

## Foundations of Public Participation

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## Public Participation

*Any process that seeks to understand public values and use diverse public input in a planned effort to improve decision-making.*

### It is:

- Based on interests and values
- Used to obtain input to an action

### It is not:

- Public relations
- Always comfortable

**If you are seeking buy-in...**

**Then you are not doing public participation**

## We Do Public Participation to Make Better Decisions



## Best Practices

Public participation provides stakeholders with a genuine opportunity to influence the decision.

## Best Practices

- 1) **Start Early**
- 2) **Be Clear About Intent**
- 3) **Ask the Right Questions**
- 4) **Commit to Your Promise**
- 5) **Plan a Process, not an Event**
- 6) **Be Inclusive & Foster Relationships**
- 7) **Communicate Credibly**
- 8) **Create Opportunities for Dialogue**