Public Involvement Advisory Council



2003-2007

Many community-city joint committees were convened to recommend how the City could improve its public involvement processes. Several of these groups recommended that an ongoing group be created to shepherd the implementation of public involvement guidelines in the City.



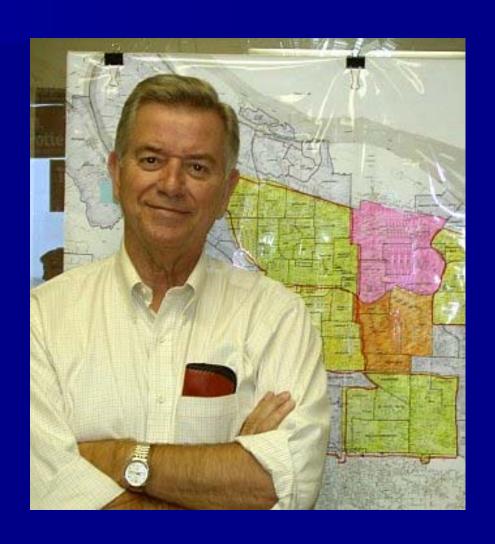
2003-2007

These committees discussed central themes of:

- Frustration in the community due to a lack of consistency across City processes
- Lack of resources or guidelines for City staff
- Challenge of needing a versatile tool that works across bureaus. Not a cookie cutter model.

Summer 2007

Funding for PIAC: Mayor Potter creates the Public **Involvement Best** Practices Program in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. This program funds one full time staff person who is charged with establishing the PIAC.



December 2007

Staff person, Afifa Ahmed-Shafi hired in the Office of Neighborhood Involvement to staff the Public **Involvement Best Practices Program** and to establish the PIAC



February 2008

PIAC Established:

Mayor Potter & Office of Neighborhood Involvement present a resolution to City Council to establish the PIAC. Resolution is adopted unanimously.



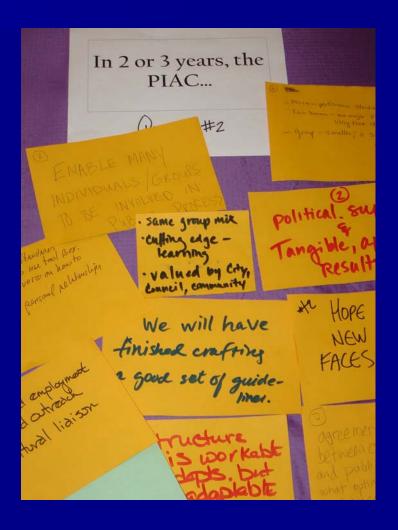
September 2008

- 30 inaugural members recruited & appointed to serve on the PIAC, representation from:
- 18 community organizations
- 14 city bureaus



October 2008

- First meeting of PIAC.
 Group shares their goals
 for PIAC which leads to
 "PIAC's Guiding
 Principles":
 - Representation
 - Reducing Barriers to Involvement
 - Effectiveness
 - Consistency
 - Partnership
 - Implementation



November 2008

Incoming Mayor
 Adams meets with
 PIAC members to ask
 for their feedback on
 the City's budget
 process



Dec 2008 – Jan 2009

Group discusses PIAC's main goals of implementation consistency and effectiveness. Discussed benefits and drawbacks. And strategies to deal with drawbacks.

Group considers how they will tackle their charge to create public involvement guidelines. Group considers splitting up by "past recommendations", i.e. a BIP 9 group, a Community Connect group, etc. Through discussion, the group realizes that this will reinforce past groupings, and that PIAC should instead create groupings that work for them. The group agreed to look at the past recommendations in whole to consider what groupings emerge.

February 2009

Group looks at 65 past recommendations (from BIP 9, Community Connect, Public **Involvement Task Force**) and whittle down duplications to 45 unique recommendations. Group worked to categorize the recommendations. Group then asked a coordinating committee to meet before April and present a proposal for final groupings.



March 2009

Coordinating Committee proposed three groupings Policy, Process and Community Empowerment. Members wanted everyone to be able to work where they were most interested, in order to keep engagement in this group's work as high as possible.

Group acknowledged that there will be crossover between the three areas and that each of these areas support the other but that this would be a useful way to break into subcommittees - and that the group would revisit this structure in the future to see if it is still working. Members signed up for the group they were most interested in. Group expressed goal of having roughly half community and half city staff in each subcommittee.

