**Engagement**

This document provides guiding questions to help you develop a strategy for community and stakeholder engagement to inform electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure plans and projects.

Engagement Purpose and Goals

* Why is engagement a priority for your upcoming EV infrastructure planning process or project?
* What are your goals for community and stakeholder engagement in this upcoming planning process? Be as specific as possible.

Target Outcomes (How Will Success Be Defined?)

* What will successful engagement look like for your organization?
* What will successful engagement look like for you personally?
* What will successful engagement look like for community members and other stakeholders? Note: Don’t make assumptions—answer this after consulting with community members and stakeholders.
* Do your answers to the prior three questions align? Why or why not? How will you address potential differences in your plan?

Engagement Logistics

* What is the timeline for engagement? How will this fit within the rest of your planning timeline?
* Who will be responsible for the community engagement efforts? Who will be responsible for the stakeholder engagement efforts?
* What is your available budget to support community and stakeholder engagement activities?
* What engagement methods and mechanisms are currently available? What methods could be developed to support this effort?
* What do you know about which methods and mechanisms would be more effective to reach the stakeholders and community members you plan to engage? How do you know this?
* Which organizations or individuals do you *need* to engage with to make this effort successful? What organizations or individuals do you *want* to engage with to make this effort better? Use the Stakeholder Identification and Engagement Activities Worksheet.
* For each audience, what parts of the plan can they inform? How will their input improve your plan? Use the Stakeholder Identification and Engagement Activities Worksheet.

Engaging Underserved Communities

* How will you define and identify underserved communities?
* What structural challenges do people living in underserved communities in your area face that could keep them from actively engaging?
* How can you learn more about barriers and associated strategies or test your assumptions?
* How can you make active engagement in EV planning accessible for people who have not been at the table previously? What is needed to support participation (e.g., stipends, child care, transportation, translation, interpretation)?
* How will you earn the trust of people living in underserved communities and participants (e.g., partnering with trusted community organizations)?
* What engagement methods and mechanisms will help you reach people living in underserved communities? How can you seek feedback on the effectiveness of these strategies?

Internal Constraints

* What institutional constraints (e.g., accelerated timelines, staffing capacity, lack of precedent) does your organization face internally that might hinder efforts for more equitable engagement in clean energy planning processes?
* What strategies can you or your colleagues use to address these internal institutional constraints?
* Does your organization have a mandate to incorporate equity in planning processes? If not, how will you navigate this?
* Identify which leaders within your organization need to approve changes in the engagement process and what the approval pathways are.

Transparency, Accountability, and Continuity

* How will you use the inputs from engagement activities to inform your plan or project?
* How will you be transparent about the process and what can and cannot be influenced?
* How will you measure the results of your engagement strategies?
* What will you do after initial relationship-building and engagement activities to continue the involvement of community and stakeholder partners?
* How are you institutionalizing your learnings across your organization and holding yourself accountable to community members and stakeholders?
* How will you share relevant learnings back with community members and stakeholders?

Data and Mapping Tools

* What are some existing maps and data analyses from previous engagement and/or planning processes? What lessons were learned from their creation?
* What census tracts in your community are identified as “disadvantaged”? (Consult [Argonne National Laboratory’s *Electric Vehicle Charging Justice40 Mapping Tool*](https://anl.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=33f3e1fc30bf476099923224a1c1b3ee)and/or the[Council on Environmental Quality’s *Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool*](https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#9.58/23.8213/-65.882)if needed.)
* What data and mapping tools will you use to identify the community members with whom you want to connect?
* What maps or other visualization tools do you need to create to guide engagement efforts related to community-sited EV charging infrastructure?