



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BALTIMORE CITY

Community Engagement Strategic Plan

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Agenda

- Guiding Principles
- Purpose
- Complete Streets
- Life Cycle of Community Engagement
- Emergency Exceptions
- Metrics
- Conclusion



Guiding Principles

BCDOT's community engagement efforts are guided by the following 5 core principles:

1. **Equity and Inclusion:** Prioritize engagement with historically underrepresented communities.
2. **Transparency:** Provide clear, accurate, and timely information about transportation projects.
3. **Accessibility:** Eliminate barriers to participation.
4. **Accountability:** Demonstrate how community input influences.
5. **Fostering Early and Continuous Involvement:** Fostering continuous involvement early in the process.



Community Engagement Regulatory Requirements

Federal Requirements

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

State and Local Requirements

- Maryland Open Meetings Act
- Baltimore City Charter and Code
- Baltimore Sustainability Plan
- BCDOT Equity Framework



When Should We Do Community Engagement ?

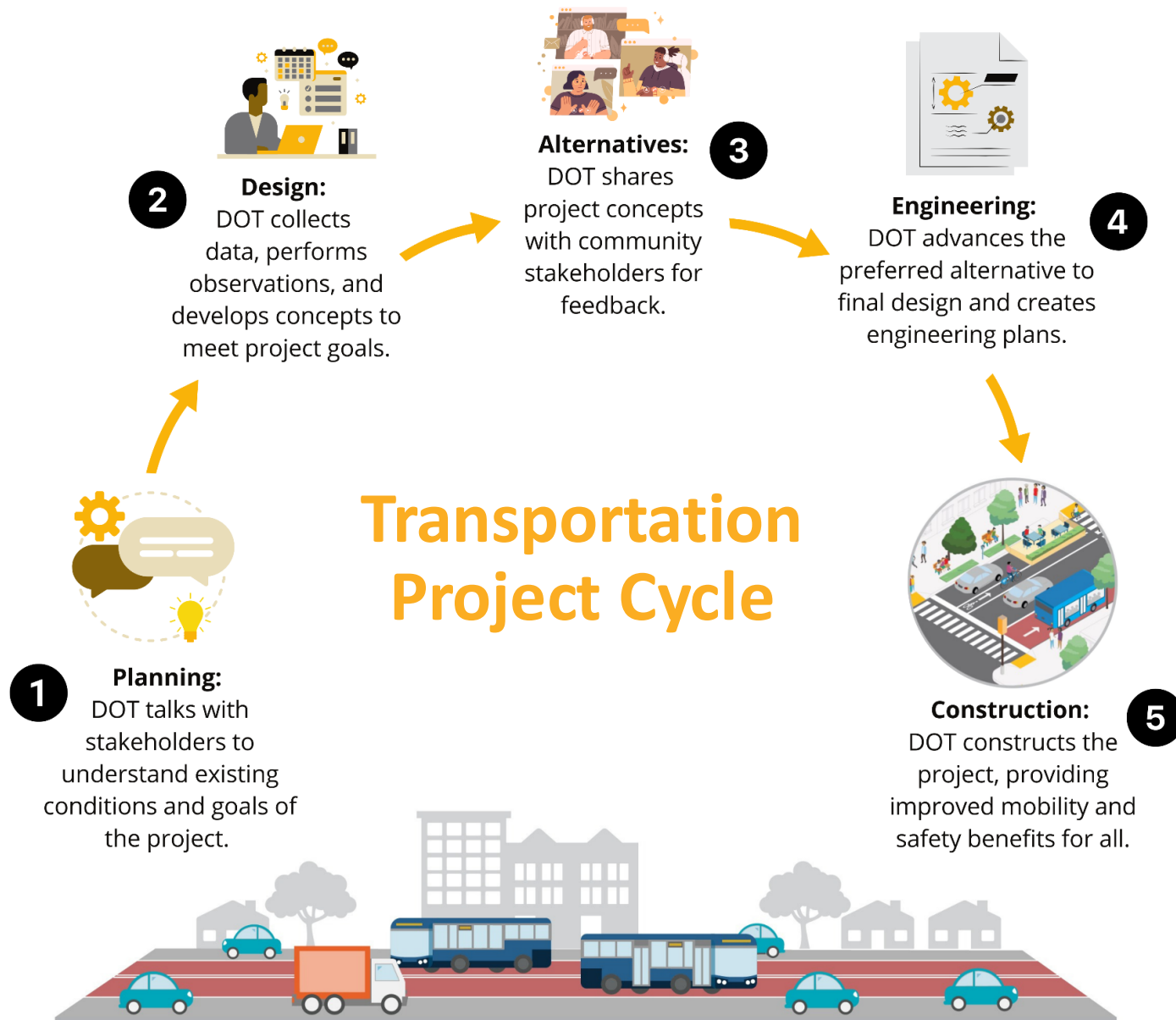
- Roadway Improvements
- Traffic and Safety Enhancements
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure
- Transit Projects
- Bridges and Infrastructure Maintenance
- Streetscaping and Beautification
- Special Initiatives
- Emergency Projects

