

DISTRICT 1

MEET & GREET

WHAT WE HEARD



January, 2026

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the District 1 “What We Heard” Report

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the District 1 Meet & Greet! Your time, thoughts, and willingness to share your insights are what make our community stronger.

After the 2022 District Meetings, many community members asked for more opportunities to provide input on municipal information and to share their opinions during these meetings. We heard you—and we listened. This year, we’ve restructured our District Meetings to make sure everyone, of all ages, can engage and provide feedback on a wide variety of topics.

The following encapsulates “what we heard” from District 1. Similar reports will also be released for other District meetings. These reports summarize the input shared, so the community can see what was discussed. Once all District Meet & Greets are complete, the information from every district will be compiled into a full report. That will show how we are taking steps to incorporate your feedback into municipal operations.

At the District 1 meeting, we asked for input in several areas, including:

- **Planning and Development**
- **Engineering and Public Works**
- **Community Programming**
- **Finance**
- **Leadership**
- **Communications**
- **And a special table for our youngest residents to share what matters most to them in their community.**

MEETING ATTENDANCE

The District 1 Meet and Greet was held at the Canning Fire Hall on September 22nd, 2025, from 6:00pm - 8:00pm.

The meeting was advertised on municipal social media channels, our website, on radio and in print media including the Canning Gazette.

In total 42 people attended the meeting, with the majority being from the Canning area and additional attendees from the Kingsport and Centreville areas.

OVERALL THEMES

District 1 spoke, and here is what we heard most clearly. The following priorities reflect the shared aspirations, concerns, and ideas expressed by residents, and will guide future municipal planning and engagement efforts.

1. Communication & Trust

- Residents want updates and regular follow-up. Clear, consistent communication will help build confidence in municipal decisions.

2. Safe, Accessible Infrastructure

- Sidewalks, roads, water systems, and snow clearing top the list of priorities. People want safe, connected, and accessible spaces for all ages and abilities.

3. Thoughtful Growth

- Protect rural charm while planning for the future. Residents support affordable housing, local business growth, and fair, transparent development processes, but want to maintain the historic feel of their community.

4. Recreation & Community Life

- More local festivals, youth programs, and inclusive recreation spaces like a regional recreation facility, tracks, splash pads, and gardens – all to strengthen connection and belonging.

5. Environment & Sustainability

- Support for renewable energy, clean water, protected farmland, and responsible land use reflects a shared commitment to long-term resilience.

6. Leadership & Follow-Through

- People want to see action with clear timelines, progress updates, and proof that community input leads to real results.

What We Heard in Your Words:

“Be consistent and follow through.”

“Transparency, openness, listening.”

“Let’s keep our community’s character, but grow together.”

TABLE 1 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

At this table, community members were invited to imagine what District 1 could look like 10 years from now. Through “Postcards for the Future,” participants shared their vision for housing, commercial spaces, and overall community development. We received 18 postcards filled with thoughtful ideas and hopes for the future. From these, five main themes emerged, which are highlighted below:

