

## Providing TFCE update and gathering input from City Council offices

### Update:

- The Task Force on Community Engagement kicked off on July 30<sup>th</sup> and has met six times. Meetings are every other Thursday evening from 6-9 p.m.
- We are using a consensus process to develop our recommendations.
- Our project plan involves:
  - understanding the current state of community engagement in our city,
  - assessing needs based on current and desired future state,
  - evaluating best practices to address needs, and
  - developing recommendations to enhance the city's community engagement
- We are using an information sharing and collaboration website provided by the City called Bloomfire to share information and communicate. This site is open to the public to view.
- Topic areas that the City Council has identified that they are specifically interested in are:
  - Broad / general fiscal implications (of engagement methods other peer cities have used),
  - disability accommodations,
  - foreign language access,
  - virtual / online participation,
  - district / neighborhood centered engagement alternatives, and
  - notification process of public hearings at Council meetings.
- We have developed a survey to gather input from residents (available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese), as well as a survey for organizational leaders and to Board and Commission members, to get their perspective on engagement efforts with the City. The deadline for the surveys is 11-25-15.
- We will also be gathering input through focus groups with organizational leaders and interviews with city departments.
- Over the next 60 days, we will review this input in order to assess current needs, review best practices from other cities based on this analysis, and develop our recommendations.
- We anticipate presenting our recommendations to City Council and seeking feedback in January of 2015 and providing our final report shortly thereafter.

Questions:

- How does your office view your own role at venues for community engagement? Should it be larger? Do you need tools? How do you want to work with staff?
- What forms of feedback (from the public) does your office prefer and why?
- What expectations do you have regarding getting feedback on Council agenda items?
- How has 10-1 affected City staff's community engagement efforts? Are they synchronized?
- Will you help us get the word out to people in your district about the community engagement survey our Task Force is conducting? (*deadline is 11-25-15*)