



Better Public Meetings

Communities across the United States are challenged by making public meetings more civil, deliberative and productive. The Center will help local institutions gauge their civic infrastructure, implement better engagement practices in public meetings and hearings, measure the progress of these efforts through an Engagement Scorecard and Civility Index. This option includes a civic infrastructure scan and guidance on participant recruitment, digital engagement around meetings, and new formats for the meetings.



Civic Infrastructure Scan

The Scan examines the strengths and gaps in the support structure for local democracy, including the recent history of engagement, skills and capacities present in the community, the state of local online and in-person networks. Each scan consists of semi-structured qualitative interviews with key local leaders, followed by media and social media analysis, desk research, and recommendations on overcoming weaknesses and capitalizing on civic assets.



Charter Revision Guidance

Our **Basic Level Guidance** provides a comprehensive assessment of the current charter, reviews state open meetings laws, and conducts interviews with stakeholders both inside and outside of government. Recommendations are then crafted based on these findings.

For a more involved approach, our **Premier Level Guidance** encompasses all elements of the basic package, and goes a step further by incorporating extensive community visits, substantive public engagement for charter “visioning,” and the flexibility to add extra services tailored to the unique needs and interests of your community. For instance, you can opt for a Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) review to enhance the financial management aspects of the charter.



Data Collection and Evaluation

The League can help with administering processes to collect and evaluate data in multiple ways. This can include qualitative and quantitative analysis, surveys, focus groups and in-depth interviews, a pre- and post- Civic Infrastructure Scan and assessment, as well as outcomes analysis.



Engagement and Collaboration Improvement

We can provide on-the-ground assistance to help communities renovate their civic infrastructure, including the work described above, plus strategies for:

- Digital engagement
- Advancing equity and measuring progress
- Engaging youth and older adults
- Assisting neighborhoods and local online networks to build community, involve more people, and connect with the government
- Skill-building for staff, elected officials, and a diversity of community leaders
- Crafting and implementing strategic plans