

# Community Engagement Resources

## Highly Recommended Book (if you buy only one book, we recommend this)

Wates, Nick. 2014. *The Community Planning Handbook: How People Can Shape Their Cities, Towns and Villages in Any Part of the World*. Routledge.

Growing numbers of residents are getting involved with professionals in shaping their local environment, and there is now a powerful menu of tools available, from design workshops to electronic maps. The Community Planning Handbook is the essential starting point for all those involved: planners and local authorities, architects and other practitioners, community workers, students and local residents. It features an accessible how-to-do-it style, best practice information on effective methods, and international scope and relevance. Tips, checklists and sample documents help readers to get started quickly, learn from others' experience and to select the approach best suited to their situation. The glossary, bibliography and contact details provide quick access to further information and support. This fully updated new edition contains extra material on following up after community engagement activities. (publisher)

## Recommended Books

Bell, Simon, Tessa Berg, and Stephen Morse. 2016. *Rich Pictures: Encouraging Resilient Communities*. Routledge.

Rich Pictures focuses on the value of developing visual narratives – Rich Pictures – as an important component and starting point for community participation. A key device for the community to share ideas and perspectives on current and potential future situations, Rich Pictures provide a shared space for members to set out ideas and negotiate. While Rich Pictures are widely and globally used, this is the first book discussing their use, and how and when to use this technique for maximum participatory value. A valuable read for community engagement professionals, planners, politicians, and members of affected communities, Rich Pictures is richly illustrated with examples and authors' testimonials. (publisher)

Hamdi, Nabeel. 2010. *The Placemaker's Guide to Building Community*. Earthscan.

From the author of Small Change comes this engaging guide to placemaking, packed with practical skills and tools that architects, planners, urban designers and other built environment specialists need in order to engage effectively with development work in any context. Drawing on four decades of practical and teaching experience, the author offers fresh insight into the complexities faced by practitioners when working to improve the communities, lives and livelihoods of people the world over. The book shows how these

complexities are a context for, rather than a barrier to, creative work. The book also critiques the single vision top down approach to design and planning. Using examples of successful professional practice across Europe, the US, Africa, Latin America and post-tsunami Asia, the author demonstrates how good policy can derive from good practices when reasoned backwards, as well as how plans can emerge in practice without a preponderance of planning. Reasoning backwards is shown to be a more effective and inclusive way of planning forwards with significant improvements to the quality of process and place. The book also offers a variety of methods and tools for analyzing the issues, engaging with communities and other stakeholders for design and settlement planning and for improving the skills of all involved in placemaking. Ultimately the book serves as an inspiring guide, and a distillation of decades of practical wisdom and experience. The resulting practical handbook is for all those involved in doing, learning and teaching placemaking and urban development world-wide. (publisher)

Sarkissian, Wendy, and Wiwik Bunjamin-Mau. 2012. *SpeakOut: The Step-by-Step Guide to SpeakOuts and Community Workshops*. Routledge.

Finding specific advice on inclusive processes for engaging a community in a planning or design process can be a daunting undertaking. The latest offering in the Tools for Community Planning Series is the product of nearly two decades of successful practice by internationally acclaimed community planning specialists. It is designed to support veterans and people with little or no experience to conduct a wide variety of community engagement events with absolute confidence. The book introduces the SpeakOut, an innovative, interactive drop-in engagement process. It provides hands-on, systematic guidance and detailed checklists for managing community engagement processes, as well as targeted advice on facilitation, recording and training. Five international case studies are included. This unique, illustrated manual is a 'must-have' tool for community, city and regional planners, activists, community organizations, students in planning and the other land professions and workshop facilitators and trainers everywhere. (publisher)

Sarkissian, Wendy, and Christine Wenman. 2010. *Creative Community Planning: Transformative Engagement Methods for Working at the Edge*. Routledge.

Creative Community Planning provides clear access to emerging innovations in artistic, narrative, embodied and technological methods. Reflecting on the wide continuum of participatory practice, the authors explore the frontiers of community engagement within a fresh sustainability framework. Leading planning theorists, researchers and practitioners in the field reflect with the authors on the many successes and challenges in engaging with a diversity of people in rural and urban communities. These conversations reveal creativity as key to enhancing existing engagement practices. Concepts and practical applications thread through the book, including community visioning, participatory research and reporting,

conflict resolution, poetry and planning language, theatre, photography, film and websites.  
(publisher)

### **Recommended Web Resources**

“IAP2: International Association for Public Participation.” n.d. IAP2: International Association for Public Participation. <https://iap2usa.org/>.

