

How to Improve Your Public Involvement Plan (PIP) Meetings — Recommendations and Case Study

PRESENTER BIOS

Amy Brand is a Senior Community Involvement Specialist at [Jacobs](#) with more than 30 years of consulting experience in environmental studies, planning, and community engagement. She specializes in planning public involvement strategies and communicating technical environmental information to the lay public. She is responsible for designing and implementing community involvement programs that enable the private sector, government agencies, and the public to reach collaborative decisions and to resolve disputes. Amy's work includes not only developing specific and tailored community involvement plans and communications strategies, but also facilitating public meetings and preparing community outreach materials and activities, such as community questionnaires, fact sheets, public presentations, website content, posters, frequently-asked questions, and media kits. She also works with clients and participating colleagues to prepare for public meetings and media sessions in communities with heightened levels of concern and high levels of distrust.

Matt Gillis, PMP is the Program Manager for Environmental Affairs at [Varian Medical Systems](#), a medical device manufacturer based in Palo Alto. Located in the Baltimore, MD area, Matt oversees all aspects of the legacy environmental cleanup program for North American sites. A veteran of the US Navy, Matt has over 20 years of experience in the engineering and operations & maintenance (O&M) field, with a focus on environmental remediation. His primary role involves aligning resources to support various cleanup projects while ensuring regulatory compliance and alignment with corporate goals. Matt holds a bachelor's degree in project management from Colorado State University and is a certified Project Manager through the Project Management Institute.

Matthew E. Hackman, PE, CHMM, LSP, LEP is the LSP-of-Record for the [Varian Beverly site](#). He has been a sole practitioner LSP for the past thirty years and has been active in the LSPA as Treasurer and President, and particularly on the Education Committee. His work primarily focuses on service station and industrial site investigation and remediation. He has a BS (University of Delaware) and MSE (Princeton University) in Chemical Engineering and is a registered Professional Engineer in Massachusetts and Certified Hazardous Materials Manager, as well as being an LSP and LEP.

Laurent C. Levy, Ph.D., P.E. is the Vapor Intrusion Community of Practice Leader at [Jacobs](#) and is based in Boston. His primary role is to develop client site investigation strategies and cleanup solutions. He has more than twenty years of experience working with industrial and federal clients, attorneys, and regulators on a variety of topics, including vapor intrusion investigations and risk assessments, subsurface environmental investigations and cleanup, contaminant fate and transport studies, and environmental litigation support. He holds a Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is a registered Professional Engineer in Massachusetts.