

DISTRICT 6

MEET & GREET

WHAT WE HEARD



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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the District 6 “What We Heard” Report

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the District 6 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 6. Similar reports will also be released for each District meeting. 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 6 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 6 Meet and Greet was held at the Waterville firehall on October 22nd, 2025 from 7:00pm - 9:00pm

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

In total 30 people attended the meeting with the majority of those from the Coldbrook/Waterville area.

OVERALL THEMES

District 6 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, speed limits, water systems, and accessible recreation top the list of priorities. People want safe, connected, and accessible spaces for all ages and abilities.

3. Thoughtful Growth

- Ease of planning and development processes and considerations for farmland topped the list of growth concerns in District 6.

4. Recreation & Community Life

- Advocacy for a large-scale recreation complex that is accessible to all was of high importance to residents. Attendees highlighted the importance of community health and connection, and opportunities for individuals of all ages and abilities to participate in recreational activities.

5. Leadership & Follow-Through

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

TABLE 1 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

At this table, community members were invited to imagine what District 6 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 6 postcards filled with thoughtful ideas and hopes for the future. From these, five main themes emerged, which are highlighted below:

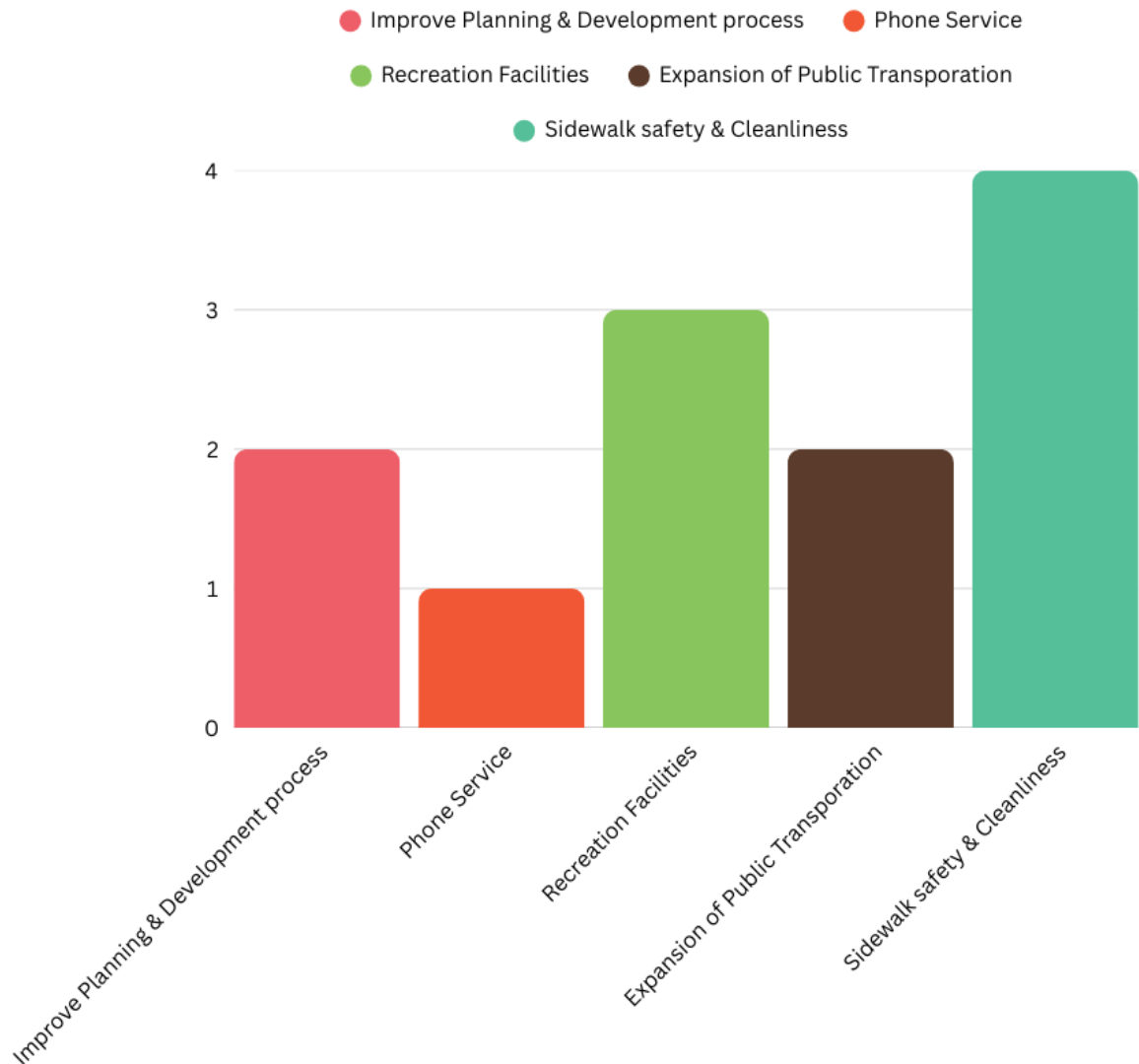
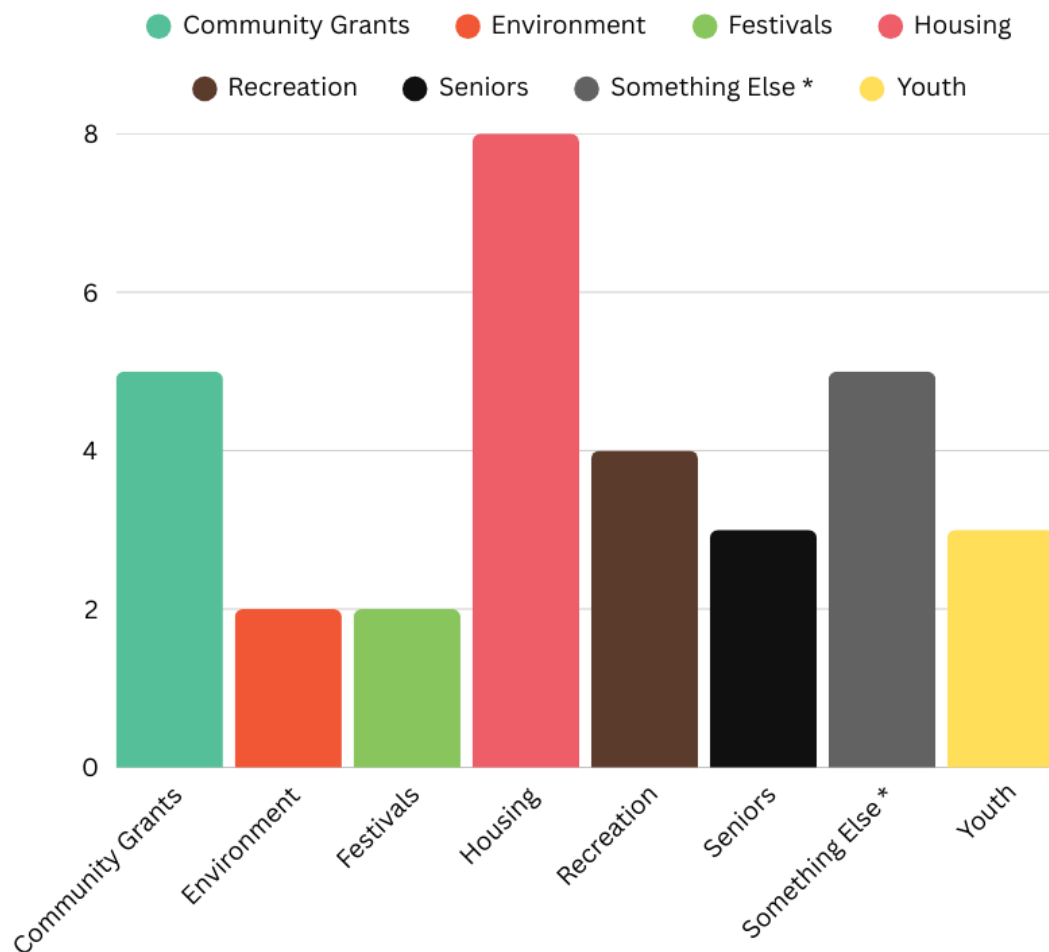


TABLE 2 FINANCE

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 flexibility and must make tough choices to ensure that the remaining funds support the needs of our community.

A total of 14 participants took part in this activity, each having the option to select 2 areas of importance.