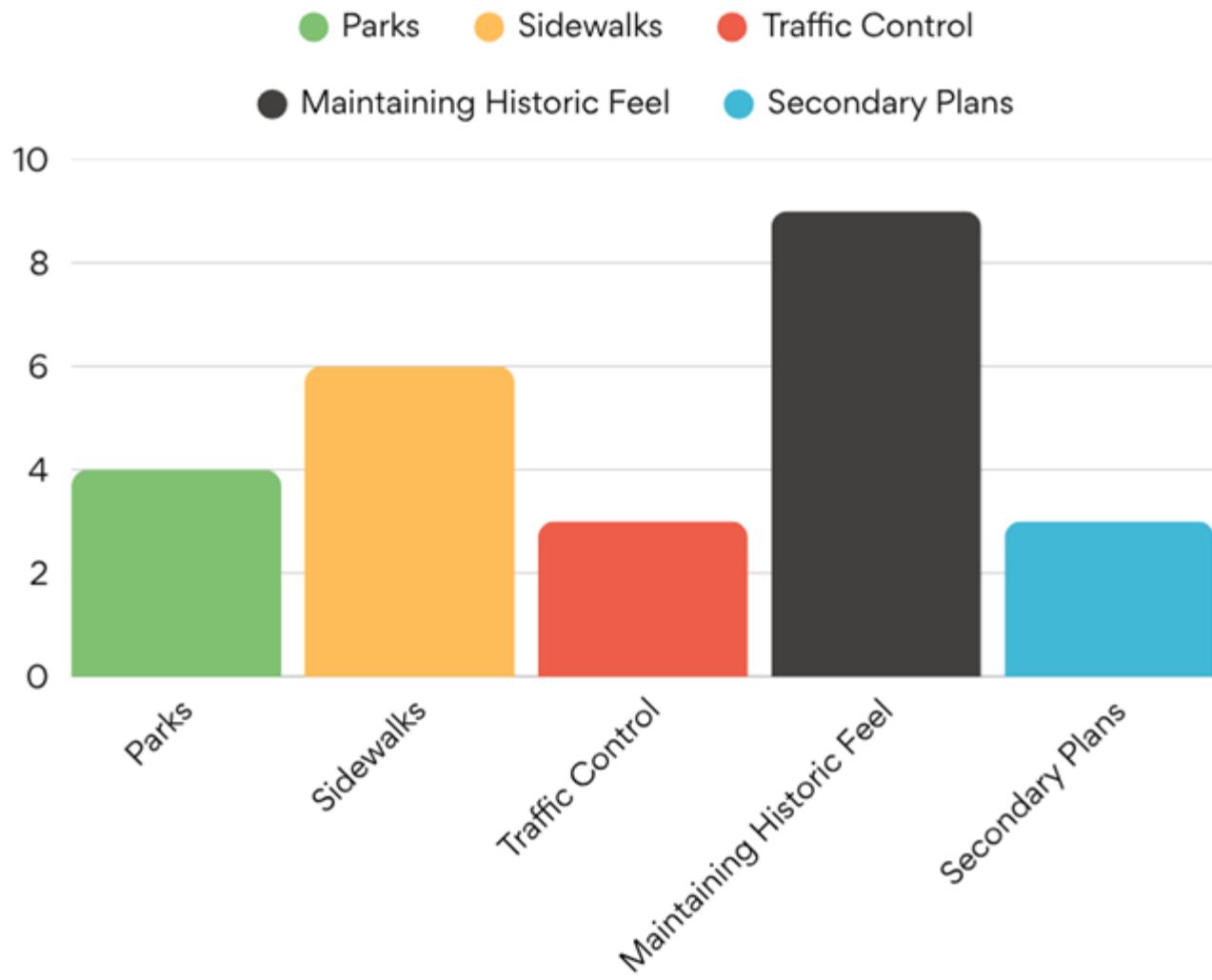
