



## What is a project?

Temporary endeavor undertaken to create a defined deliverable or result against which agreed to goals, objectives, requirements and specifications

- It has a definitive START and a definitive END and is time-constrained
- Projects are different unique
- Upon conclusion, the project deliverable(s) transitions into steady state operational support and is no longer considered a project

A **Project Management Framework** is a tool kit containing the processes, tools and templates to support consistent project communication and successful project delivery.

- Vision
- Guiding Principles
- Strategic Outcomes
- Policy Objectives
- Governance Models
- Process, Tool, Templates

## Vision and Guiding Principles

*The City of Victoria manages projects in a consistent manner to ensure the most efficient approach is taken achieve strategic plan outcomes and ensure public dollars are used effectively.*

- Plans are scaled for project management efficiency
- Clear governance and accountability
- Simplicity and consistency
- Common language is used
- Corporate memory is retained
- Risk management approaches are used
- Employee skill development is a priority
- Community and stakeholder involvement
- Continuous improvement
- Celebrate successes



## Framework Strategic Outcomes



## Framework Strategic Outcomes

### Strategy and Execution Alignment

- Supports Council objective to "Innovate and Lead"
- Application to "new" projects in 2017 and beyond
- Provides a filter to ensure that projects are aligned with longer term outcomes
- Project funding is identified and sufficiently allocated



## Framework Strategic Outcomes

### Governance and Methods

- Level of rigor, documentation and planning to be scaled to project risks and complexities (TBL)
- Corresponding governance structure established based on project category
- Linages to other corporate policies and frameworks
  - Capital Cost Estimate Policy
  - Purchasing Policy
  - Records Management Framework (under development)



## Framework Strategic Outcomes

### Competency Development

- Assess and grow staff skills in 10 knowledge areas related to managing projects:
  - Integration
  - Scope
  - Time/Schedule
  - Costs
  - Quality
  - Human Resources
  - Communications
  - Risks
  - Stakeholders
- Establish a community of practice and on-going support for sustainment



## Framework Strategic Outcomes

### Monitoring and Reporting

- Clear reporting mechanisms for each project through quarterly operational plan updates
- Provisions for on-going status reporting
- Projects include alignment to Civic Engagement Strategy





## Framework Strategic Outcomes

### Project Management Framework provides direction to project managers and staff:

- Vision and guiding principles for project management
- Strategic outcomes and policy objectives
- Descriptions of project phases and considerations to take into account
- Project management processes and specific procedures for approvals
- Applicable tools and templates for the City of Victoria



## Framework Policy Objectives

1. **Project briefs** will be completed prior to the commencement of a new capital and service/planning projects to ensure it is **aligned** with the most current Strategic Plan, Financial Plan and Operational Plan(s).
2. Clearly defined decision making authority and communications will form the basis for **project governance** from initiation through to project close.
3. A standard set of **tools and templates** for small, medium and large projects will be used.
4. Project plans will **be scaled according to complexity** to minimize **risk and liability** to the City.



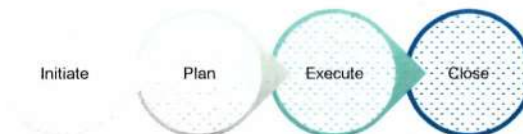
## Framework Policy Objectives

5. Project budgets include **all costs** for the project, from initiation to close.
6. Estimates for **steady state operational costs** for sustainment.
7. **Monitoring and communication** at appropriate intervals and levels will be articulated at the on-set of projects to ensure common expectations.
8. Documented **project evaluations** will be undertaken to capture lessons learned and support **continuous improvement**.
9. **Employee competency development and skills training** will be available to support implementation of the project management framework.