Complete Streets

BCDOT prioritizes infrastructure investments from both a safety and equity lens, bringing key upgrades to communities that have been historically overlooked and often have higher crash rates. BCDOT also ensures transportation impacts are equitable, avoiding disproportionate effects on certain populations.

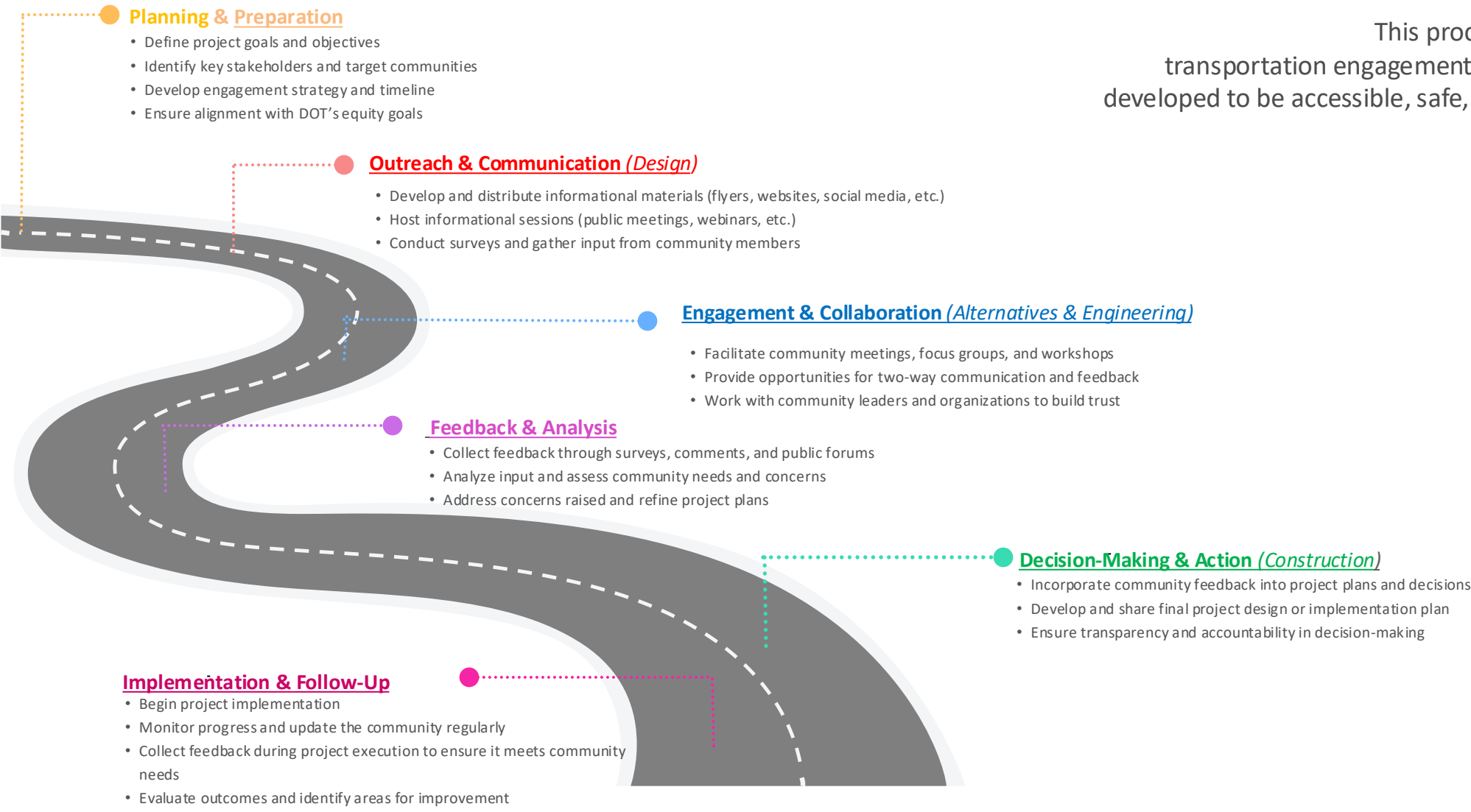
The Community Engagement Division supports BCDOT's Complete Streets principles for safe, accessible, and comfortable streets for all users. Complete Streets equity assessments consider disparities based on race, gender, age, disability, ethnicity, and income.