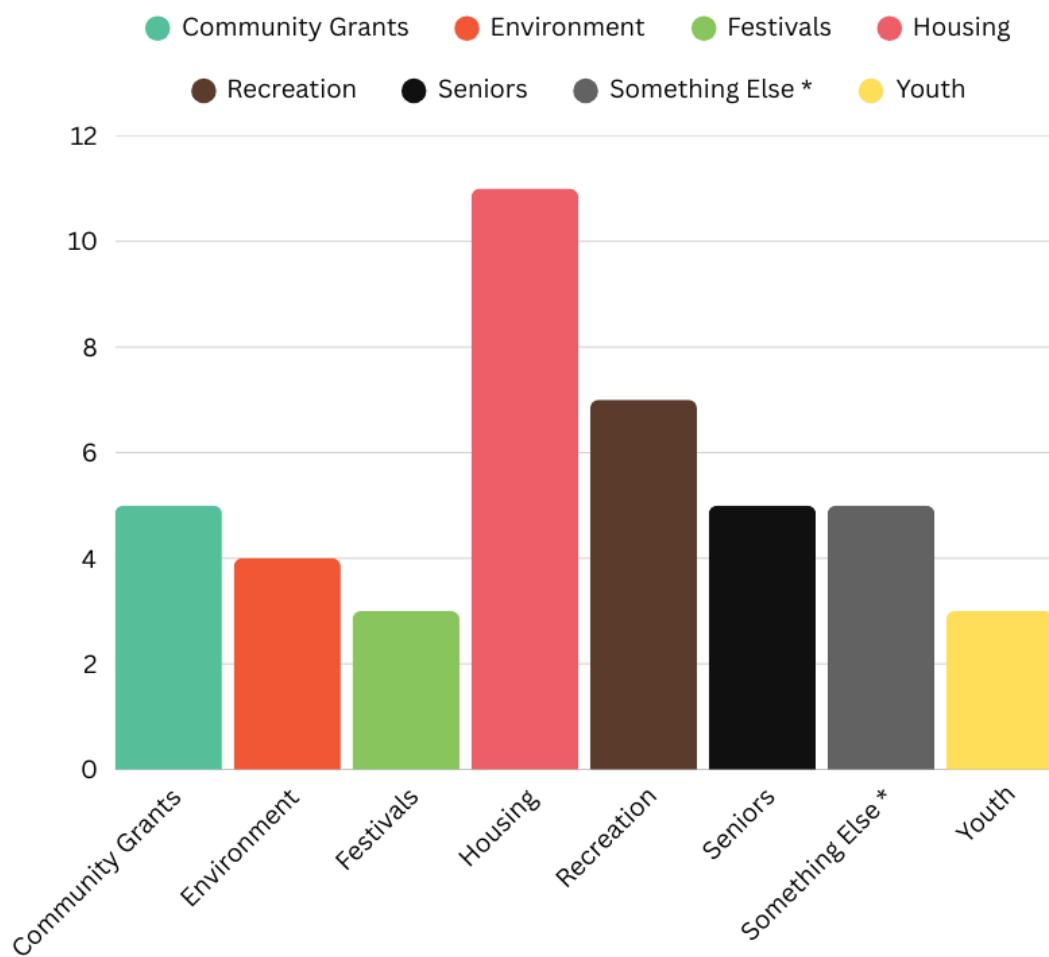