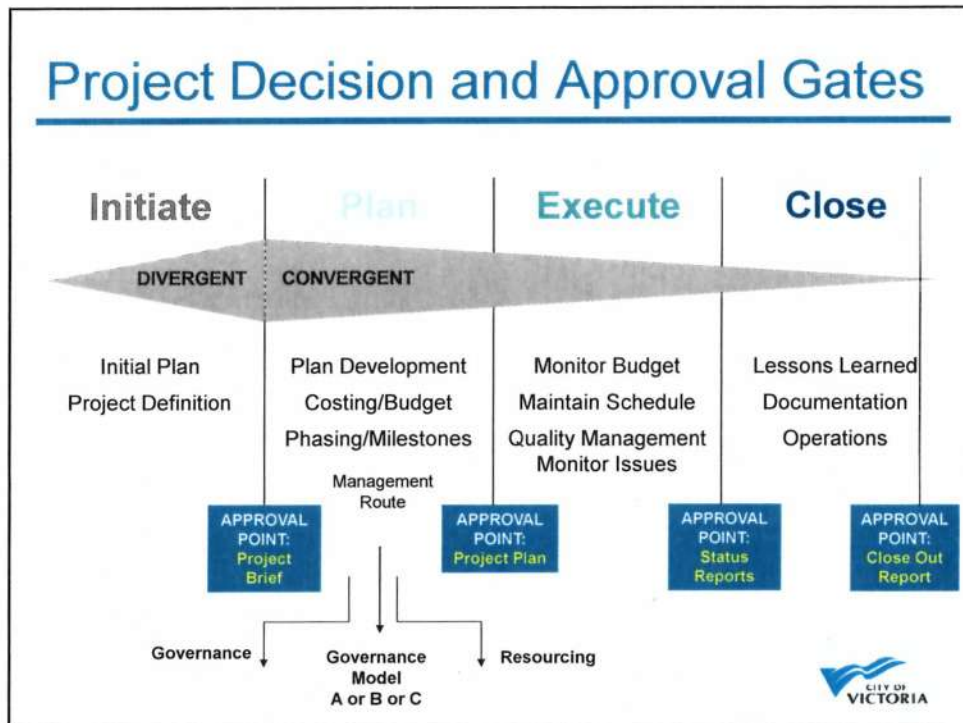


## Project Phases

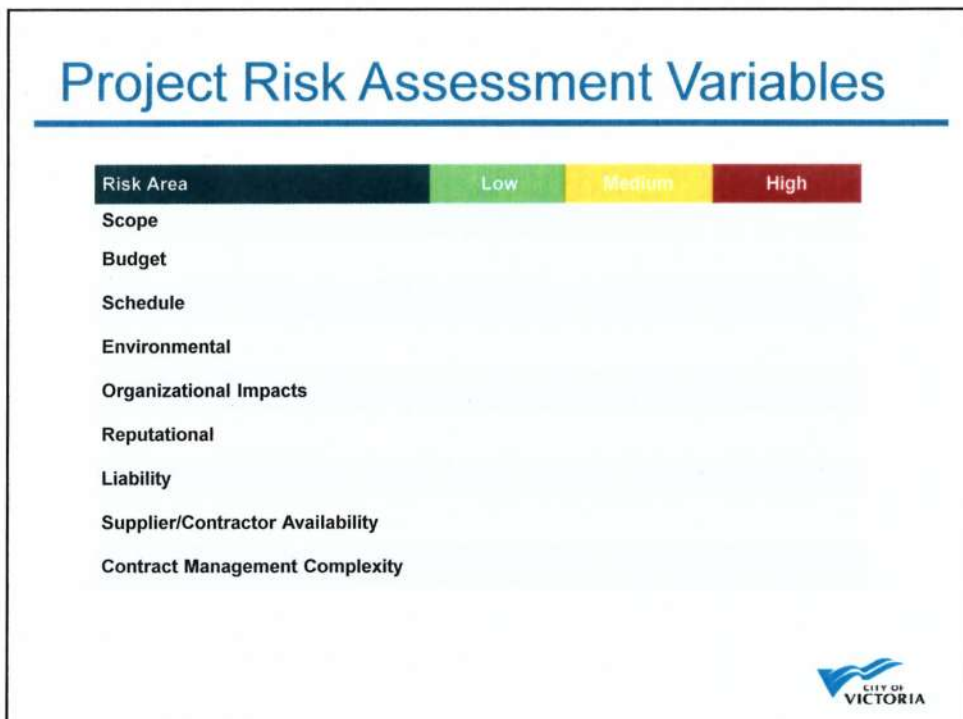
- **Initiate:** The process where a need generates an idea for a piece of work that is discussed, refined and eventually goes through an approval process where it formally becomes a 'Project'.
- **Plan:** The process where the 'Project' requirements, specifications and management plans are developed.
- **Execute:** The process where the 'Project' requirements, specifications and management plans are executed, monitored and reported through status reports.
- **Close:** The process where the 'Project' deliverables are approved (i.e. meet project goals, requirements, specifications) and the 'Project' concludes. Includes approval of project close and lesson learned documentation.



