



Public Engagement Approach on Wastewater Treatment

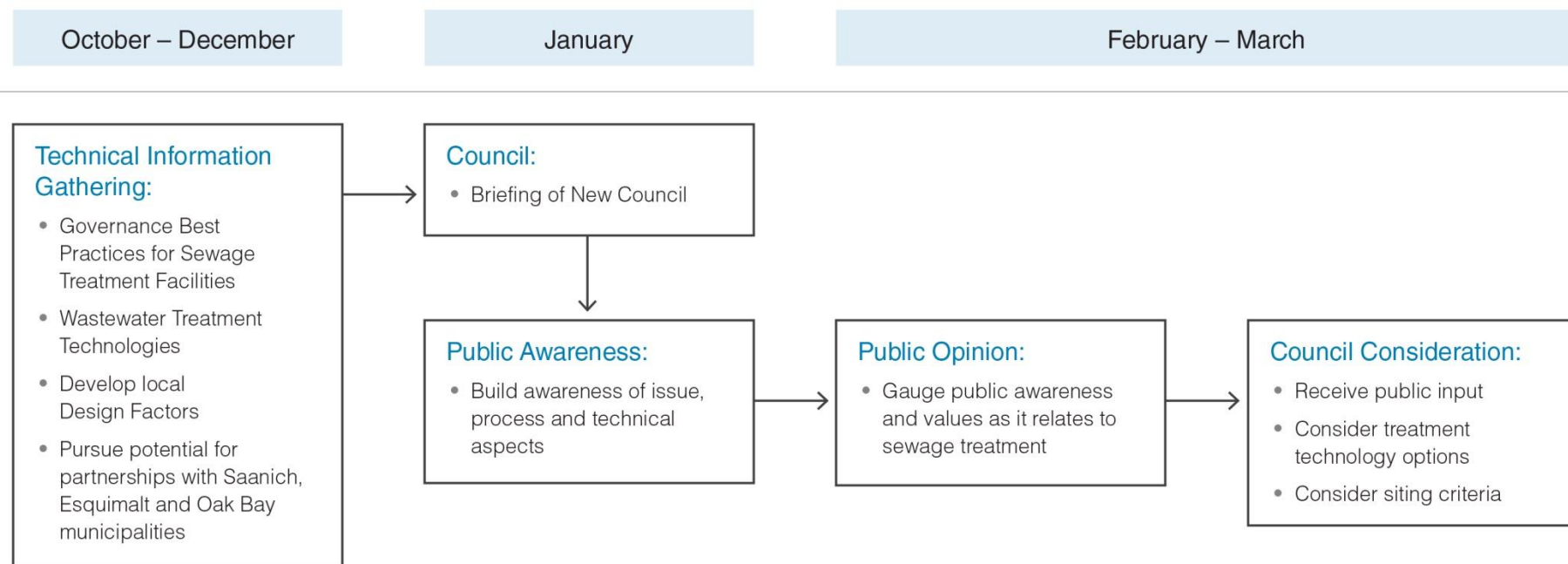
Governance and Priorities Committee,
October 23, 2014

Progress Update:

- City Managers and staff have met with counterparts in Saanich and Oak Bay, as well as Westside Committee to share information
- Request for Proposals Issued for consultants to provide technical capacity and expertise to City staff
- Young Anderson will provide legal advice on governance models
- An inter-disciplinary committee of staff across organization has been formed to support project

Exploring Local Options for Wastewater Treatment

PROCESS MAP: PHASE ONE



Engagement Approach:

- Sewage treatment project has high interest and potential impact for Victorians
- Long standing issue highlighted as a top issue in surveys conducted for the City of Victoria by Ipsos-Reid.
- Does not appear to be current public input from Victoria residents that would assist Council in guiding future decision-making on this issue, nor is their current understanding of the public's awareness of Victoria's current intention to explore local options for sewage treatment.

Engagement Approach:

- The proposed process denotes opportunity to engage the Victoria community early in the process and provide input to inform decisions on potential sites or technology.
- Public's awareness and values can guide the development of a framework for considering local sewage treatment options, including siting and technologies.
- Allows time to engage new Council and public early in City process and confirm the support for sewage treatment and intention to explore local options, outside of the regional process.

Engagement Objectives:

- Focus on public information and education to facilitate public understanding and engagement prior to decision-making.
- Raise awareness of City's support for sewage treatment and intention to explore local options, and facility(s) located in Victoria.
- Solicit input on values and attitudes as it relates to sewage treatment options prior to decision-making on options or sites.
- Ensure meaningful outreach to those affected or potentially affected by sewage treatment decisions
- Build community capacity and understanding by engaging stakeholder groups in process and creating opportunities to provide input.

Timelines:

January

- Clearly communicate City's support for sewage treatment and openness to explore local options and potential siting within Victoria.
- Public education: How sewage infrastructure currently works in Victoria, what facilities look like in other communities and what amenities they include, outline opportunities to learn more and provide input.
- Prepare for public surveying on awareness, values and beliefs as it relates to sewage treatment.

March

- Solicit public input to inform development of framework for guiding planning decisions.
- Present council with technical analysis.
- Present Council with public engagement results.

Should Council approve the approach outlined, a detailed engagement strategy will be developed over the coming months and presented to Council in January, prior to implementation.

Recommendation:

- 1) Council approve process map and public engagement approach for exploring local options for sewage treatment.
- 2) Council direct staff to update Council in January 2015 with:
 - a) A detailed public engagement strategy
 - b) Summary of technical information gathered