



2013 Ann Arbor Council Planning Session

Planning Session Norms/Ground Rules

- Listen with respect
 - Let others finish before you start talking
 - Be attentive to the speaker
 - Disagree agreeably
- Be positive and realistic
- Be candid and honest
- Be patient
- Look for opportunities to agree
- Participate – be engaged
- Respect differences
- Be fully present
- Practice “yes, and” instead of “yes/no, but”

Purpose:

- Improve the working relations of the governing body
- Identify important issues for the City to pursue in the coming year

Preparation

The Ann Arbor Brand

Please spend some time reviewing your established priorities and think about how you would define the Ann Arbor Brand.

- What differentiates Ann Arbor from other communities in Michigan
- What makes Ann Arbor a truly special community to live, work and play

Each of you will be asked to spend about 5 minutes defining the brand at the beginning of the retreat.

Agenda

Introductions

- Welcome and Introductions
- Agenda Review
- Norms and Expectations for the Planning Session

Agenda Item Outcome: Create a safe environment for honest exchange of ideas.

The Ann Arbor Brand

- Each member of the governing body will be given an opportunity to articulate how they would describe the Ann Arbor Brand.

Agenda Item Outcome: Develop an understanding of how each member of the governing body interprets the unique “brand” that is Ann Arbor.

Articulating Mutual Expectations

- Identify and discuss mutual expectations for governing together

Agenda Item Outcome: Articulate and agree on mutual expectations for members of the governing body.

National Citizens Survey Results Debriefing

- What did you learn?

Priority Areas

- Presentation on update on prior year priorities from City Administrator
- Reflect on the update on priority areas provided by the administration
- What questions or concerns do members of the governing body have?
- What emerging priorities do you see that the City needs to address?

Agenda Item Outcome: Developed a shared understanding of progress on existing priorities and identify additional issues that should be addressed in the coming year.

Closing/Next Steps

- What support does the governing body need from staff to maintain focus on their priority issues.

Agenda Item Outcome: Clarity regarding the path forward