

# Promoting Collaborative Governance to Solve Public Issues



**Turner Odell**  
**Oregon Consensus**  
**National Policy Consensus Center**

## **National Policy Consensus Center**

### *Oregon Consensus – Oregon Solutions – Oregon’s Kitchen Table*

**Mission:** To serve as a leader Nationally and in Oregon for providing the knowledge, skills, and structures needed for all communities and institutions to solve public issues together by providing:

- **Services** to help diverse communities work together to develop public policy and implement community based solutions;
- **Training** in collaborative decision making and action through university courses and customized, professional workshops;
- **Applied research and publications** to identify success factors and shape the best practices of collaborative action.

Watch  
*Malheur*

# Collaboration is:

A catch all term that describes  
the act of working together in an organized way  
with two or more people in order to achieve something.

*...takes as its starting point the idea  
that working together creates better solutions.*

**Collaborative governance** is a term used to describe a variety of processes in which participants from *all sectors* – public, private, and civic – are convened to *work together* to achieve solutions to *public problems* that go beyond what any sector could achieve on its own.

## Takeaways/Principles for Collaborative Governance Processes

***Addressing Diverse Interests*** – an inclusive process – convening communities affected.

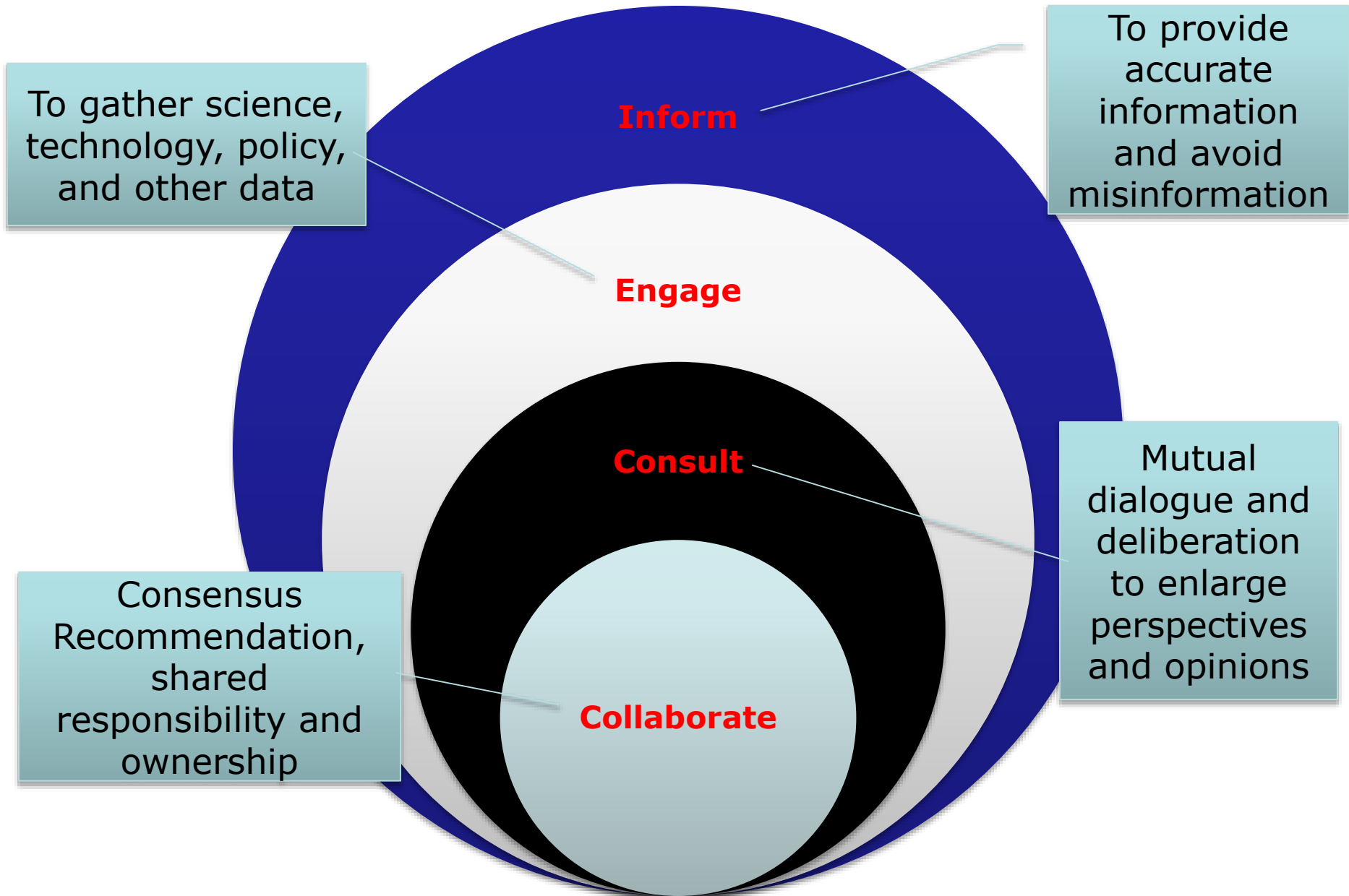
***Consensus Seeking*** – with neutral third party support – seeking equitable outcomes that address all interests.

***Shared Ownership and Investment*** – in the process and the outcome.

***Durable Results-Oriented Solutions*** – that meet multiple interests.

***Building Relationships*** – that support ongoing problem solving

### Distinct Approaches



# Collaborative Decision Making on Public Issues

CONVENE	
1. Assessment/Planning	2. Organization
<p><b>Guiding Questions:</b> Can a collaborative process be successful? If so, how should the process be designed for the greatest likelihood of success?</p> <p><b>Key Areas of Exploration:</b> What: is the issue or problem to be resolved (Define scope/initial framing) Who: needs to be involved and how represented How: should the collaborative effort be structured</p>	<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How does the group best organize itself to achieve its outcomes through a collaborative process?</p> <p><b>Key Areas of Agreement Sought:</b> Purpose/Outcomes Group structure: membership, roles, timelines Decision making, conflict resolution, and communication process, scope of authority Creation of "working agreements"</p>
SEEK AGREEMENT	
3. Education	4. Negotiation/Resolution
<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> What common base of understanding among the group is needed to serve as the framework for joint problem solving and negotiation?</p> <p><b>Key Areas of Education:</b> Historical, context, legal or statutory framework Underlying interests and alternatives to a negotiated agreement Critical data about the problem/issue/options</p>	<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> What criteria will the group use and how will it be applied to make decisions to achieve agreed upon goals and satisfy stakeholder interests?</p> <p><b>Key Areas of Focus:</b> Decision making criteria and process Option generation, linking, and packaging Reconciling conflicting interests Trial balloons, communications with, and bringing constituents along</p>
IMPLEMENT	
5. Implementation	
<p><b>Guiding Question:</b> How does the group link the agreements made to external decision making and implementation?</p> <p><b>Key Areas of Clarity:</b> Defined responsibilities for implementation and timelines System of monitoring implementation to assure compliance Method of integrating changing conditions into implementation - system of on-going adaptive management and collaborative decision making</p>	



# Thank you!

## Questions .....?

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