TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE, MEETING 4/17/18

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Summary of Powerpoint—The Transparency Puzzle



* The world is in a culture shift to more “open/inclusive” governments—governments that redefine how they interact with citizens
* See Ash Center report, *Engaging Citizens*
* First emerging programs in U.S.: Participatory Budgets
* Create Structures that make the exercise of democracy possible

Ideas:

* A permanent Transparency Committee to continue the planning and work
* Examine existing city resources; coordinate
* Identify national and international resources
* Create a citizen manual with “how-tos”. (how ideas become laws; zoning/land use; budget basics, etc.)
* Make city website more user friendly—a “Citizen Portal” (calendar of events, blogs, emails to officials, how to report issues)
* Engage CPACs –empower them to be effective in their communities

Key: Change government processes to bring people together in new ways, not just overwhelm them with data.