IAP2 is a community of public participation experts with shared values and ethics. Through the website, the organization offers access to resources, courses, certifications, an index of practitioners, and more. (Belanger)

“Strategic Doing - Do More Together.” n.d. Strategic Doing. Accessed July 10, 2019. <https://strategicdoing.net/>.

Strategic Doing teaches people how to form collaborations quickly, move them toward measurable outcomes and make adjustments along the way. (publisher)

“OPTIONS: A Community Engagement Workbook” developed by Smart Growth America. May 2013. <https://smartgrowthamerica.org/app/legacy/documents/options-workbook.pdf>

The most effective petroleum brownfield redevelopment efforts involve well-organized community input and leadership. After EPA created the PREPARED (Process for Risk Evaluation, Property Analysis and Reuse Decisions) Guide (<http://www.epa.gov/region1/brownfields/prepared/>) for its contractors and local governments, the Agency recognized the need for a similar tool to support community engagement. Working together through a cooperative agreement, the EPA and Smart Growth America developed this Community Engagement Workbook to meet the needs of a wide range of grantees and their community partners. We hope that it will empower users to participate in community redevelopment decisions and become advocates for positive change. (publisher)

### **Recommended Academic Resources**

Bose, Mallika, Paula Horrigan, Cheryl Doble, and Sigmund C. Shipp. 2014. *Community Matters: Service-Learning in Engaged Design and Planning*. Routledge.

Winner of the EDRA 2015 Book Award! *Community Matters: Service Learning in Engaged Design and Planning* explores issues that resonate with a diverse group of design and planning educators drawn to the challenge of supporting greater community building and empowerment while combining learning with practice. The book explores such questions as: How do we foster mutuality and reciprocity in community-academy partnerships?

What conflicts, challenges, limits and obstacles do we face in our service-learning studios and projects? What evidence do we have of our impacts on students and communities and how are we responding? How are we being attentive to the contemporary environmental and societal issues? What is our role as both designers and agents of societal change? How are we innovating to enable greater capacities for individuals, future practitioners and communities? This book provides compelling evidence that educators should be adopting engaged pedagogies, research methods and theories through which they can bring together education, practice and scholarship at the boundary of community and academy. (publisher)

Mandarano, Lynn, Mahbubur Meenar, and Christopher Steins. 2010. "Building Social Capital in the Digital Age of Civic Engagement." *Journal of Planning Literature* 25 (2): 123–35.

The use of digital technologies to enhance traditional public participation processes and to build a new form of a social capital—digital social capital—is being embraced in a range of planning practices. This article presents a discussion of how the digital age is influencing public participation and its implications for building social capital. The article highlights critical concerns to consider when embracing Internet tools for civic engagement and when evaluating such practices. The authors conclude with a call for scholarly research to assess the constraints and opportunities presented by this emergent trend and comparative studies to traditional modes of public participation. (authors)

Silva, Carlos Nunes. 2018. *New Approaches, Methods, and Tools in Urban E-Planning*. IGI Global.

Recent advances in information and communication technologies have enhanced the standards of metropolitan planning and development. With the increase in mobile communication, this will help to deliver innovative new services and apps in the field of urban e-planning. *New Approaches, Methods, and Tools in Urban E-Planning* is a key resource for the latest academic research on recent innovations in urban e-planning, citizen e-participation, the use of social media, and new forms of data collection and idea generation for urban planning. Presenting broad coverage among a variety of pertinent views and themes such as ethnography, e-consultation, and civic engagement, this book is ideally designed for planners, policymakers, researchers, and graduate students interested in how recent technological advancements are enhancing the traditional practices in e-planning. (publisher)

Silva, Carlos Nunes. 2013. *Citizen E-Participation in Urban Governance: Crowdsourcing and Collaborative Creativity: Crowdsourcing and Collaborative Creativity*. IGI Global.

The relationship between citizens and city governments is gradually transforming due to the utilization of advanced information and communication technologies in order to inform,

consult, and engage citizens. *Citizen E-Participation in Urban Governance: Crowdsourcing and Collaborative Creativity* explores the nature of the new challenges confronting citizens and local governments in the field of urban governance. This comprehensive reference source explores the role that Web 2.0 technologies play in promoting citizen participation and empowerment in the city government and is intended for scholars, researchers, students, and practitioners in the field of urban studies, urban planning, political science, public administration, and more. (publisher)