

Process Approved by the Council in July of 2013

Alternative 3: Hybrid Process

A hybrid, collaborative process could be considered that included elements of desired structure of a traditional process with the collaborative environment of Open Space Technology. A suggested approach would allow participants to set the agenda and convene sessions. In other words, the agenda would not be set by the City or a facilitator ahead of time. An initial Scoping Meeting would be held to review the current status of the project and the purpose of the study group. Rather than hosting several, parallel sessions as with the case with Open Space Technology, the group would convene as a single group throughout the process. The group would come to a consensus as to the agenda and topics as part of the initial Scoping Meeting, but could amend depending on conversation throughout. *This process would entail that the agenda be prepared by participants at the onset of the process and agreed to a structured outline for the process as part of the scoping meeting and individual sessions coordinated by participants with a greater degree of assistance from City Staff.*

Benefits: This process balances an open, transparent, and collaborative process with a well defined structure that is developed by participants rather than the City or a facilitator. Following the initial Scoping Meeting, Staff can report back with a better estimate of time and costs based on an agenda prepared by the Study Group. With a slightly more structure approach to the Open Space Technology concept, Staff estimates that this process would be slightly shorter than said approach.

Drawbacks: This process will require that the initial Scoping Meeting be completed before a more concrete estimation of costs and timelines when compared to a traditional, structured Study Group. It is estimated that this process will be a slightly longer timeframe that the traditional, structured process, consisting of possibly one (1) to two (2) additional meetings.