TABLE 2 FINANCE

At this table, community members were encouraged to step into the role of decision-makers and take part in the financial planning process. Many were surprised to learn that most of our budget is tied to mandatory contributions (policing, fire, and education among others). This means we have limited financial flexibility and must make tough choices to ensure that the remaining funds support the needs of our community.

A total of 21 participants took part in this activity, each having the option to select 2 areas of importance.

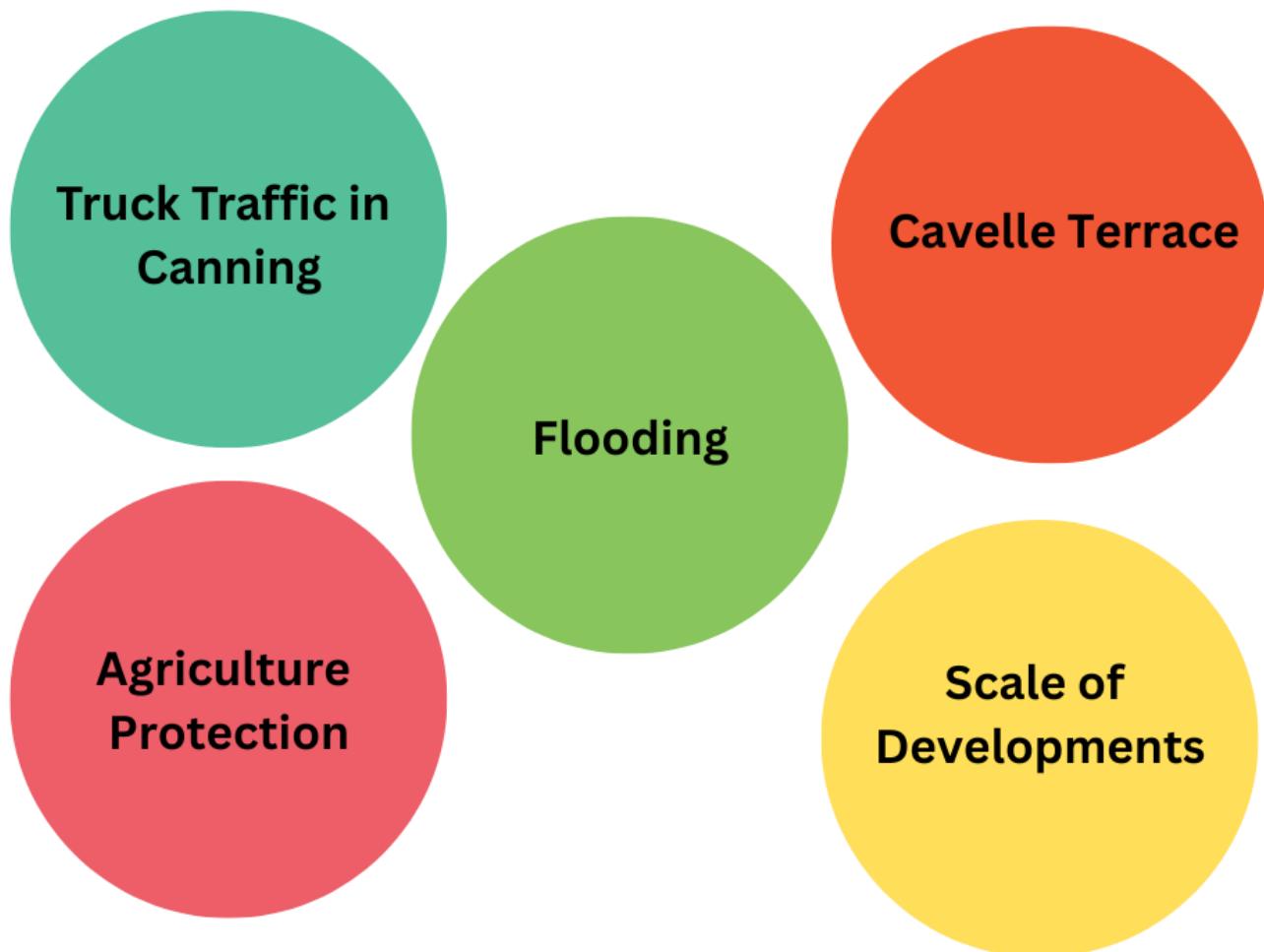


*The “something else priorities” included more investment in infrastructure and fire protection.

TABLE 3 THE LISTENING TABLE

At this table, residents were invited to share the issues that matter most to them directly with the Mayor and the Municipality's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). The purpose of this table was to foster open and transparent dialogue, ensure that every voice was heard, and establish a clear process for follow-up after the event.

The key topics discussed at the Listening Table are summarized below:



