

About Emerald Cities Collaborative



- Address the demand (projects) and supply (workforce) impacts of infrastructure investment and the green economy.
- Expand access to high-wage careers and business opportunities through comprehensive alignment of workforce development resources and contracting and procurement operations to benefit all stakeholders.



Climate & Equity

Low-income communities and communities of color are worst hit by climate crisis and bear unfair utility burdens. Electrification policies should put equity at the forefront to avoid exacerbating climate impacts and racial inequities.

Solutions that cause...

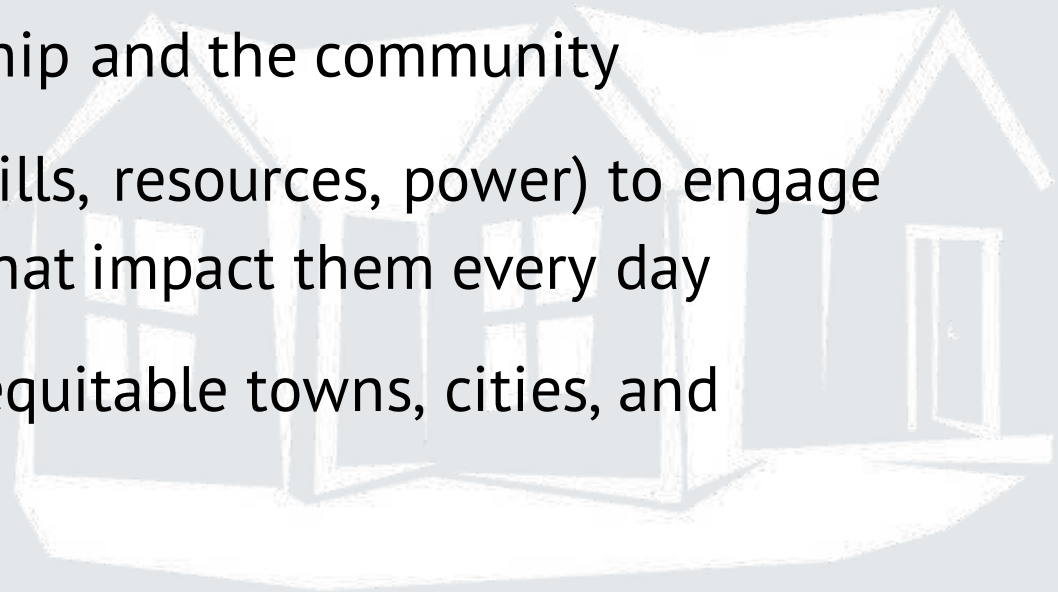
eviction of low-income tenants
displacement of low-income communities of color
unfair utility cost burdens
job losses or not benefiting from jobs created with new policies

