



CAPCA Presentation

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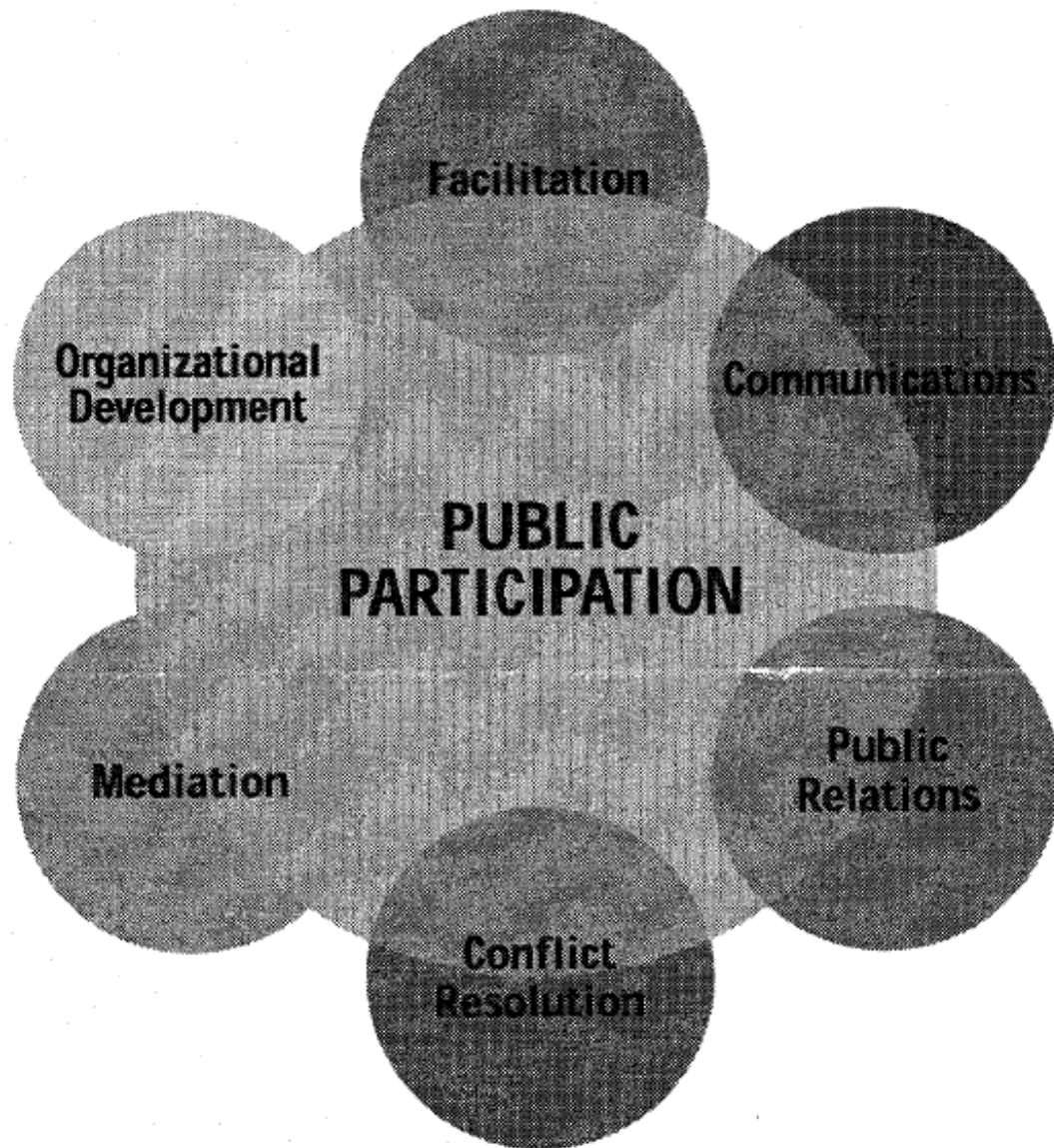
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Definition of Public Participation

“A full range of actions and processes that EQC uses to involve the public in our work.”

(EQC Public Participation Task Force)

“Public Participation is any process that involves the public in problem-solving or decision-making and uses public input to make decisions.” (IAP2)



Public Participation Task Force

- 2003 – Public Participation Task Force formed
- Consists of:
 - All levels of management
 - Technical staff
 - Local field inspectors
 - Public participation staff
- Mission – To maintain a credible relationship with the public

Achievements of Task Force

- Established program public participation workgroups
- Created public participation orientation video for EQC staff
- Developed training using orientation video as part of the discussion
 - Environmental Justice
 - Part of movie shown showcasing Spartanburg, SC community
 - EPA Brochure, “How to Involve Environmental Justice Communities”
- Public participation added to DHEC’s strategic plan
- Added public participation to staff’s EPDP
- Developed Meeting/Hearing Evaluation Survey
- Conducted benchmark survey on public participation

Achievements of Task Force – Cont'd

- EJ training to DHEC staff
- Added 5 additional staff – 3 Program Public Participation Coordinators and 2 Regional Community Liaisons
- Established internal process for meetings/hearings
 - pre-meeting/debriefing
- Provided IAP2 training to another group of staff (management, outreach, etc.)
- Deputy has public participation as one of his top 5 priorities for EQC
- Conducted 3 world café style listening sessions
- Priorities determined
- 2009 Goals

Topics from Listening Session

- Public Notification
- Public Meetings and Public Hearings/Format and Distribution of Information
- DHEC's Accessibility with the Public
- DHEC's Role in Environmental Policies
- DHEC's Authority

What We Heard During the Listening Session ...

12 Priorities

1. Notification Process
2. Effective Noticing
3. Educate on our Roles
4. Educate Public
5. Health Issues
6. Enforcement
7. Tighter Rules than Federal Rules
8. Create Partnerships
9. Processes/Policies
10. Inform the Public
11. Tell Who to Contact
12. How to Contact our Stakeholders

Lessons Learned

- Culture change in large bureaucratic organization difficult
- Need more staff at local level to develop relationships with various stakeholders
- Not going to happen overnight
- Changes need to be made
- Lots of misperceptions to correct

SC Environmental Justice Advisory Committee

- Formation – 2007, H.3733/Act 171
- Governmental Advisory Committee to DHEC
- Consists of 13 state agencies & 3 academia
 - Attorney General's Office, Agriculture, Commerce, Education, Health and Human Services, LLR, DNR, PRT, Public Safety, DOT, USC-Arnold School of Public Health, Clemson University-Community and Economic Development, South Carolina State University, State Ports Authority

SC EJ Advisory Committee - cont'd

- Study & consider ej issues in economic development and revitalization
- Four subcommittees: Health, Revitalization and Reuse, Policy, & Education and Awareness
- Listening Sessions
- January 2010 – Findings/recommendations to Governor and General Assembly

National Environmental Justice Award

- October 20, 2008



Suggestions to Industry

- Get Out Into the Community!
 - Develop Partnerships
 - Be Transparent
 - Develop Community Advisory Groups (CAGs)

Attitude

- Open/Honesty
- Empathy
- Supportiveness
- Positiveness
- Equality/Respect

(Bach & Wyden, The Intimate Enemy)

Basic Principles for Working with People

- Focus on the situation, issue or behavior, not the person
- Maintain self-confidence and self-esteem of others
- Maintain constructive relationships
- Take the initiative to make things better
- Lead by example

(IAP2)

Remember to...

1. Plan for effective public participation
2. Involve the public early
3. Communicate with the public on a frequent basis
4. Let the public have a say in ways to communicate
5. Let the public know that you want their input and how their input will impact the decision
6. Be upfront and honest