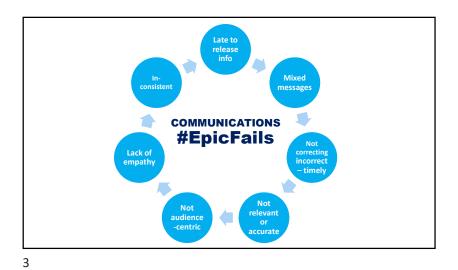
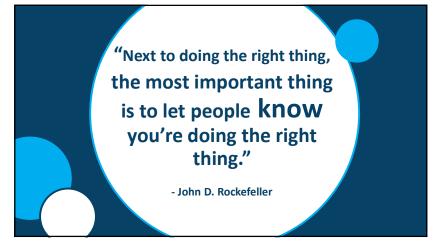


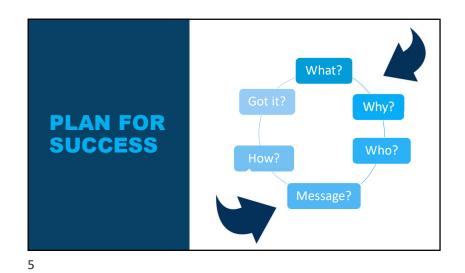


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4



KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

- 1. WHO do you need or want to reach?
- 2. HOW will this impact them?
  - Benefits?
  - Concerns?
- 3. ANTICIPATE the questions you need to be ready to respond to

Ripped from the Headlines

SCENARIOS

Ripped from the Headlines

Scenario 1:
New Tax
Levy
Scenario 2:
Wastewater
Treatment
Plant
Plant
Replacement
Replacement
Savings

8

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7

# FOUR MUSTANSWER STRATEGIC QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the strategic goal?
- 2. Why is it a priority now?
- 3. How does this benefit the community (now and in the future)?
- 4. What is the call to action for the public and staff?

FOUR
MUSTANSWER
STRATEGIC
QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the strategic goal?
  - What's the primary purpose?

"Ensure continued and sustainable delivery of services through proactive management of our infrastructure and assets like our parks, roads, water, wastewater and the like."

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# FOUR MUSTANSWER STRATEGIC QUESTIONS

- 2. Why is it a priority now?
  - Explain the urgency or context driving the decision

"Delaying action will result in costly emergency repairs."

FOUR
MUSTANSWER
STRATEGIC
QUESTIONS

- 3. How does this benefit the community (now and in the future)?
- Describe the positive impact on the public or services

"Reliable infrastructure ensures uninterrupted services and public safety."

11

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10

FOUR
MUSTANSWER
STRATEGIC
QUESTIONS

#### 4. What is the call to action for the public and staff?

- State the specific action needed from your audience
  - "Come to our open house to learn more about how we can fund long-term infrastructure improvements."

TALKING

ASSET

MANAGEMENT

##OurAssetsMatter

13

15

PLAN FOR SUCCESS

What?

Why?

Who?

Message?

# TECHNIQUES TO TRY: BRIDGING

14

16

Bridge the gap to a new topic or point

- "While I don't have that information, what I can tell you is..."
- "While I don't know the answer to that particular question, I can put you in touch with..."

#### TECHNIQUES TO TRY: FLAGGING

Draw attention to a specific point you want to be sure to get across (your key message!)

- "What's important to point out is..."
- "We are working to focus on..."
- "Let me first just say...

#### TECHNIQUES TO TRY: EAR STATEMENT

EAR Statement: Empathize, Acknowledge, Reassure

 "I understand that this new levy can feel like a challenge right now, but this investment ensures we avoid higher costs down the road and maintain reliable services for everyone."

(The levy will help offset the costs down the road...)

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# TECHNIQUES TO TRY: ASK, DON'T ARGUE

Ask, Don't Argue: Invite residents into the conversation

 "What would you suggest as a way to address these infrastructure needs? We want to explore all possible options and hear your thoughts on how we can manage this together."

# TECHNIQUES TO TRY: PRE-EMPTIVE

**Pre-emptive Messaging: Address known concerns** early

 "We know any increase is cost is concerning, but without this levy, future emergency repairs would cost much more."

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20

## TECHNIQUES TO TRY: HOLDING STATEMENTS

- Have ready to go for media and social media
- Empathy message
- Safety top priority
- And when ready add facts about:
  - Who What Where When Why and What's Next

## TECHNIQUES: HOLDING STATEMENTS

 "Our safety and emergency team is working closely with the police to investigate the incident. While it's currently under investigation, what we can tell you at this time is ..."

21 22

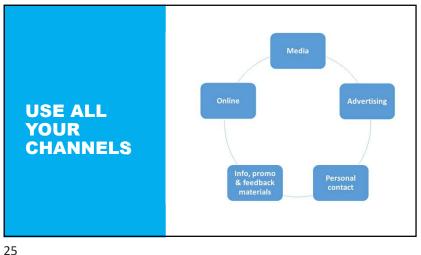
# TECHNIQUES: EMPATHY Empathy is your Superpower | Empathy | Empathize | Inform | Reassure

HOW WILL
YOU
COMMUNICATE

HOW
WHO
WHEN

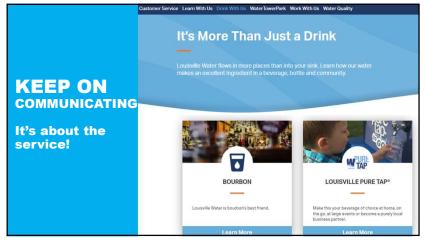
Official Community Plan - 2024
Update
The O'Ps Lake Country insolinage for the Mature Find
and them to service out to the State Street St

23



• Build trust, manage expectations. · Avoid 'too little, too late' **IMPORTANCE** communication OF • Use multiple channels (media, CONSISTENT social media, newsletters, COMMUNICATION inperson, etc) Maintain clear timelines and reinforce key messages

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27 28