- **Key Equity Assessments:**
- **Structural Equity:** How historical advantages/disadvantages affect the community.
- **Procedural Equity:** Ensuring authentic inclusion of historically excluded residents.
- **Distributional Equity:** Addressing potential racially disparate outcomes in resource distribution.
- **Transgenerational Equity:** Avoiding unfair burdens on future generations.

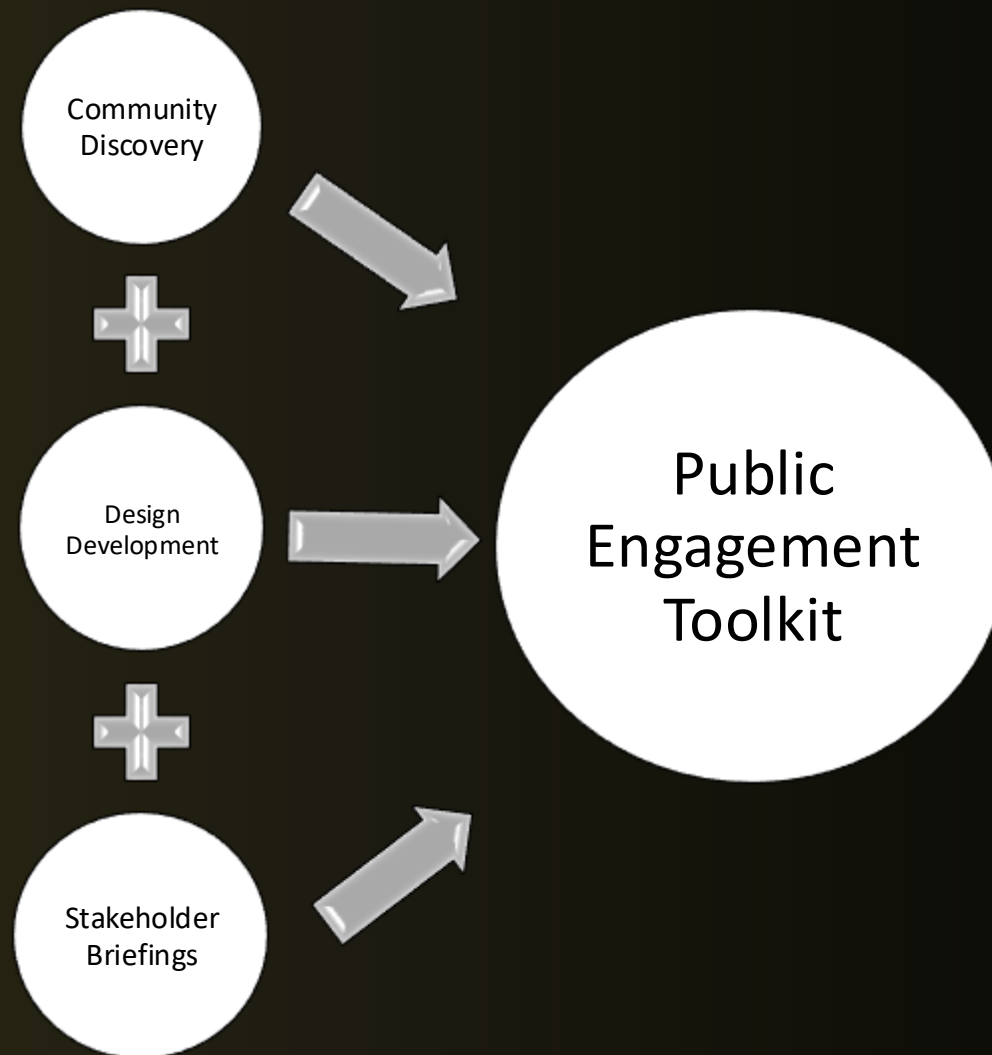


Community Engagement Processes

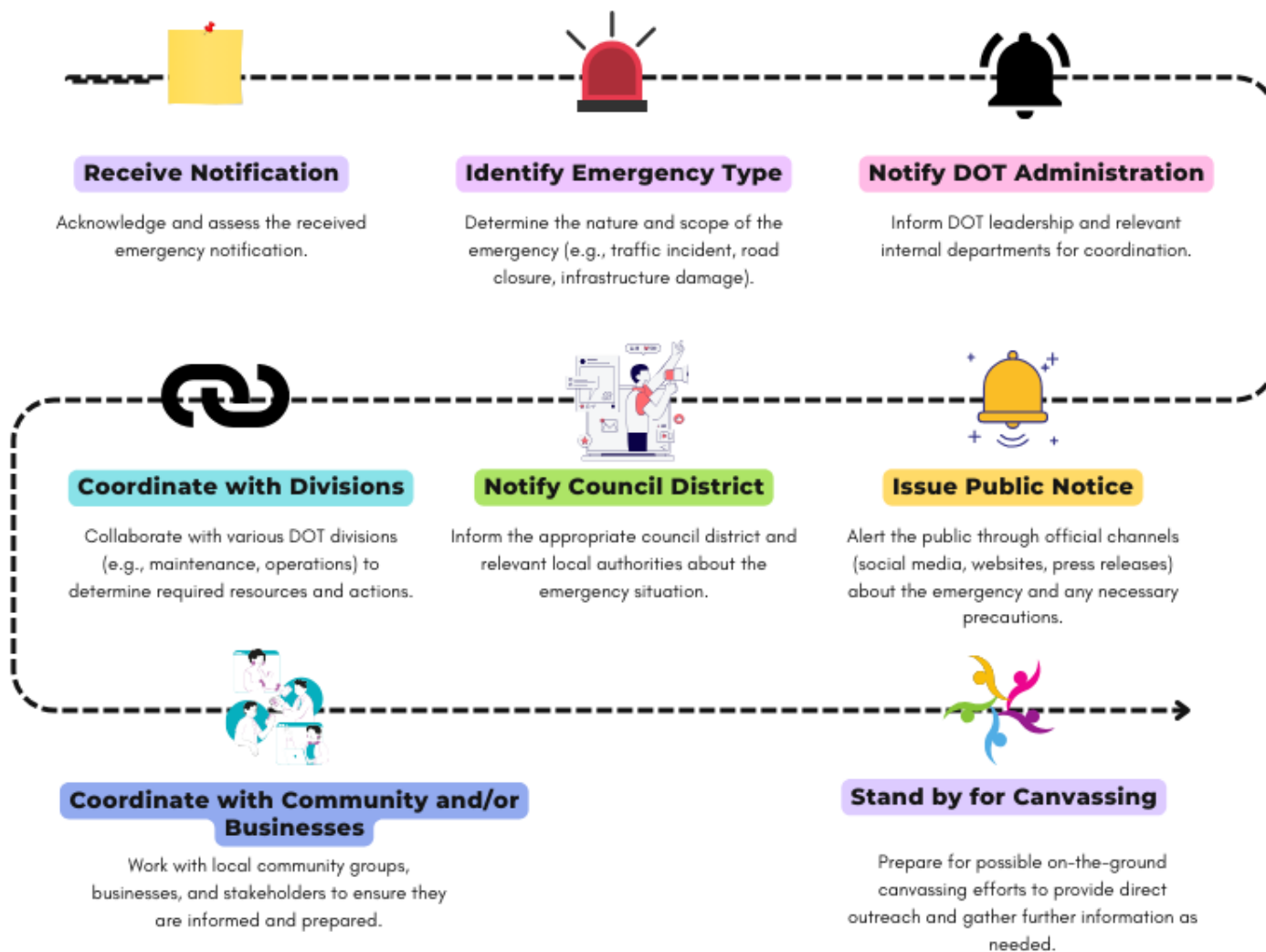
This process highlights the key stages of transportation engagement, ensuring that infrastructure is developed to be accessible, safe, and beneficial for all residents.



