

# Public Input That Works for Public Works

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Hi



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## Public Works Public Input Planning Worksheet

Project Name  
Project Manager  
Short Project  
Description

### Scope of involvement

How will your project affect things people tend to care about? The higher the score, the more the public might want (demand) to be involved.

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Property values		
Livelihood or business success		
Public health or safety		
Property value		
Moral/ideological values		
Community aesthetics		
Noise, lights, traffic, dust		
Money (taxes, fees, etc.)		
Cultural or history		
Environmental health		
Sense of equity/fairness		
Others		

### What decisions have already been made?

- Purpose and need\*
- Location
- Design\*
- Size
- Others (list):

- Timing
- Construction methods
- Budget/cost
- Aesthetics

\* Typically good stages to gather input

Learn from the public that would make this project better? Or, do community members have that could influence the community members are not technical experts, they are on local roads, paying for utilities, etc.

What can the project solve for the public? Are some of those problems?

What are the trade offs of different approaches? Would the community like you to consider when

opportunities to influence architectural features? From the street?

What time of year would this work happen? Are the team consider when choosing the time of

hours be changed to accomodate peak traffic times, etc.

options and their impacts on the community?

ations

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elines, resources, time of year,

# TODAY'S SESSION



Why engage the public  
When NOT to engage the public  
Common pitfalls  
Recipe for success



(n) A process where a decision-maker agrees to share power – to some extent – with the public, and the public participates in that process.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Public involvement

*Stakeholder engagement*

Public participation

(n) A process where a decision-maker agrees to share power – to some extent – with the public, and the public participates in that process.

## IS IT **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?**

- Information on website
- Public notice of draft
- Public meeting
- NEPA/CEQA

# WHY INVOLVE THE PUBLIC?

1

People have a right to participate in decisions that affect their lives

2

Required by law

3

Political reasons

# WHY INVOLVE THE PUBLIC?

4

People will involve themselves anyways, and likely in a way that prolongs the project, blows the budget and becomes a political nightmare



# MINIMUM CONDITIONS



One or more **decisions** that affect **people** or will draw interest



Opportunity to **influence** those decisions

- Decisions not already made
- Decision maker open to input
- Sufficient time and resources

**WHEN NOT TO  
INVOLVE THE PUBLIC?**



# HAVE YOU EVER SAID ...



We're the experts

Already met the requirements

If people care, they'll get involved

People are already upset

We live in a representative democracy

We have a monopoly



# THE RISK...

Delayed project

Rework

Blown budget

Team morale

Your career



# DEVELOPING **A PLAN**



Choose level of involvement

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Finding your people

---

Picking the right questions

---

Choosing the best time

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# **SPECTRUM OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**





# LEVEL OF INTEREST = SEVERITY OF EFFECTS

Community character/values

Property values

Livelihood or business success

Public health or safety

Property value

Moral/ideological values

Community aesthetics

Noise, lights, traffic, dust

Money (taxes, fees, etc.)

Cultural or history

Environmental health

Sense of equity/fairness





- New study
- Three commission meetings
- 1 City Council meeting
- Picketing
- Emails, public comments
- New City Council member
- Potential removal





# WHO TO INVOLVE?

Who is affected

Who is interested

Cast a wide net

Show them why they should care



## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

### Notice of Intent to Construct a Small Size Construction and Demolition Waste Landfill

Dan Thompson, President, Thompson's Sand and Gravel, 16684 W. USH 63, Hayward, Wisconsin (715-634-3139), intends to construct a small size construction and demolition waste landfill, following the requirements of Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter NER 503. The proposed site location is within a 115-acre parcel and described as SE 1/4, SE 1/4 Section 31, T41N, R9W, Town of Hayward, Sawyer County, Wisconsin.

The 3-acre construction and demolition waste landfill will have a maximum capacity of 50,000 cubic yards with an anticipated operational life of 10 years. There is 1 residence within 1,200 feet of the proposed landfill. The landfill design will include erosion control and a stormwater management plan to protect against erosion and sedimentation during construction and operation and following closure. Groundwater monitoring wells will be installed and monitored as a part of the operation.

Comments and questions about the project may be addressed to Nathan Coller-Hydrogeologist-Waste and Materials Management Specialist, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, 810 W. Maple Street, Spooner WI 54801. 715-635-4048. Email: [Nathan.Coller@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Nathan.Coller@wisconsin.gov)

WNAXLPR52T1



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# NEW LANDFILL



## WHY HERE

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## WHAT TO EXPECT

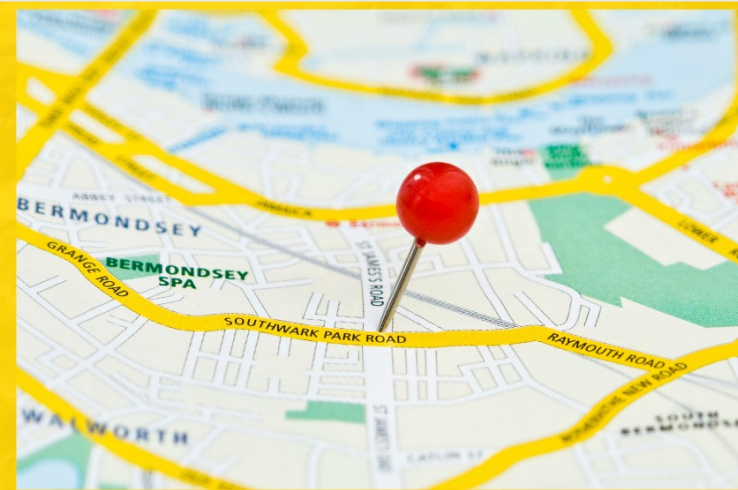
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## TIMELINE

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## GET IN TOUCH WITH US!



