

The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:

- 1) What issues and challenges do you see regarding public participation in Boulder?  
Meeting notices are inadequate; childcare isn't provided at meetings; the city doesn't use the wealth of participatory techniques available. I want more outreach, better engagement of minorities (materials in Spanish, etc.).
- 2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.

- Equity
- Flexibility
- Openness
- Curiosity
- Creativity
- Authenticity

- 3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?  
- Block parties By the city in neighborhoods, esp. underrepresented ~~places~~ places  
- Ice cream socials  
- Story gathering / storytelling opportunities for public to share experiences  
- Fun, creative experiments or pop-ups (i.e., giant maps people can write on, chalkboards around the city, story booths, events).

- 4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?  
Have a city podcast that summarizes council deliberations and decisions for people who don't watch TV.  
If you improve engagement and data collection from it, you'll improve city decision making!

- 5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG?  
Please focus on engaging families with children, non-English-speaking people and meeting people where they are! Thank you for creating this working group!

**The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:**

- 1) What issues and challenges do you see regarding public participation in Boulder? *Lack of positive preparation on discussing issues before they become adversarial. A better way to give opinions to City Council - and getting timely feedback from them.*

- 2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

*For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.*

*Make an effort to really understand viewpoints that are different from yours. Be respectful. Be vulnerable; Be willing to share your viewpoint and your rationale for it.*

*Understand that problems can be jointly solved without changing people's basic values.*

*Focus on problem, not people*

- 3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?

*Buying a coffee/snack/etc in exchange for gathering information about how a variety of people feel about an issue. Using skilled facilitators to manage discussion on controversial issues.*

*We need more true outreach - staff & Council going out into the community.*

- 4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?

*I would like more and more residents to receive education on being a facilitative group member; develop skills. City should provide information about parameters regarding city issues before they become adversarial. (E.g. what are byright/legal aspects of a proposed development.)*

*Individual Council members give rationale for why they are making*

- 5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG? *A particular decision.*

The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:

1) What issues and challenges do you see regarding public participation in Boulder?

It is difficult to find substantive, meaningful ways to have an impact as a citizen. As a 45-year resident of Boulder and former University manager I feel I have things to contribute vs. just filling out surveys or sending comments to Council & Planning Board.

2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.

Again, I think people want to have meaningful input - not just window dressing so the city can say they had a public process. Specifically, I would like to see more citizen working groups, eg. for the development of the former Boulder Community Hospital site, which I have tried to become involved in.

3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?

I was part of the group that established the first two Family Resource Schools many years ago (this was a joint project between the city and BVSD). Although not enough community members participated, I did feel it was an authentic process to which I was able to make a real contribution.

4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?

The City has what appears to be an open and inclusive public process; so, the question why do city residents not feel heard? I think many people who have invested time & energy in one of these processes feel that an agenda was already pre-determined and their input was just to fulfill the requirement for public participation.

5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG?

I think the City should be careful with the seeming push towards neighborhood pseudo-representation as the primary vehicle for public participation. This may cause neighborhoods to be self-interested and/or pitted against each other, to the detriment of the community at large.

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2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

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lack of a technical framework to house these conversations

3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?

create FB groups

to connect people/leaders

is an ongoing, open, transparent + democratic way

4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?

see above + read

The Empirical

5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG?

Handbook

Thank you for starting this conversation!

RS

**The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:**

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2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

*For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.*

- Strong trusting relationships.
- A platform or forum where ideas, voices and dialogue are encouraged.

3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?

I like the idea of an event that offers entertainment and then opportunities for public discussion...

4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?

- Greater % of City employees actually reside in City.
- Neighborhood Liaison or Alderman.
- City presentations of information - Not simply posters with g: A.

5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG?

Present the ideas!

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RC

The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:

1) What issues and challenges do you see regarding public participation in Boulder?

(A) The City gerrymanders every working group & focus group they put together. Stocking majority percentages on all groups with people they know will agree with them & support the City's pre-determined decisions (like density, in-fill, co-ops)

(B) City Council systematically legislates on the basis of small percentage special interests. They should have more curiosity re: what the majority of citizens want.

