Engage (https://sm.engage.town/)

Engage facilitates and streamlines preparation of meeting agendas, getting the word out to the local residents and compiling feedback from the public.

Engage is a platform to help connect residents (and other stakeholders) to local government. Instead of requiring constituents to be present at meetings, which presents a host of challenges: work schedules, childcare, accessibility, fear that their voice would not be heard, or not understanding the meeting agenda items.

History of the first pilot (with Santa Monica City Council)

- Selected a demographically diverse target audience location (public library) for UX research.
- Conducted interviews
- Targeted the pain and decision points of user types - The Community Organizer, The City Staffer, and the Resident
- Designed and built the website for pilot with the city of Santa Monica
- Piloted the community feedback website
- Collected and compiled community feedback of agenda items into PDFs to share with Santa Monica City Council

6 Month Roadmap

- Modeling the process for agenda creation and submission with 5 local councils
- Identify people and organizations involved in the agenda creation submission
- Identifying pain points and touch points for agenda creation and submission
- Work with 2 local councils on the review of the agenda creation workflow
- Quantify legal requirements (eg. Brown Act, etc) in relationship to product requirements

Partners

Contact: engage@hackforla.org
Github: https://github.com/hackla-engage/start-here
HackforLA: https://www.hackforla.org/projects/engage
Slack channel   #engage