

The Washington County Community Engagement Spectrum is a model developed to help clarify the level at which the public will be engaged in planning and decision making and the level of influence members of the public have over planning and decision-making processes.

The model identifies four levels of community engagement. The further to the right on the Washington County Community Engagement Spectrum, the greater level of influence members of the public have over the county planning, process, and decision. Each level is important, and the context of any given community engagement will help Washington County staff and leadership determine which is most appropriate. It is important to recognize that these are levels of engagement, not steps.

Washington County Community Engagement Spectrum

Increasing level of community involvement, impact, and trust on the decision

	<i>Inform</i>	<i>Consult</i>	<i>Involve</i>	<i>Collaborate</i>
<i>Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Commitment</i>	We will work with our community partners to extend the reach and accessibility of our message to communities that have been historically excluded from being informed.	We will include historically excluded and specifically impacted communities in our decision-making process, be transparent about who we engaged with, and share the findings with those communities.	We will not move forward on any decision until the experiences of the most impacted communities are reflected in the decision.	We will utilize a non-governmental community partner to oversee the decision-making process to maximize transparency and inclusivity.
<i>Public Participation Commitment</i>	We will provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding a problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	We will obtain public feedback on data and/or decisions being made.	We will work directly with the public to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood, considered, and integrated into the decision-making process.	We will partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and identification of a preferred solution.
<i>Commitment to the Public</i>	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge your concerns and aspirations, and share feedback on how public input influenced the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are reflected in any alternatives and share feedback on how the public input influenced the decision.	We will work together with you to create solutions and to include your advice and recommendations into the decisions as much as possible.