



# Community Engagement Tools to Advance Housing Policies

New Hampshire Municipal Association



November 2022

[NHHousing.org](http://NHHousing.org)

# HOUSING STORIES



# WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?

- Two-way communication and relationship building. Community engagement is not outreach.
- Community members are informed, participating, and influencing decisions.

# WHY DOES COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MATTER?



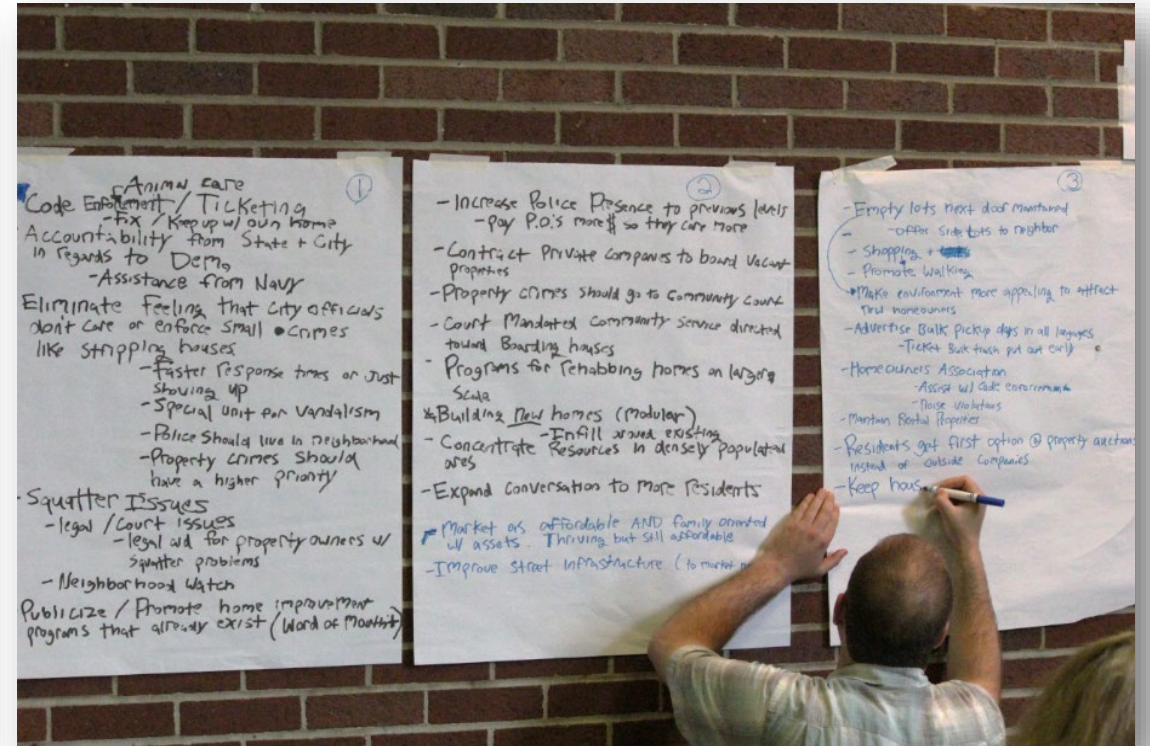
Who should be engaged  
and how do we get more  
people to participate?



