

STRONG NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE
Business Plan Update Workshop Evaluation Results
Monday, March 29, 2010

N= 80 Completed Evaluations Returned

1. Which category best describes your affiliation? (Note: Participants may have checked more than one category.)

18 Neighborhood Action Coalition (NAC) Chair/Co-Chair 35 NAC Member
29 Community Member 5 Staff

- We should still call ourselves Neighborhood Advisory Committee

2. How long have you been involved with Strong Neighborhoods? (Note: Participants may have checked more than one category.)

13 less than 1 year 12 3-5 years 30 7-10 years
17 1-3 years 7 5-7 years

- 48 years

3. How would you rate the overall effectiveness of this workshop?

Very Effective 5 4 3 2 1 Not Effective
Average 3.9

- To early to say
- Stupid question-only time will tell—can't be answered at this time
- Depends on what happens next.

4. Strong Neighborhoods should focus on Removing Barriers to Neighborhood Action (Get Out of the Way as a goal).

Strongly Agree 5 4 3 2 1 Strongly Disagree
Average 4.5

5. Strong Neighborhoods should focus on Supporting Neighborhoods in Crises as a goal.

Strongly Agree 5 4 3 2 1 Strongly Disagree
Average 4.5

- However, “stabilized neighborhoods” should still have access.

6. Strong Neighborhoods should focus on Neighborhood Action as a goal.

Strongly Agree 5 4 3 2 1 Strongly Disagree
Average 4.4

7. Strong Neighborhoods should focus on Connecting to Other Resources as a goal.

Strongly Agree 5 4 3 2 1 Strongly Disagree
Average 4.6

8. Overall, I understand the four goals proposed for the Strong Neighborhoods Business Plan?

Strongly Agree 5 4 3 2 1 Strongly Disagree
Average 4.3

- Yes, but do not have idea on resources that will remain in SNI

9. What additional goals or ideas, if any, should be included in the Business Plan?

- “Teach Neighborhoods to fish.” Next time the speakers from neighborhoods need to reflect diversity of our neighborhoods (neighborhood leader speakers all white, mainly male. Only staff reflected SJ Community.)
- Adding Grant Writing
- Collaboration/communication between City Departments
- Communication!! Tie the different entities’ [together].
- Continue the focus of SNI
- Continuity of services
- Creating coalitions
- Each young person should take responsibility in their neighborhood, promote service, and servant leadership.
- Educate the parents in created safe neighborhoods. Keeping the programs after school is very important.
- Finding other ways to get summer programs since summer schools won’t be on. Having young adult programs.
- Get City Manager to visit neighborhoods to see the needs of the communities; spend at least 4 hours in the neighborhood to decide priorities.
- Get the big shots to come and see our communities.
- Get together all district neighbors and get or share ideas.
- Holding school trustees accountable-we need transparency in school budgets and how much are trustees paid? Do they receive health benefits better than teachers? How much refined (?) superintendents are paid should be put on a big sign outside the school gate.
- Holding schools accountable for drop-outs and the crime rise in the vicinity of the schools. Hold City staff accountable for re-use of facilities and resources already available: our community center. Walk and talk our community “Meadowfair.”
- How can neighborhoods be compensated when the City does not wise up to its end of the agreement?
- Include non-profits in the planning process and design for the Business Plan.

- Involve teens and youth in the planning meetings of SNI so they can see what is being done for them.
- Larger CSJ coalition building around quality of life issues-libraries, parks, community-senior centers, the arts, etc. all contribute to a dynamic center.
- Make access to NAC info. easier, foster cross NAC communication.
- More activities for children
- Neighborhood watch and safety.
- Opening a section of the SNI website and community management/ownership.
- Overall leveraging resources
- Please I beg you do not close the youth centers because the City will pay much more if you have those controlled kids out in the streets causing trouble.
- Please put these in Spanish/ Vietnamese/ Other. Keep our staff in neighborhoods/ SNI.
- Police attend meetings
- Retain as many great staff as possible. SNI would not be possible without them.
- Schools must be a part of the plan. Kids should design programs to participate and stay out of trouble. Everything starts from the schools.
- SNI Business agenda and communications between City staff and neighborhood removing barriers.
- Staff support for neighborhood leaders
- Support NAC with methods to get by (?) without city funding. How can we be more self sufficient.
- That community safety is ALWAYS the priority of the community. There should be incentives (via public recognition, what the “currency” required) for schools and businesses to share activity announcements. Most importantly, explain to them BOTH the greatness that can be achieved by sharing the load towards the goal.
- The City should be able to dismiss employees that do not do their job.
- Utilize neighborhood schools to create partnerships
- We should be able to have keys to the community centers to use them (Sp.)- 2
- Working on a preventative way to keep those neighborhoods that are not in crisis out of crisis.

Other Comments

- Thank you for having children’s activities at this meeting!
- No me gusto. No entiendo la forma. (I didn’t like it. I don’t understand the form.) (Sp.)