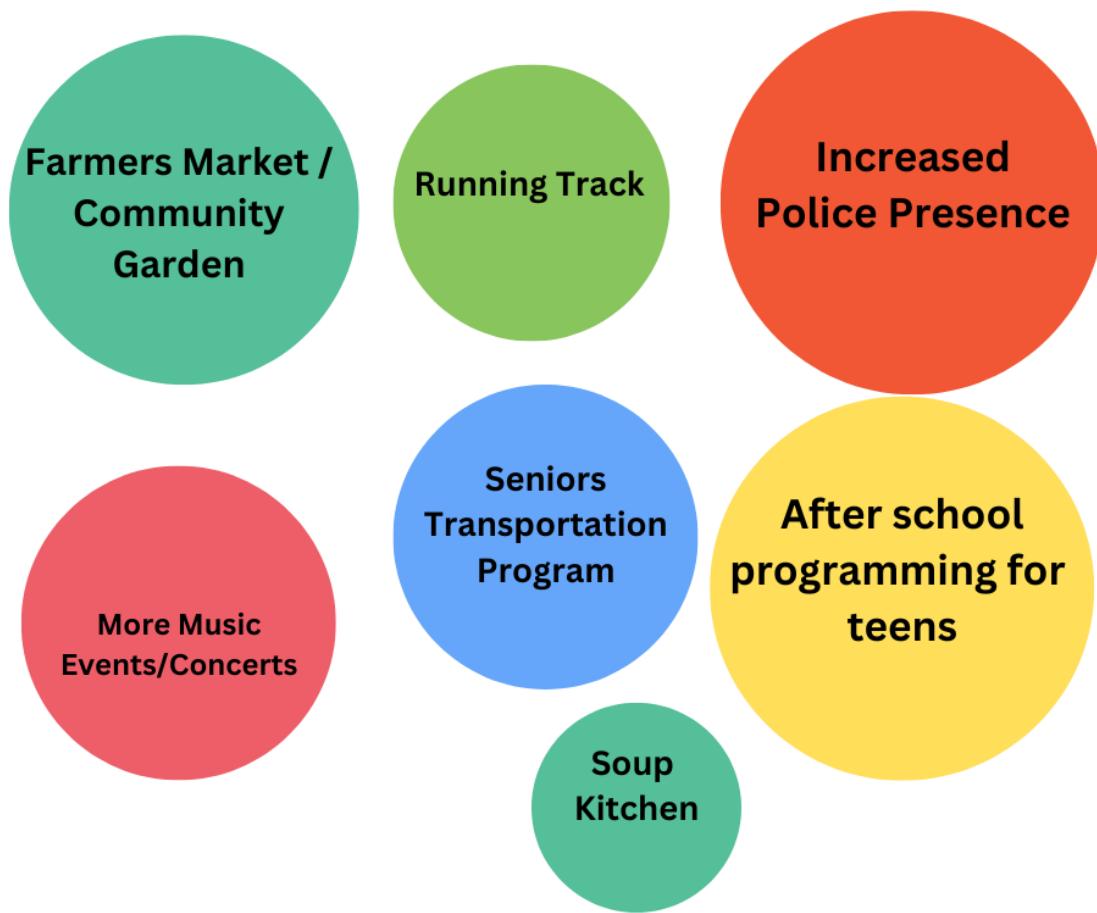
At this table, we also asked citizens to share with us what would build more trust with the Municipality, what would make people feel more comfortable that your concerns had been heard, and any suggestions citizens have for improved communication and input. Below you will find the answers:

What do you need from municipal leadership to build more trust?
“Be consistent and follow through!”
“Transparency, openness, listening.”
What would make you feel most comfortable that your concern has been heard today?
“What we’ve heard report being delivered to attendees after the meeting.”
“Being able to come and sit with municipal team members.”
Do you have any suggestions on how we can improve our communication?
“More district meetings / meet & greets.”
“Happy with the efforts.”

TABLE 4 COMMUNITY

At this table, community members were invited to share their hopes and ideas for the future of our municipality. Conversations touched on a wide range of topics – from festivals and youth opportunities to community safety, facilities, and more.

Below, you'll find a snapshot of ideas that emerged:



Circle size corresponds to the number of times an area of interest was mentioned by residents, with larger circles reflecting higher levels of community interest.

