

INSTITUTE for Local Government

Promoting Good Government at the Local Level

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Institute for Local Government »

Public Engagement E-Monthly

Monthly public engagement news, resources and events for local elected officials and staff in California.



ILG offers a variety of resources and case stories agencies can use to support public engagement strategies to address difficult issues and situations.



Update on Terry Amsler

The Institute for Local Government is delighted to share the good news that our Director of Public Engagement, Terry Amsler, is now out of the hospital and recuperating at his home in Woodland.

Terry has made a remarkable recovery from his injuries after being hit by a bus in Europe four months ago. He is now recuperating from surgery and is anxious to return to his work at the Institute once he is cleared by his doctor.

Read more

Budgeting at the Local Level

Share your thoughts

There is perhaps no more important public agency activity than budgeting, the process whereby decision-makers allocate scarce resources to fund vital public services. Budget decisions directly affect the quality of life in a community and the public's level of satisfaction with decision-makers.

So, how did the process go? Did you try something new to inform or involve the community in the process?

Read more

Palo Alto Uses Techonology to Engage Residents in Budgeting

Case Story

Palo Alto, in California's Silicon Valley, is no stranger to technology. The city is headquarters to a number of high-tech companies such as Hewlett Packard and VMWare. Palo Alto is now using its assets to help engage and educate its residents in the city's budgeting process.

Read more

Engaging the Public in Budgeting

ILG Resources

The Institute for Local Government has developed a variety of publications, videos and tools to help local agencies in their efforts to engage the public in the budgeting process. We welcome you to view our vast library of resources.

The Language of Budgets

A Brief Glossary of Financial Management Terms



As budget season continues, sharing a resource glossary of financial management terms may help officials and agencies communicate with the public.

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