Washoe County Community Engagement

Commissioner Informal Responses

	Commissioner A	Commissioner C	Commissioner E	Commissioner G	Commissioner I
Goal	Community Contribution Education on Services	Education/Information Problem Solving – Early Intervention Community Contribution	Platform to share information about the County and key community issues and address community rumors. Provide access to County government and share voice of community in a measurable way. Provide accurate information.	First step in the development process, method to share accurate information, training for future elected officials, local leaders that understand the process, code, property rights	Avenue/platform to provide a sounding board for community concerns, to communicate from the County to the community at a neighborhood level what is happening.
Role of Washoe County	Assume County Wide	Assume County Wide	Discuss Community Issues (broadly)	Specific to County	Assume: discuss community wide issues
Participation	Sheriff, Code, Fire, School District, Hospitals	Sheriff, District Attorney, Fire, Regional Transportation Commission	N/A	County	N/A
Sharing Information (Commissioner specific vs. County Board)	N/A	N/A	County Information as a whole (County body)	County Information	County Information
Current Emergency	Assume: Contribution – Regional Outreach	N/A	People are paying attention which is easier, but the increase in social media and messaging	Lessons learned from need to discuss what is the most appropriate information/data to share.	N/A
Consider different solution than CAB	Yes	No	Yes	N/A	Yes
Define Success	Amount of Citizen Input Feedback at Podium Education on WC Services	Feedback at Podium Resembles 8-9 yrs ago	Routine meetings with staff and commissioners present where comments are noted and considered in the decision making process. The ability to address community related questions at those meetings (avoid times when cannot answer a question). Reduction in the amount of negative feedback at the podium.	Members would be provided training in policy, practices, code and meeting management to provide a service to the community on participating in local government and the benefits of participation.	Regular scheduled meetings where the community knows how they can get information at a neighborhood level. The platform provides an opportunity to share feedback, concerns and ideas – not advise.

Vision

" *To create an opportunity to discuss with and engage residents in community issues without jurisdictional limitations and to clarify or address misinformation in the community.* "

Value

- The value to elected officials is the opportunity to look at complex community questions with an additional lens. This complements data-based decision-making by further identifying/clarifying complex issues addressed at a policy level.

- The opportunity for community participants is to learn more about the role of and what they should expect from local government, obtain information on how to address service level requests, and share conditions/concerns of their community environment that are limiting their quality of life.

- The value to staff and leadership is the ability to test assumptions in data-driven decision-making, better understand implications of decisions on community environment and possibility for success/unintended consequences, identify trending community issues, clarify misinformation and role of local government verses community, and address community requests for service.

Program Options

1. Expand the Managers Office communications team to create a comprehensive community engagement program, or;

2. Expand the existing CAB program within Community Services Department to include items that are not development related, or;

3. Continue with the existing program with no changes.

Decision Tool

Option	Routine Scheduling	Flexible Format	Education	Participation	Feedback	Resources
1	● ●	●	●	●	●	○
2	● ●	○	○	◉	○	○
3	◉ ●	○	○	○	◉	●

Key Discussion Questions

1. Does the board have a preference on having a structured advisory board that must adhere to open meeting law as a mechanism to provide feedback policies?

2. Does the Board have a preference on meeting frequency or schedule (on demand or prescheduled meetings?

3. Does the board have a preference on virtual, online or in person meetings?

4. Does the Board require consistent tools for engagement across districts or individualized by community?

5. Does the board have a preference on topical meetings or standard, routine format on all issues?

6. Are board members in support of participating in other local topical meetings/events or required as attendees for County meetings?