Community of Practice: Community Power

Power mapping for sustained park equity

November 9, 2023



The Common Ground Framework



Community Power: A community's capacity to employ democratic processes to pursue their self-determined vision, regardless of identity or status







America has a community power problem

1/5

Of Americans that trust the government to do what's right

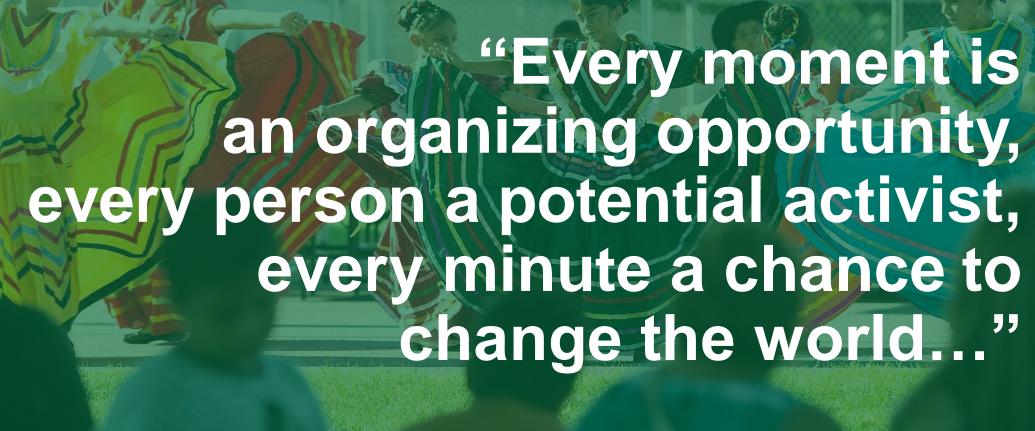
3x

Increase in
Americans that
report lacking a
single individual in
their life who
serves as a close
confidant

58%

Percent of Americans report feeling lonely some or all of the time 81%

Percent of major metropolitan areas that are more racially segregated in 2019 than they were in 1990



Dolores Huerta



Parks are powerful social infrastructure

66%

Increase in social ties for Americans who live near parks and green spaces

Increase in voting participation among park organizers in 2018 case study project in Washington State

19%

Boost in community trust for local governments that invest in their parks

58%

Increase among people public meetings, if they also volunteer for environmental orgs



How can we build community power?

A community's capacity to employ democratic processes to pursue their self-determined vision, regardless of identity or status





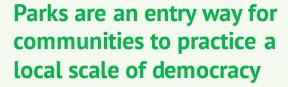
→ Voting

project

- → Calling representatives
- → Petition signing
- → Mutual aid
- → Volunteering







- → Taking a survey
- → Attending public meetings
- → Stewardship groups
- → Event organizing
- → Advocating at city council



Power building strategies

- Include community members in strategic **decision-making**
- Support the establishment of park **stewardship groups**
- Transfer knowledge on navigating public processes



Impacts of community power

- Resilience to effects of climate change and the pandemic
- ✓ Lower crime rates
- Resistance to green gentrification
- Trust in local government
- Community organizing for local issues



Track sessions

- January 18 | Participatory planning: How can parks transform community vision into reality?
- March 14 | Civic education: How can parks engagement be a bridge to civic participation?
- May 9 | Park stewardship: How can we strengthen the capacity of friends of groups and their community?
- July 11 | Social resilience: How can parks serve communities in times of crisis?



PowerPoint resources

TPL Primary Logo

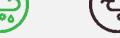






TPL Icons



















































COMMUNITY

EQUITY





COMMUNITY























PowerPoint resources

TPL Icons Continued

Community







Lands



Schoolyards



Trails









