# Key Informant Interviews



# LISTENING SESSIONS



# WALKING AND BUS TOURS





# WALKING AND BUS TOURS



# DOCUMENTARY SCREENINGS & BOOK CLUBS



# CHARRETTES



# MEET PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE...



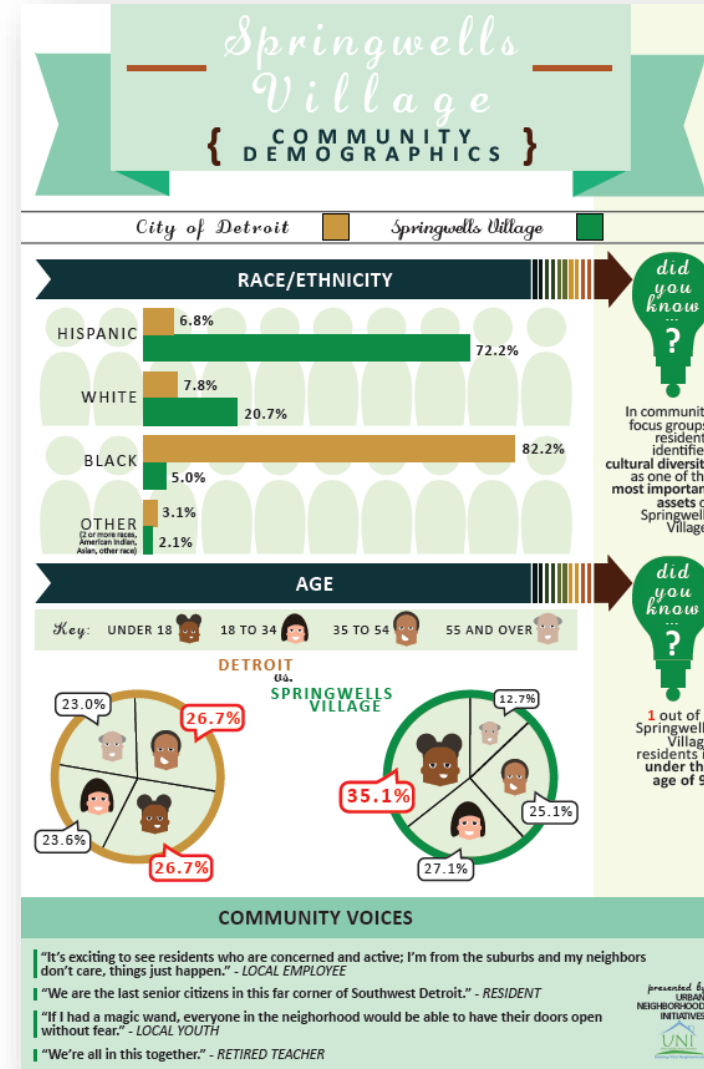
# COMMUNICATE TIMELINES

## Planning Process Timeline





# THANKING, CELEBRATING, & CLOSING THE LOOP



# BRIDGING THE GAP





# RESOURCES



# COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, & TASK FORCES



# PLANNING & ZONING GRANTS

- Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) Grants
- Part of Governor Sununu's \$100 million InvestNH initiative
- Objective: Increase housing supply by changing local land use regulations
- No match required
- Full information and FAQs at [www.NHHOPgrants.org](http://www.NHHOPgrants.org)
- Send questions to [info@NHHOPgrants.org](mailto:info@NHHOPgrants.org)



# Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) Grants

- Needs analysis and planning – up to \$25,000
  - Housing and demographic data, housing markets, affordability
  - Master plan sections related to housing
  - Open until January 27, 2023
- Regulatory audits – up to \$50,000
  - ID regulatory barriers to housing development, recommend changes
  - Cross-reference local regulations for conflicts regarding housing
  - Open until June 30, 2023
- Regulatory development – up to \$100,000
  - Create or amend regulations to promote housing development
  - Inclusionary zoning, development standards, tax incentives
  - Open until November 15, 2023



# PLANNING & ZONING GRANTS

- Rolling applications, rolling awards
- Applicants can apply for one or more phases at a time, skip phases, etc. – there is flexibility
- Grantees can hire their RPC or a pre-approved consultant or put out an RFP
- Community engagement plan is an important part of this work
  - Doesn't need to be fully developed for the grant application
  - Budget must include at least \$2,500 for community engagement

# HOUSING ACADEMY

- Training for municipalities that receive Community Housing Navigator or HOP grant funding
- Each grantee will identify at least one person and may identify up to three participants
- In-person, virtual, and place-based training with online resources
- Interactive sessions
- Stipends of \$250 per participant (volunteers only, not paid staff) will be approved as allowable direct expenses

# HOW DO WE TALK ABOUT HOUSING?

## A Guide to Community Engagement & Grassroots Advocacy

**Have you seen a project or policy by  
unsuccessful because of a lack of  
community engagement?**

**What have been the most successful or  
rewarding engagement activities you've  
seen in action?**



# CONTACTUS

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