishment of policies and programs that enable, support, and celebrate diversity.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 Wilsonville Framework for Inclusive Engagement (dated June 23, 2022)