TABLE 5 ENGINEERING & PUBLIC WORKS

At this table, residents of District 1 were invited to share their thoughts on what's working well, what could be improved, and their big ideas for the future of Public Works in our community. Below, you'll find the key themes and insights that emerged from these discussions:

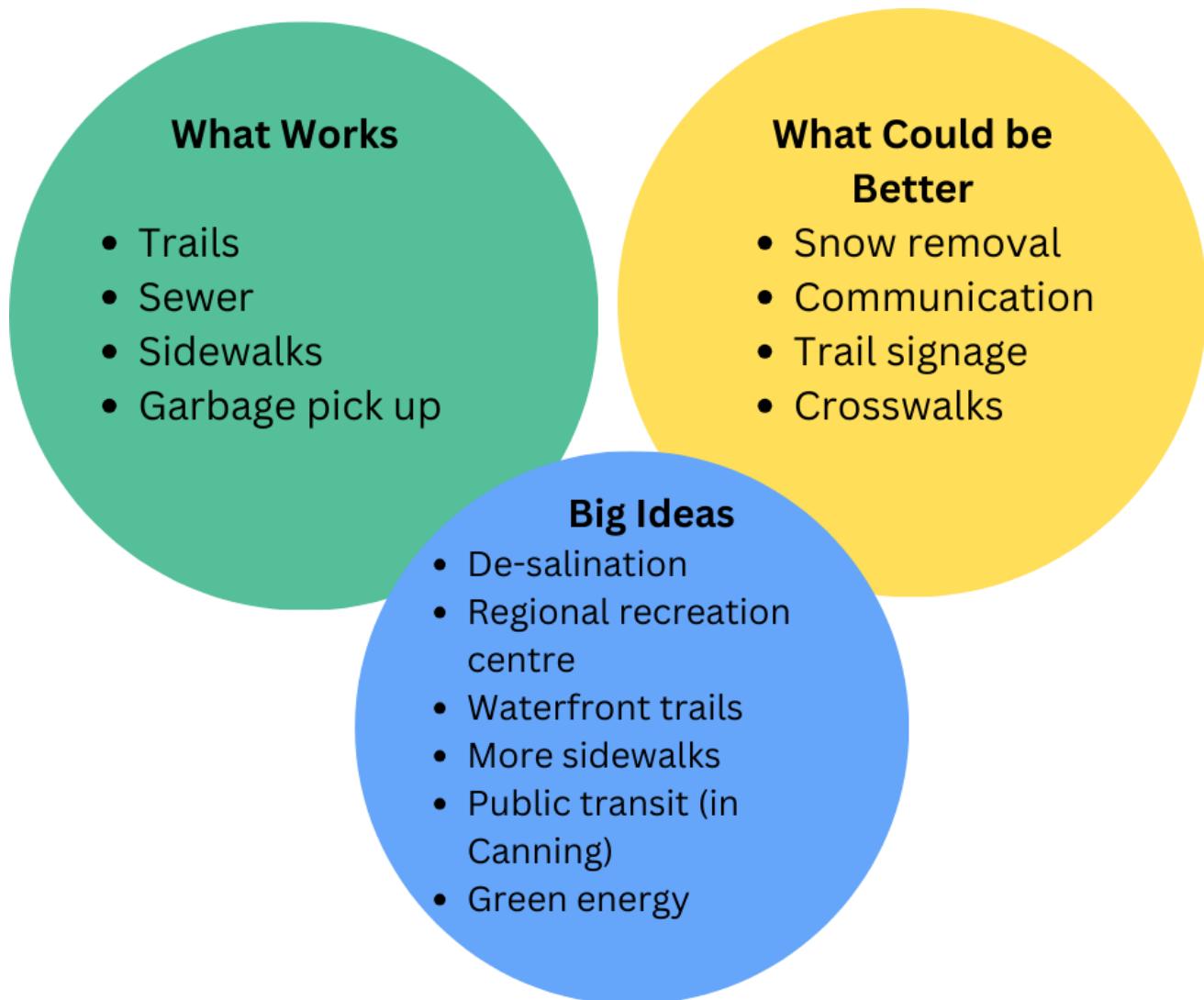
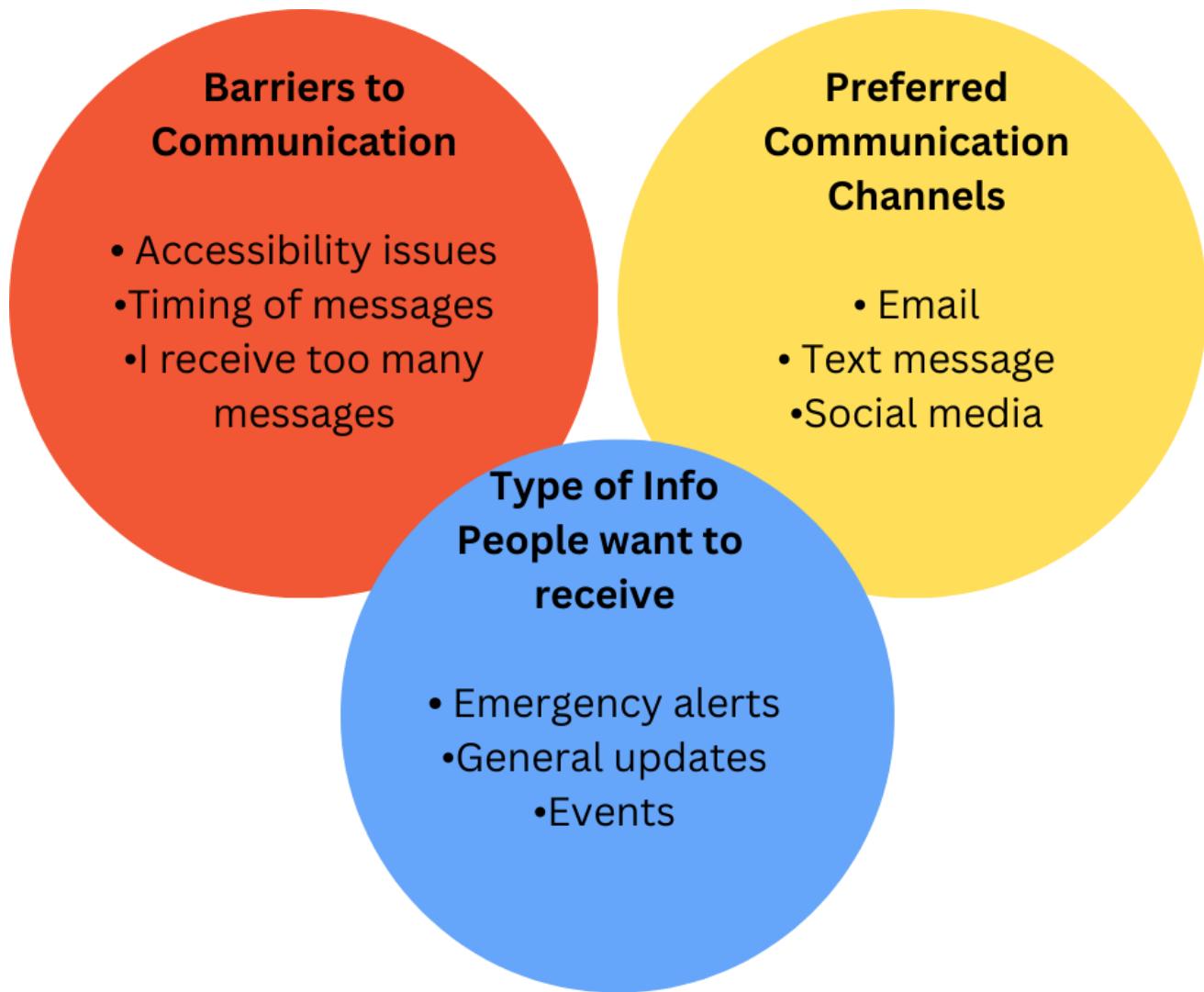


