

## LISTENING SESSION BASICS

The World, Now



The Ideal World



*The goal of the listening session is to frame the community “as it is”, vs. the “ideal community”, and in so doing, determine what are the deepest felt issues, and what are improvements people would like to see. A listening session should begin to build a sense of community among the participants, and determine their commitment to working for a better community/state/world.*

Sample Questions to Ask:

1. When you hear the word “community,” what comes to mind?
2. What do you love about your community?
3. Name 3 things your community had 5-10 years ago, but does not have now?
4. Name 3 things your community has now, but did not have 5-10 years ago?
5. Where is the pain in your community? Who feels it the most?
6. What 3 things would you change about your community?
7. Describe your ideal community?
8. What 3 barriers would stand in the way of creating that ideal community?
9. Where is the power in your community? What 2 organizations or 2 people would you go to within your community if you needed something?
10. Describe the path to get to your ideal community.