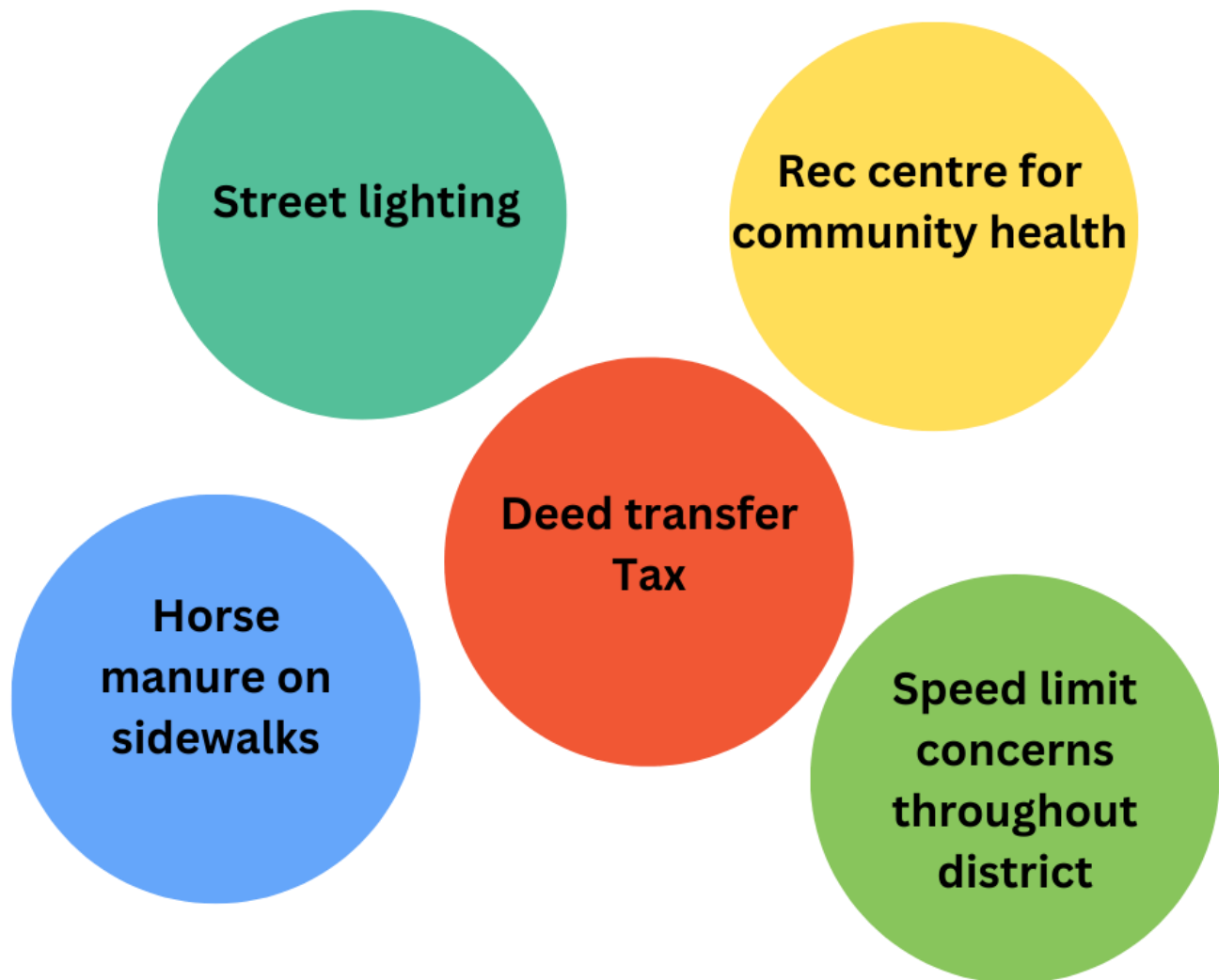


*The “something else priorities” included more investment in infrastructure, and desire for community policing

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?
"Keep us informed of decisions being made on our behalf."
"Communicate often and be transparent."
What would make you feel most comfortable that your concern has been heard today?
"Committing to more meetings like this."
Do you have any suggestions on how we can improve our communication?
"Opportunities to talk with staff."
"This is a good start, keep up the good work!"

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 6 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:

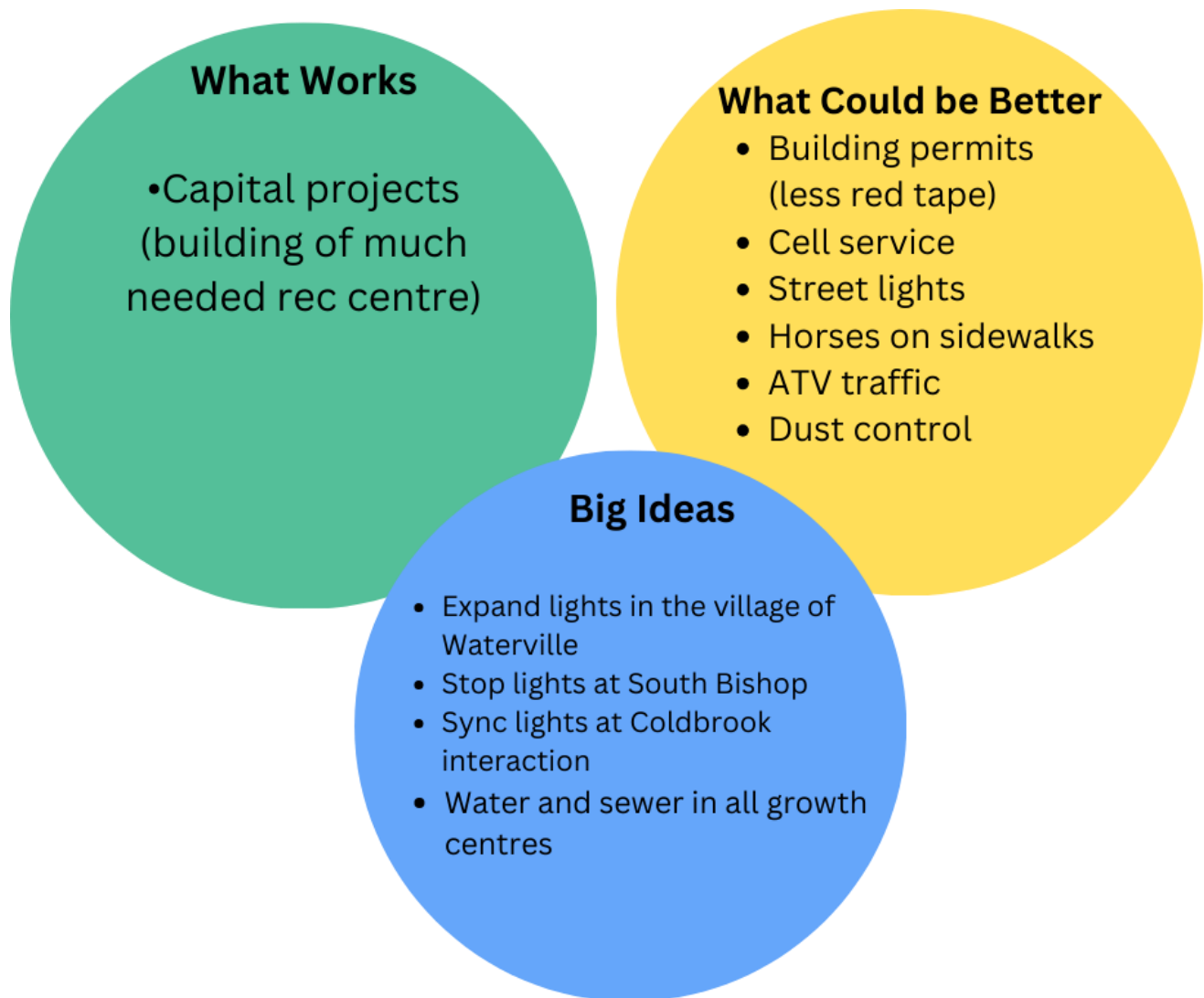
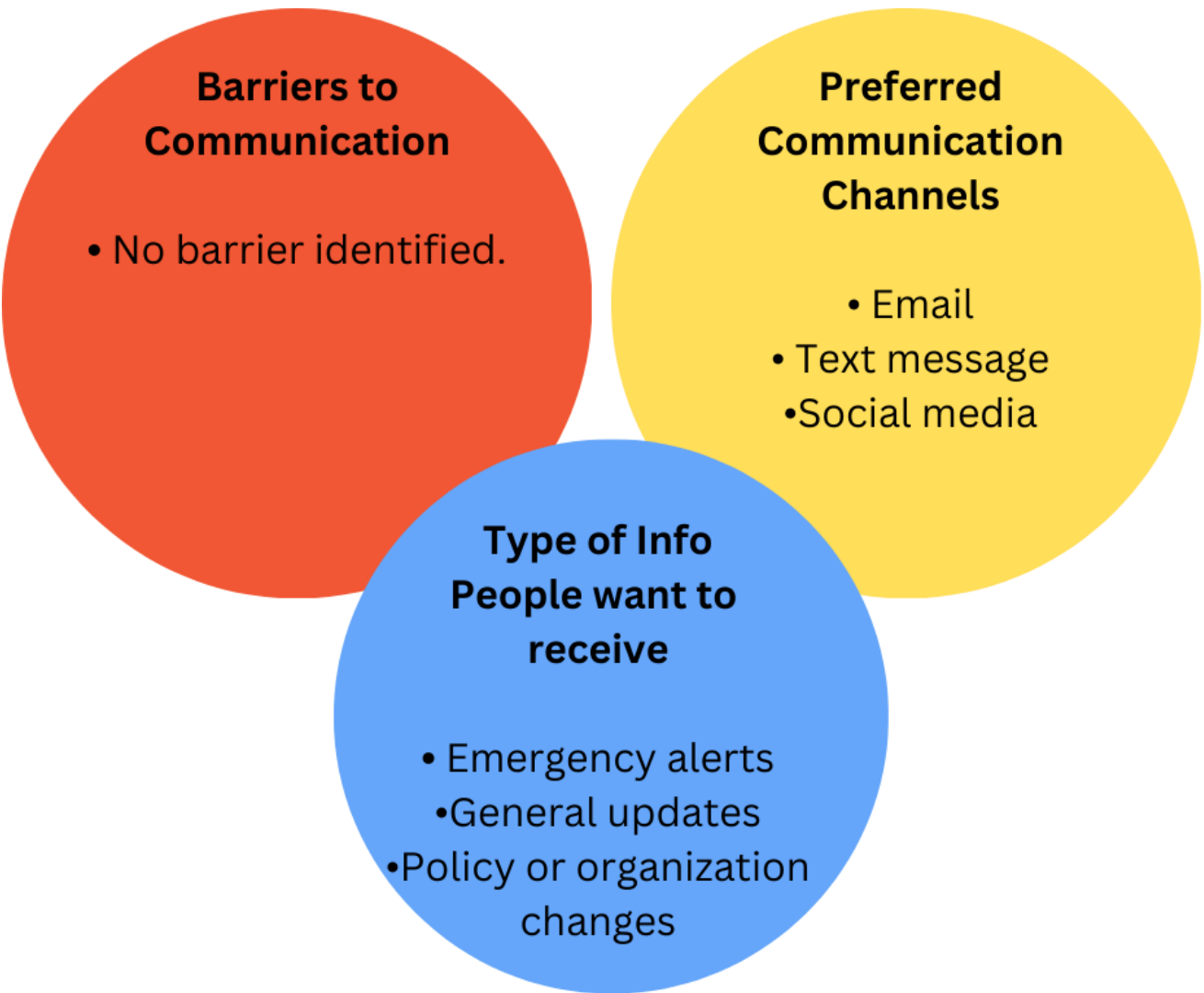