TABLE 6 COMMUNICATIONS

At this table, residents were invited to complete a short survey to help us better understand how the Municipality can most effectively communicate with the public. This feedback will guide how we share information, updates, and opportunities for engagement moving forward. Below, you'll find a summary of the top 3 answers to how people want to be communicated with, the types of information they want to receive, and barriers to finding information from the Municipality.



DISTRICT 1 PUBLIC COMMENTS SUMMARY

Across all tables, citizens shared detailed feedback reflective of deep care for the future of District 1. From the comments, clear patterns pertaining to **growth, communication, infrastructure, safety, recreation, and wellbeing**. Comments have been summarized as follows under these themes:

Growth, Development and Community Character

Residents expressed a strong sense of pride in the rural and historic charm of their District. Many urged that future development maintain the historic feel. Comments and concerns included:

- Desire to “*leave Canning the way it is*” while still supporting local business and housing.
- Calls for clearer planning processes, easier to understand by-laws, and earlier public involvement in development decisions.
- Requests for more, local medical services (e.g. walk-in clinics, dentists).
- Concerns about the pace and scale of development, potential stress on infrastructure, and protection of agricultural land.
- Request for support in maintaining heritage preservation in relation to new Provincial accessibility standards.

Communication, Transparency and Trust

Communication, transparency and trust emerged as a common theme across all activities in District 1. Residents asked for:

- Clearer distinction between County, Village, and Provincial responsibilities.
- More transparency, consistency, and follow-through from municipal leadership.
- Regular updates, accessible information, and more opportunities for public engagement.
- Improved municipal website search function and user-friendly navigation.
- Multiple modes of communication.

Infrastructure, Roads and Accessibility

Infrastructure was a common talking point throughout the discussions:

- A strong desire for more sidewalks, especially in Canning and Centreville.
- Crosswalk improvements include better signage, lower flashing lights and repainting existing sidewalks.
- More parking, better road maintenance, sidewalk clearing, and traffic studies as the area continues to develop.
- Increased Kings Transit access for District 1.
- Growth is welcome, but infrastructure must keep up.

Recreation, Festivals, Facilities and Community Spaces

Many in District 1 expressed a strong desire for more connection and opportunities to come together as a community. Suggestions included:

- More music events, weekend festivals, and culturally inclusive activities.
- Municipal support for summer-long coordinated events or a farmers' market.
- Greater marketing and advertising for existing events.

Public Safety & Enforcement

District 1 residents noted increased safety concerns in their area including:

- Speeding, loud vehicles, and ATV traffic on roads.
- A desire for more policing or dedicated officers in District 1.
- Fire prevention and inspection requirements.
- Updating unsightly premises rules so that reporting can be anonymous or proactive inspections can take place.
- Digital speed signs and sound by-laws were proposed to curb unsafe driving.

Environment and Sustainability

Residents voice strong interest in environmental protection and climate resilience including:

- Clean and secure water supplies, including source-water planning and more long-term protection solutions.
- De-salination exploration for drought prone areas.
- Solar and renewable energy solutions to offset energy costs.
- Greenspace and agriculture protection initiatives.
- Desire to balance growth with long-term environmental stewardship.

Overall Conclusion

Residents of District 1 are deeply invested in their community's future. Public comments reflect a collective desire for:

- Transparent leadership and clear, accessible communication.
- Thoughtful, collaborative growth that protects rural character.
- Infrastructure that meets the needs of a growing population.
- Vibrant recreation, culture, and community programs.
- Safe and connected neighborhoods.
- Environmental stewardship and long-term planning.

**Across every table, the message
was consistent:
Residents want to be
heard, see action,
and be partners in
shaping the future of
District 1.**

OUR COMMITMENT

District 1 residents have shown that meaningful change starts with conversation and continues through action, and this “What We Heard” report is just the beginning. Once we have met with all districts, we will compile the feedback into a comprehensive report, which will be shared broadly and include actionable items of how your feedback will be incorporated. It is anticipated that the comprehensive report with actionable items will be available in late Spring. These reports will help guide the future of our community engagement initiatives and we thank you all for your participation and thoughtful contributions. Together, we’ll keep the dialogue going. Thank you for participating in our District 1 Meet and Greet.