

Draft Public Participation & Community Engagement Memo & Toolkit Listening Session

Tuesday, November 26th, 2024 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM ET

Meeting Overview

To watch the complete meeting recording, please find it on the U.S. Open Government Secretariat's YouTube channel here:

https://youtu.be/nNO0xFtjuJk?si=YK-_1QLewEcSH4Nd

Agenda

Welcome & Logistics
Importance of Civic Engagement
Agenda Overview & Background
Facilitated Feedback Discussion: Draft Memo
Facilitated Feedback Discussion: Draft Toolkit Outline
Facilitated Feedback Discussion: Centralized Engagement Portal
Closing

Key Resources

- To view past and future participation and engagement related content:
<https://www.performance.gov/participation/>
- Meeting presentation materials:
https://www.gsa.gov/system/files/PPCE%20%28Public%29%20Listening%20Session_11-26-24_vF.pdf

Welcome & Logistics - Shaibya Dalal, Federal Lead, Participation and Engagement, White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

- Shaibya welcomed attendees and outlined meeting logistics, letting folks know to come off mute or utilize the chat to participate.

- Justin Vail was introduced as the Special Assistant to the President for Democracy and Civic Participation.

Importance of Civic Engagement - Justin Vail, Special Assistant to the President for Democracy and Civic Participation

- Civic participation fosters public trust in government systems and strengthens accountability.
- Active engagement enhances community involvement and democratic resilience.
- Empowered communities advocate for their needs and influence policymaking.
- Greater awareness of social issues mobilizes collective action and innovative solutions.
- A culture of participation is essential for the sustainability of democratic institutions and societal health.

Agenda Overview - Shaibya Dalal, Federal Lead, Participation and Engagement, OMB

- Shaibya reviewed the meeting agenda and recapped [OMB efforts thus far](#), emphasizing the need for collaborative input.
- She outlined the goals for feedback on the draft documents, underlining their importance in shaping future engagement by Federal agencies.

Facilitated Feedback Discussion: Draft Memo - Shaibya Dalal, Federal Lead, Participation and Engagement, OMB

- Shaibya facilitated a discussion focused on gathering insights on the draft Memo over a 40-minute session.
- Key audience feedback included:
 - There is a need for more precise definitions of engagement roles within agencies to avoid overlap.
 - OMB should include case studies demonstrating successful civic engagement practices to provide a reference point.
 - Questions arise regarding how to measure the outcomes of civic engagement efforts effectively.

Facilitated Feedback Discussion: Draft Toolkit Outline - Shaibya Dalal, Federal Lead, Participation and Engagement, OMB

- A 20-minute session allowed participants to discuss the draft toolkit outline, allowing for specific feedback.
- Key insights included:
 - The toolkit should include practical examples and step-by-step guidance to ensure ease of use for various agency stakeholders.
 - Agencies should consider the creation of digital resources and training modules to facilitate understanding and implementation across departments.
 - Attendees questioned the adaptability of the toolkit for different local contexts, emphasizing the need for a flexible approach.

Facilitated Feedback Discussion: Centralized Engagement Portal - Shaibya Dalal, Federal Lead, Participation and Engagement, OMB

- Shaibya posed questions about developing a potential centralized portal to enhance the accessibility of civic engagement opportunities across agencies.
- Discussions revealed interest in:
 - The need for a user-friendly interface that allows filters for different types of engagement.
 - Incorporating feedback mechanisms within the portal to continually refine offerings based on user experiences.
 - Potential for partnering with local organizations to populate the portal with relevant opportunities.

Closing

- Shaibya expressed gratitude to attendees for their valuable contributions and emphasized the significance of their insights, which OMB will incorporate into the final participation and engagement guidance and toolkit.

Full Attendee List:

First and Last Name	Organization
Alexander Howard	N/A
André Lims	Open Contracting Partnership
Alissa Schaub-Rimel	U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services
Amanda Phimmasone	CACI

Ananda Bhatia	U.S. House of Representatives
Angela Hernandez	U.S. Dept of Education
Beth Cron	U.S. General Services Administration
Brian Wanlass	N/A
Charmaine Dever	N/A
Cori Adoh (ASL Interpreter)	U.S. General Services Administration
Courtney Moberg (ASL Interpreter)	U.S. General Services Administration
Daniel York	U.S. General Services Administration
Deirdre Holder	U.S. Dept of Agriculture
Daria Grayer	Association of American Medical Colleges
Joanne Kelly	Brooklyn Public Library, New York
Kiril Jakimovski	U.S. Department of State
Jane Bouzek	N/A
Justin Vail	White House Domestic Policy Council
Laura Szakmary	U.S. General Services Administration
Mitchell Berger	N/A
Niko Shahbazian	Catalyst California
Pedro Cabral Peçanha	N/A
R. Metz	National Credit Union Administration
Robin Hurt	N/A
Stephen Buckley	Int'l. Assn. for Public Participation (U.S.)
Shaibya Dalal	White House Office of Management and Budget
Annabelle Thompson (Captioner)	N/A
Vanessa Quince	Mathematica
Dr. Yolanda Butler	White House Office of Management and Budget