

Lakewood Resiliency Task Force



Objective Category: *Engagement & Inclusion*– *Contribute to a more civil and productive community by authentically and meaningfully engaging a wide spectrum of citizens in the leadership and governance of the City.*

Summary: January 2019

Our Purpose Statement:

To understand current and emerging forces that can impact Lakewood and the wellbeing of its citizens. Examining environmental, political, social and economic forces through the lens of resiliency, the Task Force will pursue and recommend systemic process enhancements that will allow Lakewood to identify, prioritize, execute and measure solutions that will lead to a continuously improving and thriving city for all, especially the most vulnerable among us, for generations to come.

Indicators of the “Current State” in Lakewood:

- Voter Turnout, 2018** – 58.2% (21,771 ballots from 37,409 registered voters)
- Listening to Lakewood** – 12 events per year
- Coffee with a Cop** – 8 events per year
- Project-Based Community Meetings** – 12+ in 2018
- Landlord Training Seminars** – 3 in 2018
- Block Clubs** – 81 registered block clubs
- Unemployment rate** – 4.0% (Bureau of Labor Statistics, May 2018)
- City Channel Subscriptions:** 10,352 Facebook, 6,965 Twitter
- Community organizing groups -**
- Residents serving as leaders in local civic organizations -**
- Hours per capita volunteered -**

Task Force Additions:

- Faith-based organizations, clubs, LakewoodAlive
- Library programs, attendance, use
- City comm. In other languages
- People of color serving in leadership roles in civic orgs
- How to reach renters, rent to own trends
- Schools – DARE program, communications channels
- Newsletters
- City -> Citizens, Citizens -> Citizens
- Eviction rate
- How many can swim, recreate in lake
- Medical trends, violence
- Which voters missing?

Relevant highlights from previously adopted City of Lakewood Plans:

- Vision – Community Wellness** – “Develop a culture which promotes a sense of personal responsibility for community health and wellness”
- Vision – Education & Culture** – “Support a culture of lifelong learning”
- Vision – Education & Culture** – “Continue to encourage civic engagement”
- Vision – Safety** – “Develop opportunities for neighbors to connect”
- Vision – Safety** – “Use social media to expand communication citywide including police to residents, block clubs, and business”

Systems Level Connections to other Priorities:

- Place – Engagement and Inclusion: Participatory Budgeting?
- Place – Engagement and Inclusion: Sharing programs in the City?
- Prosperity: Residents employed in the City?
- Health and Wellbeing: Perception of public safety?
- Connectivity: Walkability including number of children walking to school and residents walking to work?
- Connectivity: Number of government services and data accessible via Internet or mobile device?

Current and Proposed Projects and Programs in Lakewood:

- Ward Policemen with neighborhood offices
- Integrated Wet Weather Improvement Plan → Community Conversations
- Coffee with a Cop
- Block Clubs
- Landlord Training Seminars
- Lakewood Alive Tool Box

Objective Category: Engagement & Inclusion

Primary Goal or Objective: (the change we seek):

- Improve social interconnectedness

Illustrative indicators, baseline measurements and performance targets:

1.) Who is missing from engagement outreach? Who are the most vulnerable? What level of engagement in any particular project? Are current solutions effective?

2.) How can engagement be improved? More languages, different methods (social media, public spaces), through faith-based organizations.

3.) Who are our residents? Ethnic demographics (including options such as Jewish, LGBT and option to choose multiple), where are residents from, what is income inequality, eviction rate, how many religious institutions?

Strategies and Interventions, Projects and Programs to meet the targets:

- Think of civic gathering places, low cost places to meet neighbors (YMCA, block parties)
- Strategically think through how all audiences receive info
- Arnstein's Ladder of Participation: manipulation, therapy, informing, consultations, placation, partnership, delegation of power, citizen control
- Community meals – common ground events
- Cultural gardens
- Theme events – other than current ones
- Hire an education liaison – connect schools and community - intergenerational

Necessary and desirable stakeholders and partners, within Lakewood and beyond Lakewood:

- Community leaders within community
- How to deal with the power imbalance between homeowners & renters
- LakewoodAlive

Required changes to Policies and Procedures

- Exclusionary zoning policies (SF zoning, parking minimums)
- LakewoodAlive include community organizing
- Multi-lingual newsletters and public information
- Race and social justice initiative

Resources required vs. resources available and the time frame:

- Adult education classes
- Communication