



Citizen Suggestions for More Transparent Government (prioritized in the order of popularity by Summit participants)

Top Ten Suggestions

1. Utilize the [Open Government Financial Transparency Portal](#).
2. Publish the ordinances and resolutions that elected officials see as filed.
3. Create a Chief Info Officer.
4. Provide greater transparency regarding the use of County/City TIF Districts.
5. Provide recidivism data- to see if programs are working (ex: jails, drugs, children).
6. Create a county / citywide strategic plan.
7. Reframe documents with citizen friendly language (i.e. avoid acronyms, use layman's terms).
8. Publish a Muncie Week in Review newsletter.
9. Develop a common master calendar of meetings publish to the internet.
10. Develop an online repository for all public documents.

Other Ideas

11. Create a communication plan.
12. Publish a list of board vacancies with an application process.
13. Setup neighborhood-based meetings when possible programs / initiatives will impact residents.
14. Create an Ombudsman- "public outreach liaison" to give citizens a single point person for government.
15. Align meeting agendas with matters of greatest interest – start public meetings with topics that are clearly of public interest, rather than following a pre-determined template.
16. Publish a list of elected, appointed, paid, and unpaid positions.
17. Hold meetings in areas according to their possible impact.
18. Regular education from Muncie Sanitary District on their obligations to community.
19. Post agendas for all city boards
 - All elected boards
 - Sub committees

Other Ideas Continued

20. Provide information or workshops to citizens on how government works. Which board does what?
21. Hold regular committee meetings on city council.
22. Provide text recognized/ searchable PDFs on the web.
23. Publish and update an online list of public boards.
24. Use opengov.com software to review budgets.
25. Create user-friendly websites for any department.
26. Provide access to job descriptions/roles of elected officials on their websites.
27. Allow avenues for active student participation in government.
28. Publish agendas one week in advance on the web.
29. Publish bond rating and capacity on the web.
30. Seek collaboration with non-city entities for archiving and education.
31. Provide regular community interaction/ town halls.
32. To address conflict of interest/ nepotism regulations for boards/city workers- post disclosure forms.
33. Provide education for community- gov't process, current issues.
34. Explain what each board's role in the government is (consider using a flow chart).
35. Create a deputy Mayor position.
36. Increase accessibility for diverse/ marginalized populations.
37. Knock on doors after elections not just before.
38. Provide lists of active projects for goods/services.
39. Publish a list of meeting times when citizens are available to attend.
40. Encourage the MRC (& other committees) to hold their meetings in the different neighborhoods.
41. Develop a more navigable website.
42. Provide an official e-mail address for each elected official.
43. Publish the official email Address and phone # for each elected official and board member.
44. Provide an official packet put into PDF and put online prior to board meeting.
45. Publish an annual paving plan.
46. Publish the standards, terms, and agreements for city contracts for materials and services.
47. Provide greater transparency in property transactions.
48. Provide greater transparency with decision-making processes.
49. Think of the current public access laws as a floor for transparency, not a ceiling.
50. Utilize Social Media to update the public on government activities.

Summit Planning Committee



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