...are **NOT real solutions**

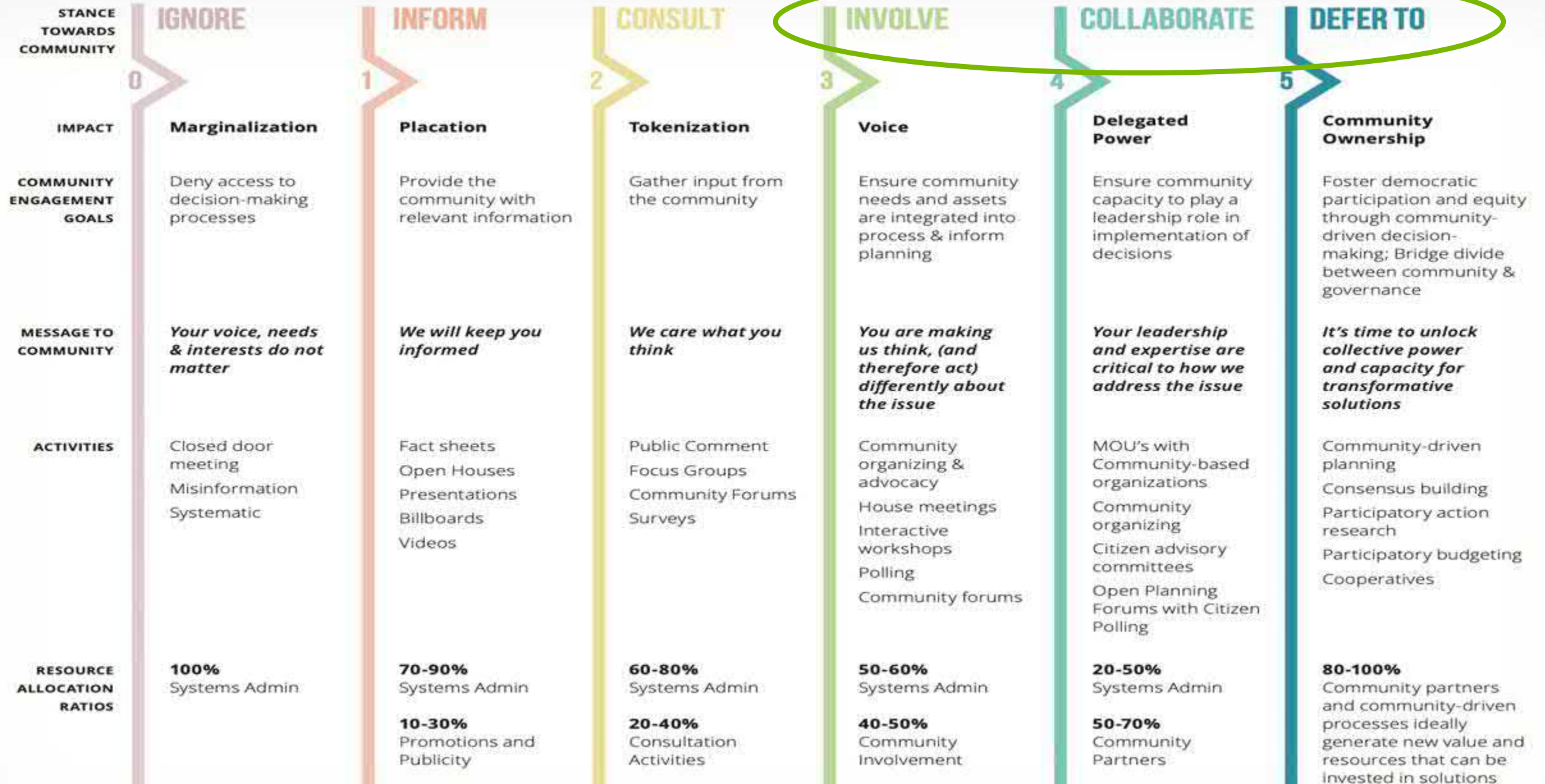


Why Community Engagement is Essential

- Ensure that solutions address community identified needs and priorities
- Identify opportunities to solve multiple problems (e.g. with whole-home health and safety retrofits)
- Build trust between municipal staff/leadership and the community
- Deepen community capacity (knowledge, skills, resources, power) to engage with and influence the structures/systems that impact them every day
- Catalyze larger movement for sustainable, equitable towns, cities, and regions



Spectrum of Community Engagement



Key Stakeholders

INVOLVE	COLLABORATE WITH / DEFER TO
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Labor unions● Contractors/Minority-, Women-, Veteran-, Disadvantaged- Business Enterprises (MWVDBEs)● Workforce Development and Training Organizations● City agencies -Planning, Building Inspection, Supervisors, Munis, WiBs● Investor-owned energy Utilities● Community Development Corporations● Affordable Housing Developers & Building Owners● Low-to-moderate Income Homeowners Associations● Developers/Architects/General Contractors● Community Researchers and Scientists	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Racial and Social Justice organizations● Environmental and Climate Justice organizations● Tenants and Housing Justice organizations● Legal Rights groups● Neighborhood-Based Organizations● Resident groups● Worker rights groups



Lessons Learned

- Deep community engagement takes time but done right it results in better policies.
- EJ/CJ groups are at capacity, need resources to be at the table
- Cities/counties need to set aside funding for this
- Equity as a priority/lens is crucial for economic inclusion in climate policy
- Green movement needs to partner with grassroots justice organizations

Outcomes

- Equity priorities in the Climate Action Plan:
 - Preventing renovictions
 - No Pass-throughs to tenants
 - Financial & education resources & support for disadvantaged populations
 - Workforce development and training
 - Develop Equity-first Pilots
- We advocated with SF Board of Supervisors to get \$1.3M in funding for Dept of Environment, for the first time in its history.
- We also got funding to research and establish a Climate Equity Hu
- APN model has been deployed in other cities across CA and the US

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Emerald Cities

COLLABORATIVE

America empowered.