Project Concept Development



Emergency Work Exceptions



Community Implementation

Using project TR24301 as a pilot initiative, the Department of Transportation will ensure community members are well-informed and actively involved in the project's development. The Department will follow a structured community engagement process, starting with community meetings during the planning phase to brief residents on the proposed improvements, timelines, and potential impacts. These meetings will allow residents to ask questions, voice concerns, and offer feedback on project elements. The project manager is Michael Wilmore in the TEC Division.

BCDOT will collaborate with local stakeholders to ensure the project aligns with community needs and values. Following the meetings, survey feedback will be reviewed to address concerns and make any necessary adjustments to the project plans. The division is committed to maintaining open communication and keeping the community engaged throughout all process stages, from planning to completion, ensuring the projects benefit all Baltimore residents.



Pilot Project

TR24301 Orleans Street Rehabilitation from N Wolfe St to N Ellwood St

This project involves streetscape improvements along Orleans Street, from N Wolfe Street to N Ellwood Street. The proposed improvements will primarily focus on roadway rehabilitation, pedestrian safety enhancements (such as curb extensions, flex posts, and striping), and ensuring ADA compliance for sidewalks, driveways, alleys, and pedestrian ramps. Additional improvements will include a safety and cross-section evaluation, reconstruction of traffic signals with pedestrian signal infrastructure, and the assessment and upgrade of existing lighting and drainage systems, enhanced crosswalks, pavement markings, and signage.



Community Engagement Processes

TR24301 Orleans Street Rehabilitation from
N Wolfe St to N Ellwood St.

Planning & Preparation

- State of good repair and safety and accessibility upgrades along the Orleans Street corridor
- Consultant will work with the City to identify and engage key stakeholders, including neighborhood associations, advocacy groups, business groups, MTA, etc.

Outreach & Communication (*Design*)

- Next steps include developing and publishing a Streets of Baltimore page for this project
- Meeting 1: The first community-focused event will be a listening session along the Orleans St corridor
- Meeting 2: Presenting concepts developed from the initial community comments, field review, and safety and traffic analyses along the corridor

Engagement & Collaboration (*Alternatives & Engineering*)

- Meeting 3: 30% design presentation of the selected alternative
- Meeting includes subject matter experts for questions/explanations regarding specific design elements (could include consultants)

