

## What is IAP2?

The International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) is an international association of members who promote and improve the practice of public participation & engagement. The City of Raleigh recently joined IAP2 USA as we seek to improve the way we engage with residents.

### 3 Pillars for Effective Public Participation

As an international leader in public participation (P2), IAP2 developed three pillars for effective P2 processes. Developed with broad international input, these pillars cross national, cultural and religious boundaries, and they form the foundation of P2 processes that reflect the interests and concerns of all stakeholders.



IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



IAP2 Core Values



IAP2 Code of Ethics

#### IAP2 Core Values

IAP2 developed the IAP2 Core Values for use in the development and implementation of public participation processes. The Core Values define the expectations and aspirations of the public participation process.

- 1** Public participation is based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
- 2** Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
- 3** Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by recognizing and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision-makers.
- 4** Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
- 5** Public participation seeks input from participants in designing how they participate.
- 6** Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- 7** Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.

## IAP2 Code of Ethics

IAP2 Code of Ethics a set of principles that enhance the integrity of the public participation process. The Code of Ethics speaks to the actions of practitioners.

### 1. PURPOSE

We support public participation as a process to make better decisions that incorporate the interests and concerns of all affected stakeholders and meet the needs of the decision-making body.

### 2. ROLE OF PRACTITIONER

We will enhance the public's participation in the decision-making process and assist decision-makers in being responsive to the public's concerns and suggestions.

### 3. TRUST

We will undertake and encourage actions that build trust and credibility for the process among all the participants.

### 4. DEFINING THE PUBLIC'S ROLE

We will carefully consider and accurately portray the public's role in the decision-making process.

### 5. OPENNESS

We will encourage the disclosure of all information relevant to the public's understanding and evaluation of a decision.

### 6. ACCESS TO THE PROCESS

We will ensure that stakeholders have fair and equal access to the public participation process and the opportunity to influence decisions.

### 7. RESPECT FOR COMMUNITIES

We will avoid strategies that risk polarizing community interests or that appear to "divide and conquer."

### 8. ADVOCACY

We will advocate for the public participation process and will not advocate for interest, party or project outcome.

### 9. COMMITMENTS

We ensure that all commitments made to the public, including those by the decision-maker, are made in good faith.

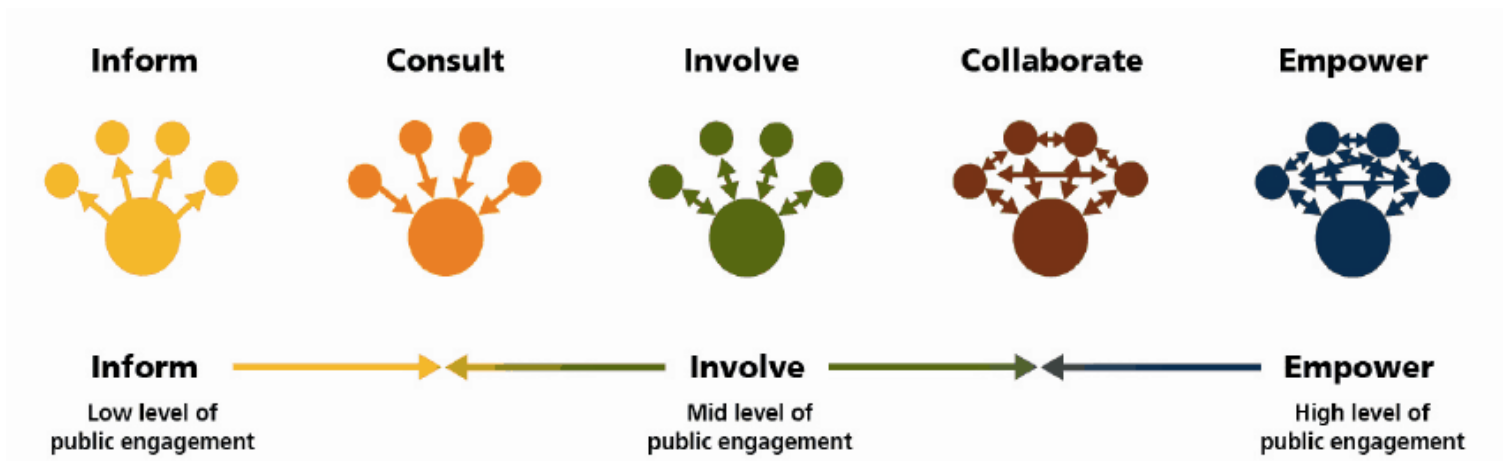
### 10. SUPPORT OF THE PRACTICE

We will mentor new practitioners in the field and education decision-makers and the public about the value and use of public participation.




## IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation

IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation is a framework designed to assist with the selection of the level of participation that defines the public's role in any public participation process.



## Core Tool of the IAP2 Practice

INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION 					
	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

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### IAP2 Spectrum Explained

*At each level a different promise to the community applies – a promise that holds decision-makers accountable. Each level requires a different type of interaction.*

**The Inform level** simply offers to provide information throughout a process about work being undertaken by an internal or expert team leading up to a decision being made. The promise is simply keeping people informed & helping people to understand. No input or feedback is sought from the community of interest. *\*Factsheets \*Websites*

**The Consult level** is about putting forward options or a proposal for which feedback is sought. The promise is to listen to the community of interest's feedback, to carefully consider, then make decisions and finally explain how this feedback was used. *\*Public Comment \*Surveys \*Public Meetings*

**The Involve level** invites input and ideas from the community to help develop options & potential solutions. The community participates earlier in the process than for the consult level. The community is part of developing solutions, not just commenting on plans or proposed solutions. Ultimately, the organization makes the decision, but promises the decision will be informed by ideas and input. *\*Workshops \*Deliberate Polling*

**The Collaborate level** is a significant jump. It's about partnering and sharing power – to the maximum extent possible. It takes more time and effort. A range of stakeholders/community members work together with the sponsoring organization to define the scope of the decision to be made, develop options, assess those options against agreed criteria to arrive at consensus. *\*Citizen Advisory Committees \*Consensus Building \*Participatory Decision-Making*

**The Empower level** is essentially delegated decision-making. It is where an organization promises to do whatever the 'community of interest' decides. *\*Citizen Juries \*Ballots*