City of Tukwila Community Connectors

Report Back Event Project

Over the course of five months (July – December 2014) the City of Tukwila, Global to Local and Forterra collaborated to complete the Comprehensive Plan Report Back Project with the City’s Community Connectors Program. This was Part II of the Comprehensive Plan Project that began in the fall of 2013 and continued the engagement with four important historically underrepresented communities: Somali, Latino, Burmese, Amharic/Arabic. The goals for the Report Back Project were as follows:

1. Continue to develop relationships between City of Tukwila staff and Community Connectors representing underserved populations residing in Tukwila. The Connectors will increasingly become voices for their communities on City processes and policies.
2. Engage specific underrepresented populations including those previously engaged in the TIB project residing in Tukwila with follow-up information on the comprehensive plan process, including a report back of what the city heard during the pilot and next steps to address these findings.
3. Support City of Tukwila Connectors and residents in engaging in the City process for the Comprehensive Plan Update and the 2015 – 2016 budget through education sessions and information sharing.

To accomplish these goals the partnership completed the following activities:

- Provided the Connectors with a training including City 101, Report Back of City Actions, City Process and time to role play.
- Facilitated Interdepartmental Team meetings
- Hosted three community report back events:
  - Latino Event 10/29 Showalter Middle School
  - Somali Event, 11/19, Abu-Bakr Islamic Center of Washington
  - Arabic, Amharic, Burmese, English Event, 11/22, Showalter Middle School
- Supported individual Connectors and community members in speaking at City Council Meetings regarding the Comprehensive Plan.
- Facilitated a team evaluation with project partners and Connectors.

Deeper relationships were developed through each of these activities.

Please see the evaluation notes from two of the three community events Appendix A.
The Comprehensive Plan process will continue into 2015 and the Connectors will continue to provide input as needed. This will be in addition to our other yet to be identified project in 2015.

Forterra is honored to have the opportunity to continue work in Tukwila in 2015.

Sincerely,

Becca Meredith, Program Manager, Forterra

Community Connectors Celebrate 2014 at the wrap-up evaluation meeting.
Photo Credit: Carrie Hawthorne
Appendix A: Community Event Evaluations (i.e. Plus/Delta)

Latino Community Evaluation

**Plus**
- The department activity
  - Learning new information
- New information
- Knowing about the responses to the feedback
- Opportunity to share with the City
- Learning how to get involved with the City
- Childcare

**Change**
- More info on Marijuana
- More time to comment

Somali Community Event

**No evaluation was completed during this event due to lack of time.**

Arabic, Amharic, Burmese, English Community Event

**Plus**
- Learn about each department
- Report back of City actions
- Information about the City Council meetings
- Good food
- Positive group
- Great to get info
- Safety update

**Change**
- More groups from different communities
- More info about 1 department (go deeper)
- Too much information
- More interactive games/quiz
- More papers with information to take home