



Activity 3.9: Our Vision, Our Neighborhood

Goals

To develop vision for the future of the community

To get more in depth explanations and visualization from participants about what they want in their neighborhood

Materials Needed

Butcher Paper

Markers

“Our Neighborhood” charts/print outs

“Our Neighborhood” category description

Different color stickers

Notebooks (for note-takers)

Pens

Time Needed

2 hours

Purpose of Activity

This activity is designed to encourage the group to think about the future of their community. The participants will have the opportunity to explain and prioritize the types of services, programs and businesses they want to see in their neighborhood. They will also be able to articulate the concerns they have for the future of their community.

By the End of Activity Participants Will

- Identify which types services, programs and businesses they want to see in the community
- Explain concerns for future of the neighborhood

Before this Activity Participants Will Need to

Have determined your research goals and research question

Have decided on your research method

Description of Our Neighborhood Activity

Participants will be given stickers and asked to choose the activities that they prefer to do during a day in the neighborhood. The facilitator will use the “our neighborhood” activity chart/print-out, which will have visual representations of a variety of activities for participants to choose from. The activity is organized into two parts. 1) Services and Programs: Sticker voting on free activities, services and programs etc. 2) Businesses: Sticker voting on businesses for the community.

Part I: Our Neighborhood Services & Programs (45 minutes)

Facilitator Instructions

1. Prepare the “Our Neighborhood” chart and category description handout (see Tool 3.12) in advance of the meeting.
2. Split the group up into groups of 5 (modify group size based on number of training participants).
3. Give each group a chart and the accompanying handout.
4. Introduce the activity to the group. Explain that the activity is designed to get a sense of what types of activities and developments we want to see in our community. Explain that the activity will be split into two parts: 1) Services and Programs, and 2) Businesses.
5. Explain directions for the activity: The “Our Neighborhood” chart is split into different possible services and programs that could be developed in the neighborhood. The accompanying handout has descriptions of these activities.
6. Ask for a volunteer to read the descriptions for each of the activities on the chart.



7. Give each person three stickers. Ask Participants to place a sticker next to the top three activities that they would like to do in the neighborhood free of charge.
8. After each participant has voted on their top 3 choices, go around the table and ask each participant to answer the questions below. Make sure everyone has a chance to speak. The facilitator should write people's responses in shorthand on the butcher paper and the note-taker should be capturing quotes from the participants.

Debrief Questions (capture responses on butcher paper and in notes):

- What is the service or program you voted on during the activity we just did (again these are free services and programs)?
- What would this service or program look like?
- Why is it important to your community?

Part II: Our Neighborhood Businesses (45 minutes)

Facilitator Instructions

1. Make sure each table has the "Business" section of the "Our Neighborhood" chart.
2. Ask a volunteer to read the descriptions of each business type listed in the handout.
3. Distribute 5 stickers to each participant and explain that each sticker represents one dollar.
4. Have participants "spend" their five dollars at businesses that they would like to see in the neighborhood.
5. After each participant has spent their five dollars. Go around the table and ask each participant to answer the questions below. Make sure everyone has a chance to speak. The facilitator should write people's responses in shorthand on the butcher paper and the note-taker should be capturing quotes from the participants.

Debrief Questions:

- What is the business you voted on during the activity we just did?
- What would this service or program look like?
- Why is it important to your community?

Part III: Development Concerns (30 minutes)

Facilitator Instructions

1. Explain that the last step of the day's activity, which will also be done in small groups, is to discuss general concerns that you have about development in the neighborhood. These could include things such as lack of low-cost programs, services and activities, increased displacement, increased gentrification etc.
2. Go around the circle and have each participant respond to the questions below. Make sure everyone has a chance to speak. The facilitator should write people's responses in shorthand on the butcher paper and the note-taker should be capturing quotes from the participants.

Development Concerns

- Do you have concerns about development in your neighborhood? What is your primary concern?
 - Please be as specific as possible about your concern and why you have it.
3. Ask each group to choose a representative to do a quick 2 minute summary of what was discussed in their groups to share with the large group. Facilitators should write these up on butcher paper and note takers should capture quotes.
 4. Wrap-Up: Review what has been accomplished in the activity for the day. Then go through information about next steps, upcoming activities etc.