(C) Focus groups, working groups should be constituted based on proportional representation based on Boulder's demographics. We live in a democracy based on majority rule. Boulder needs to find out what a majority of citizens want.

For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.

Nothing even remotely close to a majority of Boulderites want to live next to a co-op house of 10 unrelated people! Ditto for "right-sizing" Folsom St. - a tiny percentage of the population actually wanted it! So... b/c the City didn't listen to the community as a whole, one of the most divisive debates in Boulder's history occurred. City Council should send, through the U.S. Mail, surveys to every Boulder resident.

3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?

(1) Yes. - We in Martin Acres survey every one of the 1,350 homes in our neighborhood, before our leadership takes a position on issues.

(2) The City should endorse the idea of neighborhood plans, written by neighborhood residents themselves -

4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?

Yes... have an independent survey company <sup>do an unbiased</sup> survey 100% of Boulder residents. Not just 6,000. - That leaves 97,000 residents out in the cold.

Then, the independent can publish the results with

5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG? no \$PM from the city.

So all of us can see that the "people have spoken", and ~~how~~ how they spoke. Only then will they trust the process.

R7

The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:

- 1) What issues and challenges do you see regarding public participation in Boulder?

Community knowledge about how to do it.  
Lack of communication: 2 way. listening on all sides

- 2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.

Respect + listening

- 3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?

Informal discussions/meetings with people - hosting discussions in homes

- 4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?

See above

- 5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG?

KS

The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:

- 1) What issues and challenges do you see regarding public participation in Boulder?
  - a. STAFF/FACILITATOR OVER-STRUCTURING OF WORKGROUP Agendas, process & deliberation.
  - b. LACK OF DIALOGUE between council + public.
  - c. STAFF CONTROL OVER WORKGROUPS, OVERSTRUCTURE OF WORKGROUP PROCESS NOT TRUSTING WORKGROUP MEMBERS TO DIRECT OUTCOME AT WORKGROUP MEETINGS.
- 2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.

- a. 2 way conversations, not one-way emails.
  - b. higher weighting of Public participation in workgroups of the public that are not affiliated with city government.
  - c. Having workgroups develop their own structure of deliberation & data gathering.
  - d. Freedom to allow workgroups to brainstorm to set goals & direction.
- 3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?
    - a. STAFF TRUSTING TO RELINQUISH CONTROL OF WORKGROUP DELIBERATIONS.
    - b. ALLOWING WORKGROUP TO FUNCTION INDEPENDENT OF STAFF LEADERSHIP AND FACILITATOR.
    - c. Council members having Q & A TOWN HALL meetings in neighborhood areas at regular intervals.
  - 4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?
    - a. Two-way discussions.
    - b. City Calendars NOT being written with abbreviations.
    - c. workgroup meetings always on City Calendars.
    - d. Agenda item on council to verbally address public input from emails to confirm to public their input is being heard.
    - e. Bottom-up workgroups processes instead of top-down staff driven processes.
  - 5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG?
    - a. Allow public input at workshop meetings.
    - b. Be open & available at meeting for input from observers.
    - c. Workgroup take charge of direction of discussions.
    - d. Solicit public input from public about public participation problems so patterns can be identified, define problems so group can identify possible solutions.

The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:

1) What issues and challenges do you see regarding public participation in

Boulder? ~~Lack~~ of a forum for two way conversation or  
~~A need for~~ deliberative communication .....

2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.

Trust through developed relationships that are consistent, and two way. Timely conversation.

3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?

4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?

5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG?

R10

**The Public Participation Working Group (PPWG) welcomes your input on the following questions:**

- 1) What issues and challenges do you see regarding public participation in Boulder?

Traditionally silenced <sup>or "unengaged"</sup> populations, especially renters  
~~are~~ don't seem

- 2) What are the principles that should guide good public participation?

*For this question, consider principles as the characterizations related to good public process; applicable across many different purposes.*

- 3) What public outreach ideas and strategies have you seen or used that could be applied in Boulder?

- 4) What thoughts do you have regarding improving civic engagement processes to increase the effectiveness and transparency of City decision making?

- 5) What else would you like to share with the PPWG?