Feedback & Analysis

- Meeting 4: 65% Design presentation
- Confirm design has been accepted

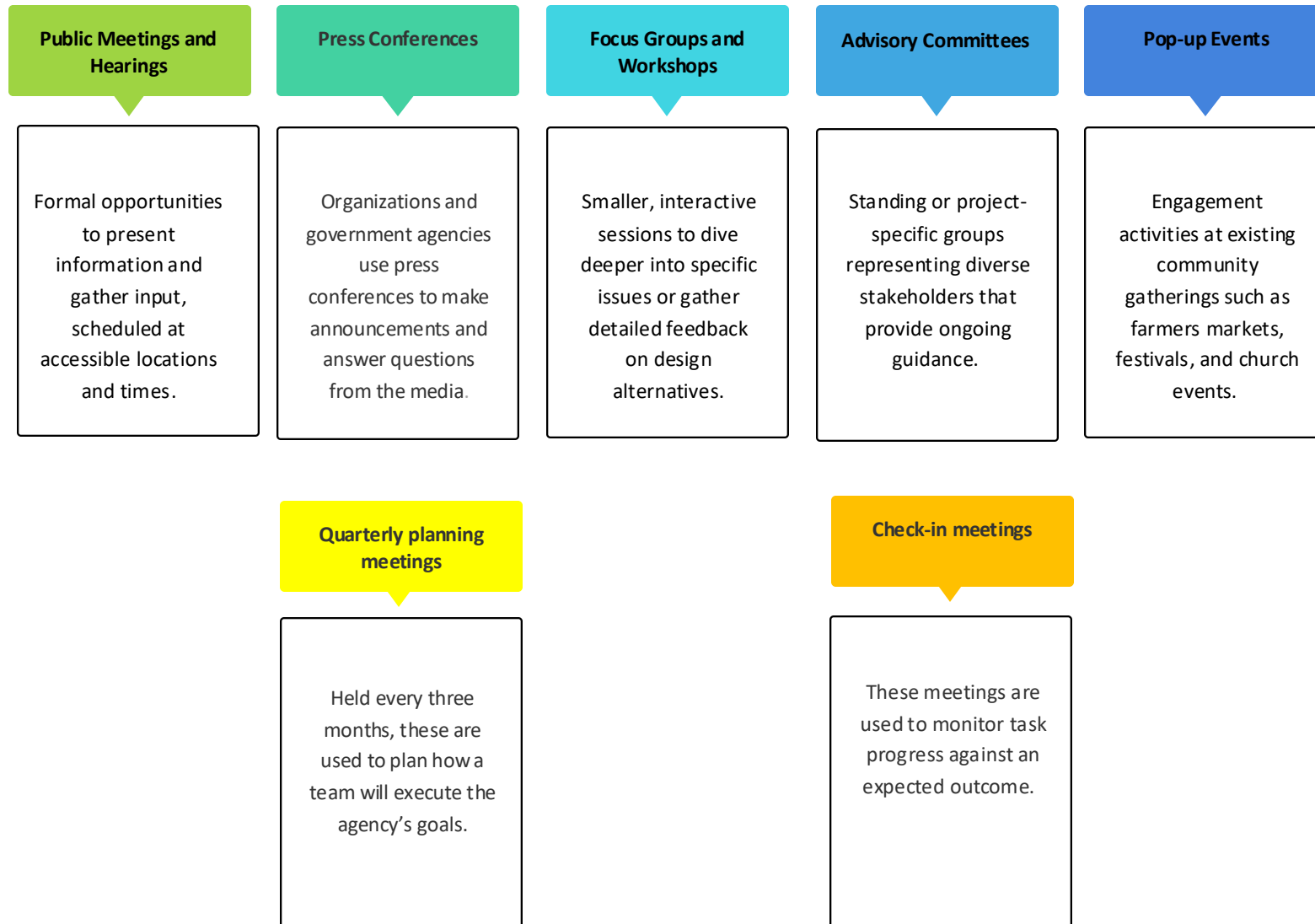
Decision-Making & Action (*Construction*)

- Meeting 5: 95% design presentation
- Meeting includes subject matter experts for questions/explanations regarding specific design elements (could include consultants)

Implementation & Follow-Up

- Begin project implementation – Anticipated 2029
- Collect feedback during project execution to ensure it meets community needs
- Evaluate outcomes and identify areas for improvement;
- Continued stakeholder and community engagement; maintaining accessibility to Council as well

Traditional Public Meeting Types



Metrics

Quantitative Metrics

- ☐ Number and demographic diversity of participants at public meetings
- ☐ Number of comments received, and issues resolved
- ☐ Constituent Services statistics
- ☐ Changes made to projects based on community input

Qualitative Metrics

- ☐ Participant satisfaction with the engagement process
- ☐ Quality and applicability of feedback received
- ☐ Level of trust between BCDOT, communities, and stakeholders
- ☐ Relationships built or strengthened through transparency, trust and engagement
- ☐ Community sense of ownership over projects from concept to completion
- ☐ Perception of BCDOT's responsiveness to community needs





Questions