How to Facilitate a Walkshop

August 29, 2013

Ms. Maria Placht
Collaboration Specialist
Conflict Resolution and Public Participation CX

US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®

WHAT IS A WALKSHOP

- Walking workshop
- Field trip
- Uses photos and text to capture, comment on site attributes, discuss issues in question
- Useful when
  - ► a project site is walkable
  - ► people have smart phones and want to use them
- Technique for information sharing

EXAMPLE PHOTO WITH TAG

Subject of email- A1: Bike storage options by metro stop
Body of email-   15 bike lockers, 20 bike stations; OR "great
                   option for commuters, really liked the space layout"

BUILDING STRONG®

EXAMPLE CODING

- **A: POSITIVE**
  - ► 1: Environment
  - ► 2. Safety
  - ► 3. Economic

- **B: NEGATIVE**
  - ► 1: Environment
  - ► 2. Safety
  - ► 3. Economic

BUILDING STRONG®

WALKSHOP BENEFITS

- Energizing way to get people talking about a project site
- Visuals add an important dynamic to conversations
- Visuals allow people to be very specific about their comments
- Way for people to capture information themselves instead of a facilitator entering the information
- Many different ways to look at the problem
- Collect/share a lot of information
- Greater understanding of the issues

BUILDING STRONG®

PREPARATION

1. What is the issue?
2. What is the purpose = share information
3. Who are the participants? Who should go on the walkshop together?
4. What is your technology & photo account (Flikr)
5. What is your coding system?
6. What is your room set-up & process for reviewing photos?

IMPLEMENTATION

- During break/as photos come in, open photo account and sort photos by tags.

- Consider small or large groups to review photos by category

- Facilitate discussion about participants' photos – participants share views on how photo subject relates to topic & describe their tag

- Used their photos to guide a conversation about issue

- Additional purposes beyond sharing information
  - ► Which problems to solve
  - ► How to solve problems

Questions/Discussion

Maria Placht, Collaboration Specialist,
Conflict Resolution and Public Participation CX
Maria.T.Placht@usace.army.mil

703) 428-6242

CPCX:
http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/About/TechnicalCenters/CPCXConflictResolutionPublicParticipation.aspx
Collaboration & Public Participation CoP:
https://cops.usace.army.mil/sites/CPP/default.aspx

BUILDING STRONG®