



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
COMMITTEE DATE:	June 14, 2024
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Engagement Web Updates – “Engaging with your City”
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Jessica Chase Acting Director Government Relations and Community Engagement Division City Manager’s Office
SIGNATURE:	

The purpose of this Communication Update is to provide Council with updates to the City’s website and the City’s Engage Hamilton website, which demonstrates the City’s commitment to meaningful public engagement.

Council Priorities and Public Engagement

Improved public engagement is a key component and outcome of 2022-2026 Council priorities. In January 2024, Council approved Hamilton’s first [Public Engagement Policy](#). The Community Initiatives team within the City Manager’s Office continues to lead significant progress within this area, including:

- Launching a new corporate-wide public engagement lending library that can be accessed by staff to reserve key engagement materials (including branded tent, banners, iPads, easels and comment cards);
- Implementing the 2024 public engagement learning series (through the internal Public Engagement Community of Practice that includes over 170 staff from across the Corporation); and,
- Supporting over 100 cross-departmental engagement activities planned for 2024 (as identified through the annual Public Engagement Survey).

Launch of New Web Page: "Engaging with Your City"

The Public Engagement Policy and related engagement initiatives are now featured on

**SUBJECT: Engagement Web Updates – Engaging with your City
(City Wide) - Page 2 of 2**

a new web page titled “[Engaging with your City](http://www.hamilton.ca/engagement)” (www.hamilton.ca/engagement). This page provides community members with information on how they can get involved with the City through:

- **Public Engagement:** Describing Hamilton’s new approach to offering consistent and meaningful engagement activities for City-led projects.
- **Community Engagement:** Highlighting the importance of intentional relationship-building to make Hamilton the best place to raise a child and age successfully.
- **Civic Engagement:** Explaining how residents can participate in the democratic process by attending public meetings, volunteering for advisory committees, and connecting with their elected official(s).

Updates to Engage Hamilton Platform

Additional updates have been made to Hamilton’s online engagement platform, [Engage Hamilton](#) to better reflect the City of Hamilton’s commitment to meaningful, consistent, and inclusive engagement activities. Key additions include:

- Defining Hamilton’s three levels of public engagement: Consult, Involve, Collaborate;
- Explanation of how community feedback will be utilized in projects; and,
- Commitment from staff to share and use community feedback effectively.

On June 14, 2024, the City of Hamilton will be celebrating the fourth anniversary of the Engage Hamilton platform on the City’s social media channels. Ongoing promotion of Engage Hamilton and the recently launched online [Engaging with Pride](#) campaign will also continue as a part of the City’s regularly scheduled social media content rotation.

These updates and initiatives reinforce Hamilton’s commitment to fostering meaningful public engagement and ensuring that community voices are heard and valued. Should you require additional information, please contact Jessica Chase, Acting Director (Jessica.Chase@hamilton.ca).

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not applicable