## Project Decision and Approval Gates



## Project Risk Assessment Variables



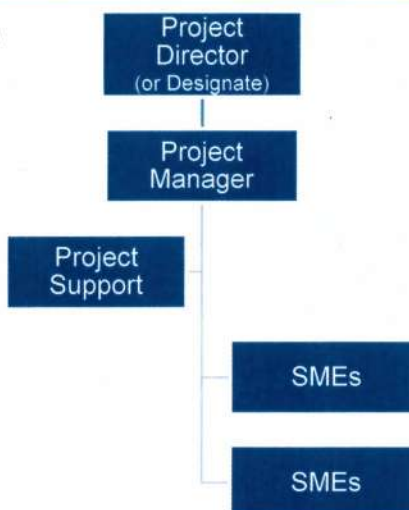
## Project Governance “Requirements”

- All projects have a formally agreed **governance** structure
- Clear and unambiguous allocation of **authority for decision making**
- Single point of **contact/accountability**
- **Roles and responsibilities** of all team members is clearly defined
- Clearly defined **degree of control** for each project owner
- There is a mechanism in place to provide **independent review**
- **Separation** of stakeholder management and project management activities
- **Separation** [differences in] project and organizational governance structures
- **Plans are approved** at the appropriate level
- There is a **process in place for decisions** and disputes
- **Professional competencies** are adequate and in place



## Project Structure: Low Risk

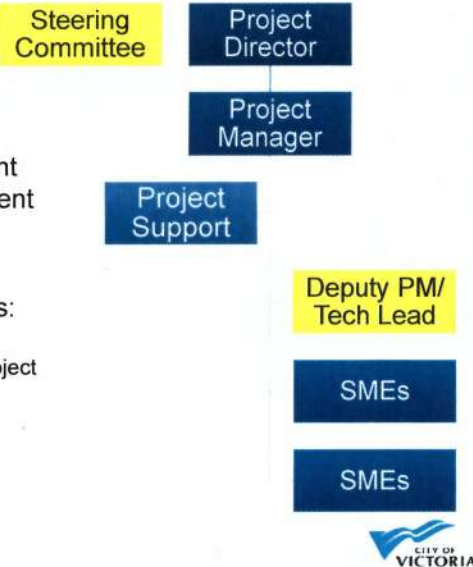
- All projects will have these roles defined
- Governance structure is relatively lean:
  - Some director involvement to provide guidance
  - Council input and direction generally not required
  - Limited number of subject matter experts required on the team





## Project Structure: Medium Risk

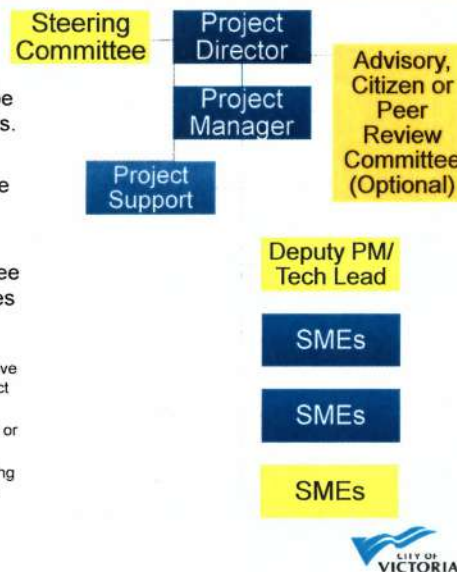
- Interdisciplinary projects generally require a steering committee
- Additional project management support through the appointment of a 'deputy' (optional)
- Governance structure requires:
  - Decision making process for the steering committee to ensure project deliverables and outcomes are achieved
  - Council check-in for input and direction likely



## Project Structure: High Risk

Governance structure similar to Yellow Route, except:

- Additional subject matter expert may be required resulting in 'sub' project teams.
- Council likely takes plays a more active role in providing direction
- Consideration of an 'external' committee to support the project specific outcomes forms may include:
  - Advisory – stakeholders from surrounding municipalities, governments and agencies that have an interest or knowledge or expertise of the project
  - Peer – subject matter experts from other jurisdictions or sectors that can provide additional or new insights
  - Citizen – diverse group of representatives providing a range of views from their personal perspectives (youth, senior, business, environment, heritage preservation, etc.)



## Advancing the Framework in 2017

---

- Automation of templates to a project on-line environment
- Continued training and roll-out to staff
- Expand the application of the framework to the 2018 Operational Plan (Key Initiatives)
- Develop enhanced performance measures and increased project tracking
- Select projects to be subjects of internal audit to identify further improvements

