Public Engagement During COVID-19

Discussion with HB 1923 Grantees

Laura Hodgson

ASSOCIATE PLANNER

SEPTEMBER 2, 2020



Meeting Agenda



- Welcome (10 mins)
- Public engagement tips (10 mins)
- Share progress on engagement (30 mins)
- Break out groups (12 mins)
- Takeaways and Q&A (20 mins)
- Next steps (5 mins)

Commerce Housing Guidance to date

Housing Needs Assessment Guidance (Mar 2020)

Housing Action Plan Guidance (July 2020)

• Ch. 2: Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Housing Element Guidance (Dec. 2020)

www.ezview.wa.gov Affordable Housing: Planning

HB 1923 deliverables



Housing Element Guidance Outline

- Introduction
- Housing needs assessment review
- Countywide planning policies
- Updating housing goals and policies
- Housing element adoption
- Implementation plan and monitoring
- Legal background on housing
 - Federal and state roles
 - Legal cases
 - Rural areas
 - CC&Rs

Timeline:

- Public draft by December
- Webinar in early 2021

Feedback on outline by: September 9th

How Are Grantees Doing?

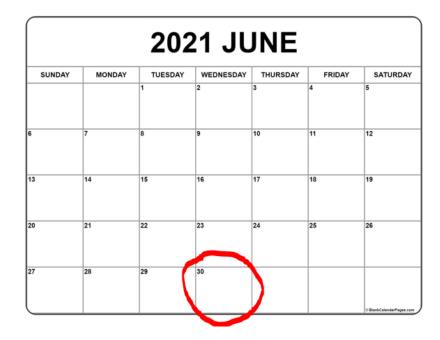
 Over 80% of jurisdictions are using consultants for the HB 1923 work (4 HAP & 9 code cities are not)



- Many jurisdictions were interested in meetings with other grantees and their progress
- COVID is affecting schedule of around 80% of grants, delaying projects, especially public engagement

Deliverable Dates

- If adjustments are needed to your grant schedules or contracts, please coordinate with your Commerce point of contact
- All deliverables must be received by June 30th 2021
- For extenuating circumstances on large deliverables, we may be able to accept final drafts by June 30th (HAPs, subarea plans, planned actions only)



Procedural & Resource Equity Considerations

- Availability of and access to technology/internet
- Residents with cell phones only are more likely to be younger and minority (re: phone survey)
- Schedule events outside of standard work hours
- Provide childcare, food, and/or transportation
- Partner with community leaders and organizations for recommended methods of connecting
- Consider using a non-staff facilitator
- ADA accessible materials and locations

Methods

Reconnect to Old Technology

- Phone banking/Phone trees
- Tabling/pop-up event
- Doorhangers!
- Flyers or postcards mailed to residents
- Signage and posters
- Phone interviews, focus groups, paper surveys
- Printed media (city magazine, newspaper)

- Human services providers
- Transit hubs or heavily trafficked areas
- Post in apartment buildings
- Childcare centers
- Utility bill inserts
- Food bank inserts
- Ask community orgs and leaders to distribute

Methods

Electronic Connections

- 'Interested parties' email list
- Online open houses
- Public comment via email and phone (can be voicemail)
- Audio recordings
- Provide a call-in method for all meetings
- Text messaging

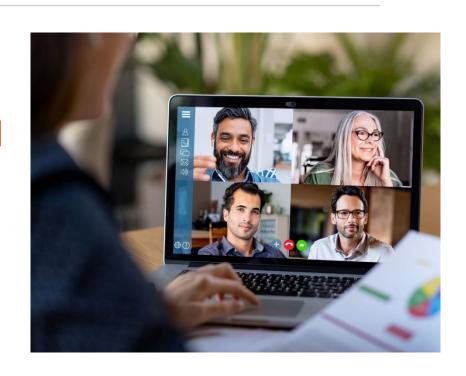
- Konveio (Oak Harbor)
- Bang the Table (Mercer Island)
- Constant Contact (emails and newsletters)
- Citibot, Hustle, Textizen (for texting)
- Participate DB: digital engagement catalogue of platforms & uses. Searchable.

Additional Resources

- International Association for Public Participation
- Their <u>resources page includes</u> online public engagement tools
- Salt Lake City Best Practices for Public Engagement During COVID-19
- Mercer Island's use of Bang the Table for comprehensive plan updates and other projects. This is an <u>example of a current project</u>.

Progress on Engagement Efforts

- How are you engaging your communities?
- What has worked well? What has not worked well and how did you adapt?
- What tools are you using for meetings and engagement?
 - Hear from Bonney Lake/Sumner, Airway Heights, and Shoreline (thank you!)
 - 12-minute breakout groups
 - Large group discussion on takeaways and Q & A



Commerce's Upcoming Meetings

Sept. 16, 1-2:30 p.m. Form-based codes

Sept. 23, 1-2:30 p.m.* ADUs

Sept. 30, 1-2:30 p.m.* HAPs

Translating HNAs into strategies

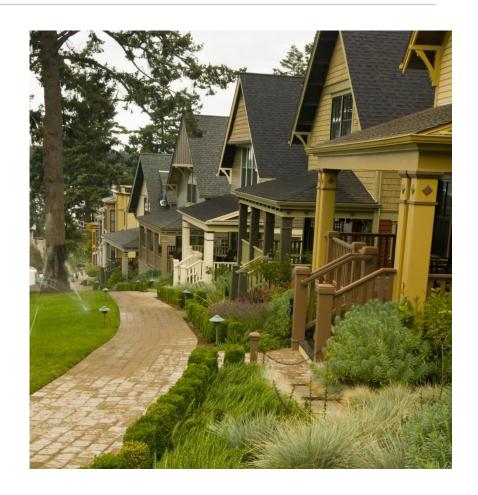
Oct. 7, 9-10:30 a.m. Duplex/triplex/courtyard

apartment and

duplex/corner lot

What other meetings should we schedule?

*Dates and times to be confirmed.



How can we help?

Laura.Hodgson@commerce.wa.gov (360) 764 -3143 (cell)

Anne.Fritzel@commerce.wa.gov (360) 259 -5216 (cell)

