

Community Dialogue Meeting Guide



Pre-Application Requirement

Cities pursuing the Certified City of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Certification must host at least 2 interactive Community Dialogue Meetings each year, prior to beginning certification and to maintain certification after it's been granted.

The Community Dialogue Meeting must target city residents at large, with intentional communication and outreach efforts to engage a variety of city experiences and perspectives, not solely city leaders, existing committee members, board members, etc.

The meeting should include intentional discussion, dialogue, and/or feedback on at least one of the following:

- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging in the community,
- the city's pursuit of this DEIB certification,
- current projects or city services in need of community input,
- community needs and concerns.

Please reach out to GCS staff if you need further assistance with understanding or meeting this Community Dialogue Meeting requirement.

Supporting documentation can include meeting minutes, meeting summaries, meeting agendas, attendance reports, press releases, social media posts, and/or event flyers. Please upload at least one of the items listed; multiple uploads are encouraged.

Examples of Community Dialogue Meetings include, but are not limited to:

- Town Hall Meetings
- Community Workshops
- Civic Dinners

Community Dialogue Meetings are **NOT**:

- The public comment section at a city council meeting.
- A city committee or board/commission meeting that is open to the public, such as a Planning Commission/Council meeting or a Transportation Committee meeting.

Community Dialogue Resources
Tools:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Citizen Lab – Community Engagement: A Practitioner’s Guide• Citizen Lab – How to Moderate Difficult Conversations• Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities – How to Organize a Town Hall Meeting: A Planning Guide
Examples:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hogansville, GA – Building Diverse, Equal and Inclusive Communities in Georgia’s Cities• Decatur, GA – Co-Creating Cities with Community Engagement• Chattanooga, TN – Helping Chattanoogans Realize the Chattanooga Dream• Fort Worth, TX – Town Halls for All• Sioux City, IA – Sioux City hosts community conversation with Latino and Indigenous residents• Medford, OR – City Hosts Town Hall Event in Ward 1 to Address Homelessness• Platteville, WI – Parks & Recreation Community Dialogue Session• Tampa, FL – Tampa PD to Host First Town Hall Tuesday Meeting• Tulsa, OH – Racial Equity Dialogues• Redwood City, CA – Community Dialogue Sessions• Panama City, FL – City Manager Hosts Weekly Meetings for Residents
Programs, Training, and/or Assistance:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Georgia City Solutions – Facilitation Services• Inclusivv – Facilitator Training & Facilitation Services