April - May 2009

Subcommittee work began! Groups looked at the 15 or so recommendations under their grouping, and participated in a dot voting activity to prioritize which recommendation they were most interested in, and what was most achievable in the first year. Group wanted to be able to demonstrate their value to City Council and other stakeholders as early as possible by selecting a "low hanging fruit".

Mayor Adams meets
with PIAC member to
collect their feedback
on electronic forms of
public participation



July 2009

Commissioner Fritz visited the PIAC and requested assistance on regarding the budget process, legislative agenda and bureau advisory committees. PIAC subcommittees will consider how they can assist with these areas.



November 2009

- PIAC holds large group discussion on each of the small group priority areas.
- Policy group: Community governance principles
- Process group: Budget Evaluation process
- Community Empowerment group: Liaison model



February 2010

- Members vote to approve public involvement principles – written by the Policy group
- The approved principles are now ready for public review and new stakeholder input will be considered and incorporated.
- Group discussed: What are we asking bureaus to do with principles? How will PIAC support implementation? What is PIAC's ongoing role via the implementation of principles?
- Members vote to approve "draft implementation strategies" for the principles, presented by the Policy group and added on to by other members.

February 2010

PIAC gives first annual report to City Council



March 2010

- PIAC launched a public survey to get feedback on the public involvement principles.
- Members began scheduling meetings with internal and external stakeholders.



May 2010

Group discussed feedback on the principles that they are good but need some action item in addition. The Policy group presented a draft resolution to adopt the principles, as well as a public involvement form that is being proposed to be included in all new City ordinances, similar to the financial impact form that is required for all new items that go to City Council. Policy group also shared a list of questions that would create a public involvement baseline assessment across bureaus.

June 2010

- Large group discussed Policy group's final work. Group voted to adopt the amended public involvement principles and to take this forward to City Council as a resolution with directives to create a public involvement impact form and to conduct a baseline assessment.
- Members from PIAC met with each city council member individually regarding work of PIAC and upcoming council item.

July-August 2010

PIAC makes the cover page of the Daily Journal of Commerce



PIAC presented
 Principles and exhibits to City council. City
 Council adopted unanimously.

September-November 2010

 Large group discusses the Process group's draft recommendations on public involvement in the City's budget process. PIAC wins a Spirit of Portland award for public involvement!



December 2010

Group discusses
 recommendations for
 budget process from
 the Process group.



 PIAC is featured as keynote panel presenter at local conference of National Coalition of Dialogue and Deliberation

January-February 2011

 Group discusses implementation of public involvement questions on City council items



PIAC begins
 discussion of "five
 year vision" in
 response to
 Commissioner Fritz's
 request for priorities
 for future ONI budget
 processes

April 2011

- Group discusses
 recommendations for
 budget process from
 the Process group.
- Members send a letter to City Council members expressing their support of the new initiative to create a Equity Office.



June - July 2011

Community
 Empowerment group
 presented the
 proposed PDX Civic
 Connect – online
 portal for civic
 engagement
 opportunities.

 Group voted to approve several of the Process group's recommendations for public involvement in the budget process.



July 2011

- PIAC members and staff train up to 300 city staff on how to fill out the new City Council form on public involvement items
- As of July 1, public involvement questions became required for all City Council items.



September - October 2011

- PIAC Annual report accepted by City Council
- New members appointed to PIAC



- New MembersWelcomed
- Public InvolvementAnnual Assessment
- PIAC's Five Year Vision & "Dream Capacity"
- PIAC "Speed Dating" Data Gathering

September 2011

- PIAC celebrated successes for 3rd anniversary since founding. PIAC Members reviewed a list of accomplishments from the last twelve months. Members shared their reflections and what they were most proud of regarding PIAC's work. Some members commented that what was most remarkable about PIAC's work is that it is serving as a model for other city initiatives as well as other cities who were consulting with us on our model. The model of partnership between community and government members was seen as quite innovative and effective.
- Community Empowerment members brought forward a proposal to transition their group into a "Best Practices" group. This change is proposed based on needs that all three groups have discussed to have best practices manuals, as well as other reasons.
- Group voted to approve the remainder of Process group's recommendations for public involvement in the budget process.

January – April 2012

PIAC members began strategic planning process

Process group members meet with City Council members on final budget process

recommendations

