



Equitable Engagement Strategies

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Sustainable Neighborhood Network Retreat

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City and County of Denver's Office of Climate Action, Sustainability and Resiliency

Agenda

- 10:45am Introductions & Review of Agenda
- 10:50 am What is Engagement & Why is it Important?
- 10:55 am Overview of some Best Practices
- 11:05 am Hands-On Exercise | Rapid (Needs) Assessment
- 11:55 am Wrap-Up



What is Engagement & Why is it Important?

Sample Best Practices for Community Engagement*

- Meetings/Timing
- Meetings/Notice
- Meetings/Outreach Methods
- Different Ways to Receive Community Input
- Methods for Organizations & Agencies to Receive Community Input
- Considerations for when selecting in-person meeting locations
- Outreach Materials

**From Draft 3-State Environmental Justice Task Force Recommendations*

Rapid (Needs) Assessments

- Why a Needs Assessment?
- Diagnostic versus Prescriptive/Solutions-Focused
- The Importance of Clearly Identifying the Problem Articulating Your Question

Rapid (Needs) Assessments

CASR's Rapid Assessments Best Practices

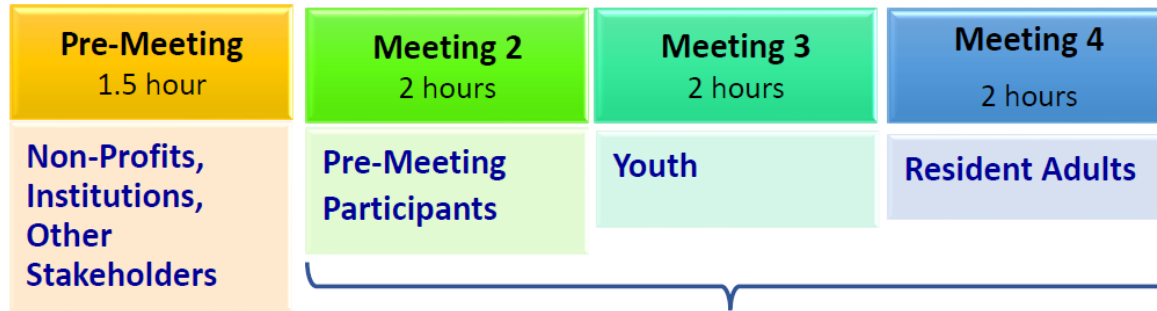
- Due Diligence Research and Interviews
- Partnering with an Anchor Organization
- Co-Creating Methodology with Local Leaders
- Language Justice
- Compensation
- Food & Childcare



Needs Assessment Example

Denver

Rapid Assessment Process



The Whole Process Was Co-Created & Co-Facilitated with:

- Local Vendor and Neighborhood Planning Committee
- CARE-J Committee

Process not meant to envision or prescribe solutions but to be diagnostic



Needs Assessment Exercise

Sample Facilitation Strategies and Guiding Principles

- Provide an overview of, make sure everyone clearly understands, the goals and the process
- Time-keeping: Provide breathing room in agenda and be mindful of time so you don't have to rush the process
- Assign notetaker/s
- Checking accuracy of notes/constantly getting clarification if needed
- Create a space where everyone feels respected and safe to share and that their voice is valued
- Be flexible
- Use demographic and surveys if appropriate

Supply list

- ❖ Big sticky notes and/or white board
- ❖ Dots
- ❖ Markers
- ❖ Pens
- ❖ Forms
- ❖ Food



What are the priority needs in your neighborhood?

1 Facilitator per group

1 Notetaker per group

Priority Needs Report Out

Prioritization

Write down your 2 votes

Wrap up

Thank you!