

EXERCISE:

POP-UP/DOT BOARDS

Pop-up / Dot Boards are a quick way to get community input on a preselected set of programmatic options or ideas using idea boards. Because this can be a very quick exercise, it is easy to get people to participate. It is also portable and can be taken to meet people where they are. It involves printed boards with images illustrating different ideas for people to react to, but it also allows for at length interviews with participants who are giving their opinion.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

1. Large print-outs of your boards on posterboard.
 - 1.a Alternatively you can use full page print-outs of your images pasted next to blank sheets where people can place their dots.
2. Color dots. Round Color Coding Labels are best, but any other small sticky marker or small post-it would do.
3. Easels to mount your boards on, or wall space to tape them on.
4. Duct or masking tape for securing the boards.
 - 4.a If you are not printing full boards, you can use transparent scotch tape to paste images directly to the wall, on blank cardboard or even butcher paper. The backs of existing foamcore boards also work well for this purpose.

THE BOARDS

The boards are organized around questions. The questions can be as broad or as specific as your need for input. This could include general questions like, “What do you want to do in [this space]?” but you could also ask

much narrow questions, “What kind of play elements do you want to see in [this space]?” The questions are usually based on the results from previous outreach efforts such as interviews, focus groups or visioning. If you have a lot or requests for a specific kind of amenity or activity, such as a water feature, you could narrow down what type of water feature people want. For each question the boards offer images illustration different options so people can envision what you mean. Either next to or under the image there is white space for people to place their dot-vote or to write their comments/suggestions.

TIMING

If the boards are set up in the space it works well to target the times that someone from your organization is there to get people involved and excited. We also recommend bribing people to participate with food or drink. So if you are near a lot of offices you might try to be there either during lunch or after work. If your space is in a more residential neighborhood then maybe you want to be there over the weekend.







THE SET-UP

You want to arrange your boards where people already are. Maybe there's a shortcut through your space that gets a lot of foot traffic, then you'd set your boards up along the foot path. Maybe your space is next to a large street with lots of foot traffic on the sidewalk, then set your boards up at the sidewalk. If your space is a little bit out of the way or if your space doesn't exist yet then you might want to set your boards up with a well attended event near by like a market, or another gathering.

SAMPLE FORMS:
POP-UP/DOT BOARDS

This sample board is laid out horizontally - h 36" x w 48". Both the images and the white spaces are 8.5" x 11". This way replacing the white space as it fills up with dots is made easy - you can just tape on a new blank sheet of 8.5" x 11" paper.

**WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO
IN CORNOG PLAZA AFTER WORK?**

	Performances/Concerts		Dance Ballet, dance classes
	Outdoor Movies		Special/themed dinners Happy hour, receptions
	Lectures Author readings		Outdoor art exhibits