

### CLIENT

Partners for Environmental  
Stewardship, High Foundation

### DATES

2025 - 2026

### COLLABORATORS

Andropogon

### REFERENCE

Elizabeth Hamill,  
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### BUDGET

\$75,000

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Connect the Dots supported Partners for Environmental Stewardship (PES), the City of Lancaster, and the High Foundation with stakeholder and community engagement for the Sunnyside Peninsula Project. The project will include the establishment of PES as a new non-profit, a master plan for a new preserve, and the design of a new environmental center. CtD led a series of foundational workshops, conducted stakeholder engagement, and created a comprehensive public engagement plan for PES to implement.

## SERVICES PERFORMED

CtD facilitated the foundation for engagement and implemented stakeholder engagement through the following services:

- **4 Virtual foundational workshops** with the project team and core partners to establish outreach and engagement goals, audiences, and strategy.
- **1 In-person interactive workshop** with the project team and anchor organizations to brainstorm and build buy-in and support for community engagement.
- **8 Community stakeholder interviews** with Southeast Lancaster organizations to understand the needs and priorities of the community neighboring the site and best community specific practices for outreach and engagement.
- **9 Technical interviews** with experts to gather best practices and feedback from other preserves, maintenance and logistics, programming, and site amenities.
- **1 Stakeholder workshop** to gather design feedback through interactive exercises with the anchor organizations on programming, amenities, and collaboration opportunities among others.
- **1 Feedback and prioritization session** to discuss key stakeholder input across engagement methods and decide how to integrate input into the Preserve design.
- Development of a **comprehensive Public Involvement Plan** for PES to implement based on stakeholder input and designed for effective, inclusive, and impact-driven engagement.



## PROJECT OUTCOMES

### Engagement Outcomes:

- Deep project team and core partner involvement in the strategy development for engagement, increasing buy-in and support for implementation
- Collected critical input from anchor organizations on the design of the Preserve, opportunities for collaboration between organizations, and community engagement.

### Insights and Implications:

- Stakeholder feedback informed the physical design of the Preserve and Environmental Center, maintenance recommendations, site amenities, and additional feedback to gather from community engagement.
- Increased buy-in for prioritizing engagement with the neighboring Sunnyside neighborhood and Southeast Lancaster community and the development of a strong strategy for engaging these communities informed by insights from community organizations.