TABLE 6 COMMUNICATIONS

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. Their 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 6 PUBLIC COMMENTS SUMMARY

Across all tables, citizens shared detailed feedback reflective of deep care for the future of District 6. From the comments, clear patterns pertaining to **infrastructure and land use planning, facilities, and sidewalk safety**. Comments have been summarized as follows under these themes:

Infrastructure, Water & Sewer Planning

Infrastructure emerged as a key concern, particularly around water and sewer capacity to support growth. Residents emphasized:

- The need for a clear, long-term plan for water and sewer services across growth centres.
- Questions about infrastructure readiness before approving new development.
- Desire for proactive planning rather than reactive fixes.

Overall, residents want assurance that essential services will be in place, reliable, and sustainable before additional growth occurs.

Growth, Development & Land Use Planning

Residents expressed strong interest in how and where development occurs. Key themes included:

- Directing development to appropriate areas while protecting agricultural land.
- Questions about how to rezone farmland that is no longer actively farmed.
- Ensuring development aligns with long-term community goals and infrastructure capacity.

The message was clear: growth should be intentional, well-planned, and respectful of rural and agricultural landscapes.

Recreation & Community Amenities

Recreation and community facilities were frequently mentioned. Residents highlighted:

- Interest in recreation facilities that reduce travel distances for residents.
- Support for improved or expanded recreation centres.
- Desire for accessible community amenities that serve residents of all ages.

Residents see recreation as essential to quality of life, community connection, and overall wellbeing.

Transparency, Planning Clarity & Public Confidence

Across topics, residents consistently asked for:

- Clear explanations of long-term plans, especially related to infrastructure and growth.
- Confidence that decisions are guided by data, planning, and community input.
- Better communication about how public feedback informs future actions.

Residents want to understand not only *what* decisions are being made, but *why*.

Overall Conclusion

Public comments from District 6 reflect a community focused on responsible growth, infrastructure readiness, and protection of rural and agricultural character. Key priorities include:

- Long-term water and sewer planning before new development.
- Thoughtful land use decisions that protect farmland.
- Accessible recreation and community facilities.
- Sustainable, well-managed growth.
- Transparent communication and planning clarity.

Across every table, the message was consistent:

Residents value being engaged early in planning conversations and want confidence that growth decisions today will support a resilient, livable District 6 into the future.

OUR COMMITMENT

District 6 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 6 Meet and Greet.