

Township of
Langley



Est. 1873

NEWS RELEASE

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A document designed to ensure meaningful dialogue and enhanced communications between the Township and residents during planning and community development processes has been adopted by Township of Langley Council.

The Public Engagement Charter (PEC) was adopted on October 3 and will direct the Township towards being a responsive, community-serving organization and set standards for public engagement for years to come.

“People want to live in the Township of Langley, and our community is one of the fastest growing municipalities in the Lower Mainland,” said Mayor Jack Froese. “Our residents are invested in where they live and have valuable ideas and opinions on how our communities should look as we plan and move ahead. They have made it clear that we need to work together to shape our future.”

“The Public Engagement Charter will make sure that happens by laying a foundation to ensure residents have many early, ongoing, and meaningful opportunities to have their say during planning processes, that they are kept informed and up-to-date, and that we as a Township are accountable and transparent,” Froese said.

The Charter is a main feature of the Public Engagement Strategy that was proposed by the Mayor’s Standing Committee on Public Engagement.

The Committee was established by Froese in early 2015 to look at different and better ways of interacting with the public. Made up of Council members and volunteers from the community, the Committee, spent several months gathering input, meeting with and hearing from the public, and collecting data to inform the tools and suggestions put forward in the Strategy.

The Public Engagement Strategy was endorsed by Township Council in March 2016, and staff was directed to put it into effect and create the Public Engagement Charter. A draft of the Charter, which commits the Township to strengthening the spirit of collaboration and ensuring that meaningful community consultation contributes to the best possible quality of life for all residents, was presented to Council on May 30.

An open house was held on June 7 and questionnaires were made available online to obtain further public input on the draft Charter. The overall feedback was generally supportive, reinforcing the findings of the Mayor’s Standing Committee on Public Engagement and the

community's desire for broader community participation, early and on-going engagement, accessible information, and transparent decision-making.

The Public Engagement Charter outlines the Township's engagement aspirations and its guiding principles. It also contains a series of commitments to public engagement that are to be made by Mayor and Council, Township staff, and by citizens, who are encouraged to participate and engage in dialogue about the future of the community, and will be presented with ways to do so.

For more information, contact Jason Chu, Manager of Long Range Planning, at jchu@tol.ca or 604.533.6127.