123-456-7890



hello@reallygreatsite.com



www.reallygreatsite.com



123 Anywhere St., Any City

## FIND OUT HOW YOU ARE AFFECTED AND HOW YOU CAN PROVIDE INPUT

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# DEFINE YOUR ASK

What decisions have already been made?

- Purpose and need
- Location
- Scale
- Construction schedule
- Appearance



**WHAT DOES THE PUBLIC  
KNOW THAT YOU DO NOT?**





- ✘ Engineering methods
- ✘ Construction management
- ✘ Wastewater treatment
- ✘ Transportation planning
- ✘ Water quality



They know what it's like to live in and experience the community you serve.

# ASK ABOUT THOSE THINGS

What is the experience of driving on this road as it is today?

What concerns you about this road?

Of those concerns, which is the biggest?

What makes you feel safe on the road?

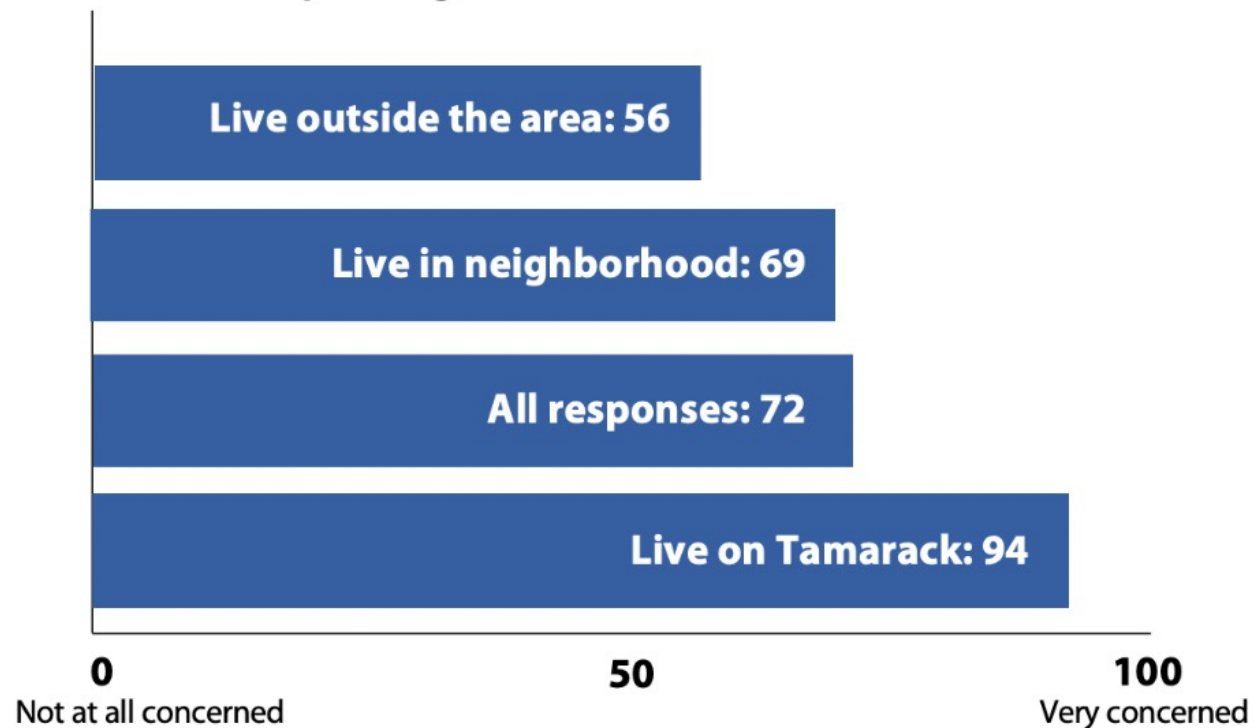
What could be some unintended consequences of changing this road?

# ASK ABOUT THOSE THINGS

## Speeding is a concern

On a scale of zero to 100, on average survey respondents rates their level of concern about speeding on this section of Tamarack a 72.

### Concern about speeding



# ASK ABOUT THOSE THINGS

## Concerns and questions

Several common questions or areas of concern emerged in the feedback:

- Emergency vehicle access and impacts
- Blind curve going downhill from Skyline
- Space for bicyclists
- Concerns about people rolling through stop signs
- Are there ADA concerns with raised crosswalks?
- Reconfigure access to I-5, since speeding is caused by people using Tamarack to cut through
  - New street (non-residential) to connect
  - Close the I-5/Tamarack on/off ramps



# DON'T ASK ABOUT ALTERNATIVES



**WHY VS WHAT**

# WHAT'S MORE HELPFUL?

## Positions (what)

We need a stop sign

The plant is too big

Take down the fence

## Interests (why)

We are concerned about safety

Want to preserve character

I want someplace to mountain bike









# BEST TIME?

At the very least, create strategy in the beginning

All things being equal, earlier is better



**FINALLY, HOW?**







# ALTERNATIVES TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

Surveys

Personal visits

Phone calls

Virtual meetings

Pop-up event

Existing groups

# BETTER PUBLIC MEETINGS

Convenient time

Familiar location

Professional facilitator

Be a host



# WRAPPING UP

Document the process

Follow up/keep informed

Show how input was used

Explain what wasn't used and why

Invite to decision making meetings



# KEY POINTS



Assess need for input

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Choose the right level

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Find your people

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Ask about things they know

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Show them how they helped





Welcome to  
**International Association for Public Participation**

Our mission is to advance and extend the practice of public participation through professional development, certification, standards of practice, core values, advocacy and key initiatives with strategic partners around the world.

**Bye**



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