

IAP2 Public Participation and Engagement Spectrum

Tools and techniques along the spectrum



	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Participation goal in the decision-making process	Provide balanced and objective information to assist in understanding the situation, problem, solutions, and alternatives.	Obtain feedback on an analysis, situation, and/or potential solutions.	Work directly with the public/stakeholders throughout the process to ensure public issues and concerns are understood and considered.	Partner with the public/stakeholders in each aspect of the decision, including the development of alternatives and the identification of a preferred solution.	Place the final decision-making in the hands of the public or stakeholders.
Example tools and techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fact sheets • Websites • Open houses • Community conversations • Information presentations • Webinar • Publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus groups • Surveys • Public meetings • World café • Town hall • E-Town Hall • Facebook Live • <i>IdeaScale</i> (etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops • Focus groups • Dialogue circles • Deliberate polling • Dedicated online email or phone number (hotline) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory committees/boards • Task force • Charrettes • Specialized workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizen juries • Ballots • Delegated decisions • Votes - elections • Binding referendum • Binding plebiscite