



Public Engagement Plan
Burnsville Aging Signals Study

CP 5-47 & CP 11-27

Physical Development - Transportation 3/9/17



1. Introduction

Public engagement is a critical aspect in ensuring that all Dakota County government services are performed efficiently, effectively and in a responsive manner. Dakota County strives to ensure that the proper level of public engagement is realized in all projects. To identify this proper level of engagement, the County utilizes a public engagement process tool that is standardized across the organization and results in consistent approaches and outcomes. If a project scores a 1-3 a public engagement plan must be created. The levels of engagement and what each entails in terms of description and specific examples can be seen in the table below.

Level	Description	Examples
Level 1 – Inform and Listen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain, educate or gather information. • Use when priorities and decisions are still being shaped. • Can explain the issue, while gathering information to understand and perspectives and ideas of citizens. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public meeting with information presentation and collection of comments. • Open houses. • A webpage with information about a project but also provides an email address for people to submit questions or comments.
Level 2 – Discuss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally involves two-way information exchange in which the public discusses a policy, issue, or research priority. • Discussion among and with different stakeholders is encouraged. • Can deepen knowledge by exploring and responding to ideas and concerns described by individual participants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public meeting with information presentation and collection of comments. • Open houses. • A webpage with information about a project but also provides an email address for people to submit questions or comments.
Level 3 – Involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different perspectives are shared and parties can influence each other and develop consensus. • Allows the organization and participants to explore and work through issues together, understand each other's perspectives and values, and consistently address concerns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public meeting with information presentation and collection of comments. • Open houses. • A webpage with information about a project but also provides an email address for people to submit questions or comments.

1. Introduction (cont.)

Project Description:

Three existing signals are close to the end of their service life. Rather than simply remove and replace, Dakota County and the City of Burnsville are taking this opportunity to review the intersections to determine if changes to the traffic control or the intersection geometry are necessary and desired.

The study intersections are:

County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 5 & Burnsville Parkway

CSAH 5 & 136th Street

CSAH 11 & Burnsville Parkway

Engagement Level:

1 - Inform and Listen

Based on the above engagement level score, this plan will utilize certain methods and tools to reach stakeholders based on the table from the previous page.



2. Public Engagement Objectives and Approaches

The purpose of this Public Engagement Plan is to serve as a means of process planning and engagement designing in order to achieve a desired level of public engagement. An important aspect in achieving this is identifying the key objectives and potential outcomes and then deciding which approaches are best suited to achieving those outcomes. The following lists the key objectives and approaches for this Public Engagement Plan.

Key Public Engagement Objectives:

Share intersection alternatives with the public and receive feedback.

Share intersection preferred alternatives with the public and receive feedback.

Share project updates throughout the course of the study.

Public Engagement Approaches:

Two Open Houses

Post study summary on County social media

Project web site

Two Burnsville City Council Worksession presentations

Project post cards to invite the public to the Open Houses

3. Major Groups to Engage and Methods

A holistic public engagement process requires a diverse group represented by various populations that are involved from start to finish. A process that involves diverse stakeholders assists in achieving a project that is reflective of the County’s diverse interests and ever-changing population. However, in order to effectively reach and involve various stakeholders different types of specific engagement methods need to be used as their effectiveness can vary from one group to another. Major groups to engage and methods of engagement most likely to be successful are listed in the following table.

Groups to Engage	Scientific Survey	Workshops	Focus Group	Open House	PMT Meetings	Project Web Site
Dakota County Staff				X	X	X
City of Burnsville Staff				X	X	X
Nearby & Adjacent Residents				X	X	X
City of Burnsville Residents				X	X	X
Dakota County Residents				X	X	X

A Project Management Team (PMT) for the project will guide the study process and recommendations moving forward. The PMT will consist of Dakota County staff, City of Burnsville staff and the study Consultant. Meetings will be held at key milestones throughout the course of the study.

4. Key Questions to Ask

Once the methods of engagement have been identified the questions that need to be asked then need to be created. Questions that are asked in the public engagement process must address the major concerns and issues of the proposed project. Questions that do not necessarily lead discussions towards the end goals of learning about the major issues can result in a more disjointed discussion that lacks effectiveness which is why it is important that questions are well thought out and refined. Questions needs to be asked in such ways where they encourage participation and dialogue amongst those people asked to respond. They should also be asked in a way to solicit responses from a variety of groups rather than only a limited amount. Similar to the methods of engagement, certain types of questions can be more effective than others in garnering a response from certain groups of individuals.

Project Issues to Address with Questions:

Public Engagement Level = 1; Inform and Listen

Several public engagement tools have been identified to inform and listen; however, no key questions to ask will be developed due to public engagement level.

Public Engagement Questions:

5. Action Plan by Project Phases

Phase I	Study	2017
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Study recommendations developed.

Phase II	Design	2017
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CSAH 5 & Burnsville Parkway
CSAH 5 & 136th Street

Phase III	Construction	2018
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CSAH 5 & Burnsville Parkway
CSAH 5 & 136th Street

Phase IV	Design & Construction	TBD
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CSAH 11 & Burnsville Parkway

6. Available Resources and Budget

Public engagement tasks were included in the study's Consultant contract.

Briefly discuss any increased project costs, project delays and additional staff/consultant resources required by this public engagement plan, if any.

None. These public engagement items are typical tasks to be included in Transportation studies.