

# Public Involvement Task Force

## Adopted Mission, Definition and Objectives

The mission, definition of public involvement, and objectives were approved at the July 23, 2003 meeting of the Public Involvement Taskforce.

### **Proposed Mission Statement for Public Involvement Taskforce:**

To review and revise, as appropriate, the City's adopted Public Involvement Principles. Identify gaps and inconsistencies in the implementation of the city government's public involvement processes. Recommend strategies for improving the city's public involvement processes that are in accordance with the Public Involvement Principles and take into account the needs of city staff and a diverse set of public interests.

### **Proposed Working Definition of Public Involvement:**

Public Involvement for the purposes of this Task Force refers to:  
The practice of including a diverse range of individuals and groups in governmental decision-making processes that have the potential to affect them. This is for the purpose of improving decision-making by ensuring that diverse interests are represented. These processes include, but are not limited to, capital improvement and other projects, public safety, land use planning, policy and budget development.

### **Success can be defined as:**

Processes that regularly produce good public participation results in accordance with national professional standards and the City's adopted Public Involvement Principles.

## **Objectives:**

1. Identify the top issues that a diverse range of constituencies recognizes as the primary gaps or inconsistencies in the implementation of the city's public involvement processes.
2. Assign diverse working groups, made up of Task Force members and open to the public, to explore and recommend remedies for the gaps and inconsistencies in the implementation of public involvement, taking into account the needs of city staff to fulfill city requirements and a diverse set of public interests.
3. Recommend the appropriate types of decision making processes by City Council and city bureaus that these recommendations will apply to, such as: budgeting; new policy development; capital improvement projects – new and planned; land use; and/or administrative, among others.
4. Recommend the appropriate implementation tool(s) for recommendations, such as standard, guidelines, best practices, etc.
5. Identify the fiscal impact of recommendations and propose sufficient resource allocation to support taskforce recommendations.
6. Coordinate recommendations with Guidelines, Review, Empowerment and Assessment Team and other groups who are addressing similar issues.
7. Prepare formal recommendations to City Council for adoption.
8. Ensure that strategic documents that guide the City's public involvement processes are updated to reflect any changes that result from the City Council's adoption of Task Force recommendations.