

Strategic Partnerships

Building Trust & Understanding

- You cannot effectively participate with people you do not know
- Formal public hearings often fail because there are no relationships upon which to base communication
- Relationships define the ability to fully understand one another and give proper consideration to one another's needs, issues, and concerns

Create Opportunities

- Think about creating the opportunities to get to know key stakeholders and create the kinds of discussions and events necessary to build trust and understanding

Think About Who Will.....

-be directly affected by the decision?
-be upset if they have no input to this decision?
-affect the decision?
-claim a legal standing (legal rights to...) that would be affected by the decision?
-have perceived moral claims that could affect the decision process or outcome?

Think About Who....

-has the political clout to draw elected and appointed officials into the dispute?
-is committed to the various interest groups, such as community groups or business groups, and will be responsible for acting as liaison and leader?
-will be responsible for implementing the decision?

Think About Who....

-you need support from to implement and enforce the decision?
-could take legal action to block implementation of the decision?
-could undermine the decision?
-is committed to resolving this issue?
-will attend meetings, gather information