



METHODS FOR HARVESTING COMMUNITY INSIGHTS

SURVEY

- Could be used at the beginning, middle, or end of a planning process to gather community input from a larger subset of the community
- Could be used to:
 - Understand how the community is impacted
 - Help set priorities
 - Inform solutions development
 - Assess interest in taking action
 - Etc.
- Process suggestions to ensure the survey is community-driven:
 - Design the survey with community members/groups participating in the design and facilitation of the planning process
 - Include community members in making sense of the survey results and making decisions based on the data collected

INTERVIEWS

- Similar to a survey in that it captures an aggregate of individual responses and can be used at any point in a process.
- Could be used to:
 - Understand how the community is impacted
 - Help set priorities
 - Inform solutions development
 - Assess interest in taking action
 - Etc.
- Process suggestions to ensure interviews are community-driven:
 - Design the interview questions with community members/groups participating in the design and facilitation of the planning process
 - Prep community members to conduct the interviews
 - Agree on how interviews will be documented in a way that is accessible to the community members/group participating in the design and facilitation of the planning process
 - Community members share and discuss what they learn in the interviews, and use this community input to inform their decision-making



PHOTOVOICE/VIDEOVOICE

- A dynamic way to involve community members in defining for themselves the problem and / or the solutions
- Could be used to:
 - Understand how the community is impacted
 - Help set priorities
 - Inform solutions development
 - Attract attention to the issue and build public support for the needed solutions
 - Build your base/ get more people involved in the planning process
 - Etc.
- Process suggestions:
 - Identify group of community members directly impacted by the issue the planning process aims to address
 - Design the photovoice/video prompts and process together
 - Ensure everyone has the equipment and training needed to participate
 - Work together to organize a community event to display the photos or show the videos and invite the wider community. Invite any relevant decision-makers if appropriate.

TALKING CIRCLES

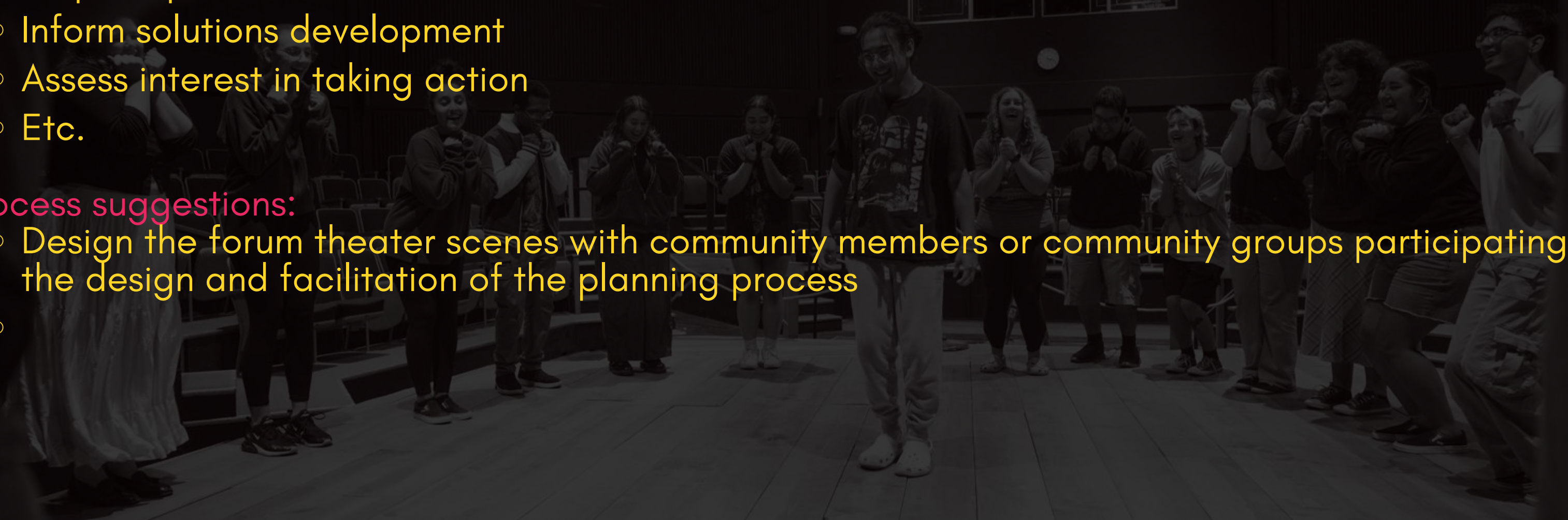
- A more relational and collective way to engage community members in sharing their experiences
- Could be used to:
 - Deepen relationships
 - Establish agreements for how to work together
 - Understand how the community is impacted
 - Inform priority-setting or solutions development
 - Address community conflicts or tensions
 - Etc.
- Process suggestions:
 - If there are cultural practices or protocols within the community related to talking circles, follow them; identify a trusted community member to facilitate the circle
 - Determine who needs to be present in order to achieve the goals of the talking circle
 - Develop the prompts and process together
 - Consider multiple rounds starting with getting to know one another, then sharing personal stories related to the prompts

LIVE POLLING WITH DISCUSSION

- A more transparent and collective way to 'survey' community members and make meaning of the results together all in one event
- Could be used to:
 - Deepen relationships
 - Gather data and deeper understanding how the community is impacted
 - Help set priorities
 - Inform solutions development
 - Assess interest in taking action
 - Etc.
- Process suggestions:
 - Design the polling and the larger event with community members or community groups participating in the design and facilitation of the planning process
 - Integrate relationship-building (and fun) throughout the event
 - Consider using an app like Mentimeter in which people can participate on their phones and the results of the polling can be displayed on a large screen
 - After each question, give people a chance to discuss the results or share stories that help humanize the or make meaning of the data

FORUM THEATER

- Using interactive scenes to create a microcosm of a challenge the community is facing, and inviting community members up to try-on potential solutions
- Could be used to:
 - Deepen relationships
 - Help set priorities
 - Inform solutions development
 - Assess interest in taking action
 - Etc.
- Process suggestions:
 - Design the forum theater scenes with community members or community groups participating in the design and facilitation of the planning process
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CREATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING IN SMALL GROUPS

- At a community meeting or forum, organizing people into small groups to design a solution to a relevant challenge
- Could be used to:
 - Deepen relationships
 - Inform solutions development
 - Etc.
- Process suggestions:
 - Design the process with community members or community groups participating in the design and facilitation of the planning process
 - Choose interesting reality-based scenarios for small groups to engage with
 - Before breaking up into small groups, generate some ideas as a whole group that the smaller groups can draw on in their creative problem solving (e.g. criteria for decision-making, parameters for the solutions they design, etc.
 - Assign roles within the small groups such as facilitator, timekeeper, notetaker, reporter
 - Identify a creative way for small groups to share their solutions with the larger group
 - Discuss the different solutions, how they connect, threads of connection between them, etc. – whatever is need to achieve the larger goal

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS INTO WHOLE GROUP SHARING

- A simple process design / facilitation technique that can facilitate participation by those who are less likely to participate in the large group
- Could be used to:
 - Deepen relationships
 - Conduct visioning
 - Identify how the community is impacted by the issue
 - Develop shared analysis of the problem
 - Inform solutions development
 - Support priority setting
 - Etc.
- Process suggestions:
 - Design the process with community members or community groups participating in the design and facilitation of the planning process
 - Assign roles within the small groups such as facilitator, timekeeper, notetaker, reporter