ABSTRACT

RESEARCH PAPER: Citizen Participation: The new Frontier Public Hearings, Social Media, & eGos

STUDENT: Emily Gross

DEGREE: Master of Urban and Regional Planning

COLLEGE: Architecture and Planning

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This study presents a comprehensive overview and analysis of the need for multiple citizen participation techniques including traditional and digital methods. The research suggests that a single method alone does not reach the greater populous of a community and it is necessary to employ a variety of techniques to both receive and disseminate information. With a growing reliance on digital media, all levels of government are enlisting new means of communication for an on-the-go citizen. At the same time, traditional techniques are still needed to reach those less digitally inclined. Each technique alone has its limitations and downfalls, but when combined the communication gaps are mostly eliminated.