

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. 14668

ADOPTING A POLICY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

WHEREAS, it is the City of Alameda's goal to promote and facilitate safe and intellectually vibrant opportunities for public participation; and

WHEREAS, meaningful public participation is essential to local democracy; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the policy is to assure City Hall consistently engages the public; and

WHEREAS, the principles established by this policy reflect the values of City Hall.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Alameda adopts the Public Participation Policy attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference.

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Approved as to Form
Janet C. Kern
Janet C. Kern, City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

City of Alameda Public Participation Policy

The City of Alameda is committed to promoting and facilitating safe and intellectually vibrant opportunities for meaningful public participation so Alamedans can be involved in the process of decision-making for the issues people deem important. City Hall will follow the following principles when engaging the public:

1. Careful Planning and Preparation

Through adequate and inclusive planning, ensure that the design, organization, and convening of the process serve both a clearly defined purpose and the needs of the participants. Always involve the public early in the process.

2. Inclusion and Demographic Diversity

Equitably incorporate diverse people, voices, ideas, and information to lay the groundwork for quality outcomes and democratic legitimacy.

3. Collaboration and Shared Purpose

Support and encourage participants, government and community institutions, and others to work together to advance the common good.

4. Openness and Learning

Help all involved listen to each other, explore new ideas unconstrained by predetermined outcomes, learn and apply information in ways that generate new options, and rigorously evaluate public engagement activities for effectiveness.

5. Transparency and Trust

Be clear and open about the process, and provide a public record of the organizers, sponsors, outcomes, and range of views and ideas expressed.

6. Impact and Action

Ensure each participatory effort has real potential to make a difference, and that participants are aware of that potential. Report the number of emails, letters, and calls, along with a summary of the main points made regarding support or opposition to the City Council, Board, or Commission.

7. Sustained Engagement and Participatory Culture

Promote a culture of participation with programs and institutions that support ongoing quality public engagement.

8. Provide a Welcoming Environment

It is really important when the City asks people to attend community meetings that the space is welcoming, with good acoustics and lighting, and basic refreshments.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda in a regular meeting assembled on the 17th day of April, 2012, by the following vote to wit:

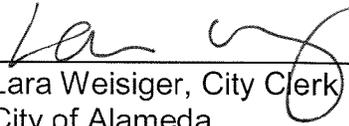
AYES: Councilmembers Bonta, deHaan, Johnson, Tam and Mayor Gilmore – 5.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 18th day of April, 2012.



Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda