

# **City Of La Crosse Public Participation Plan**

## **For The Comprehensive Plan: Confluence**

### **Introduction**

City of La Crosse intends to encourage citizen input throughout the planning/amendment process. La Crosse's Public Participation Plan forms the basic framework for achieving an interactive dialogue between local decision makers, City staff, and the citizens of La Crosse. The following outlines the public participation strategy for soliciting public review and input.

### **Objectives For Public Involvement**

1. To engage people of all races, ethnic backgrounds and income levels.
2. To provide opportunities for the public to provide input (both formally and informally).
3. To provide the public with technical information and analyses.
4. To ensure input and discussion include a broad range of perspectives and interests.
5. To gather input through a variety of means (electronic, printed, and oral) in such a way that it may be carefully considered and responded to in a timely fashion.
6. That this process strengthens the sense of community and furthers the vision of active and positive participation in the decision making and civic life of the municipality over the long term.

### **Responsibility For Implementation**

The Planning and Development Department, Plan Commission and Common Council share the responsibility for implementing the comprehensive plan. Ultimately, it is the Council who decides on the direction and content of policy documents and regulations.

### **Planned Public Participation Activities:**

- Plan Commission Meeting Updates
- Public Hearing at the Plan Commission
- Publish Plan amendment and other appropriate documents to web site
- City Council Policy and Informational Meetings
- Provide copies of all appropriate documents to City Libraries

### **Public Participation Guidelines**

A public hearing will be conducted as part of the plan amendment process to allow public testimony regarding the amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. All persons attending the meeting that desire to participate should be allowed to do so. However, specific factors, such as the meeting or hearing purpose, number in attendance, time considerations, or future opportunities to participate, may require that appropriate constraints be applied. Meetings and hearings will be tape recorded and/or videotaped by the City. Minutes of meetings will be made available via the City's website. Special arrangements will be made under the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) with sufficient advance notice.

**Opportunity for Written Comments** - The City will provide the name, address and email address (if applicable) of a person(s) to whom written comments should be sent, along with any deadlines for submitting comments.

### **Meeting/Hearing Notices**

Official meeting notices will be prepared. The public hearing held by the City must comply with applicable notice requirements of the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law, and any other notice requirements imposed by local ordinance or bylaws. At a minimum, the requirements of §19.31 pertaining to public meetings and notification will be met. In all cases, notices will be placed in the City's official paper, currently the La Crosse Tribune, for each City organized meeting. All meeting or public hearing notices conducted by the City will also be posted on the City of La Crosse Web Site.