

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR PARKS AND PROGRAMS

Calling university professors or community organizers to mentor students and other future leaders to:

- ◆ Listen and learn about community residents' priorities!
- ◆ Create a park project or program vision with residents!
- ◆ Bring together residents and help tell their story (video etc)



Zamora Park Public Focus Group, El Monte (April 2017)

Let's get started!

Contact the SCORP Team for guidance:
SCORP@parks.ca.gov

The California Department of Parks and Recreation looks forward to your partnership for this element of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

What you'll gain:

1. Future leaders can transfer skills learned through this Community Engagement process to a career in government, non-profit organizations, and consulting firms.
2. Your efforts can lead to new projects or programs that improve a community's health, influence a statewide audience, and inspire others!
3. You will receive recognition on the State's [Partner Appreciation](#) web pages and in the 2020 SCORP report to the Governor's Office, Legislature, and the U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service.

ParksforCalifornia.org

Through these experiences, future leaders will learn how to bring together residents and local government in planning, designing, and organizing efforts.

Choose one or more of the following activities, or use the whole process to shape California's future!

▣ **Identify Community Priorities:** Select a Californian community, city, or region that interests you with a high need for a new recreation program or project. Ask community residents to identify their park and recreation priorities using two techniques:

- ◆ [California's Health in Parks Survey](#) to collect ideas from community residents.
- ◆ Focus Group interviews and videos capture residents' ideas. Then, [nominate your video for a statewide award!](#)

▣ **Create a Vision for a Healthier Community:** Work with community residents and their local park and recreation agency to create an influential Proposal that includes the following:

- ◆ Compose a summary report about the Survey results and focus group highlights.
- ◆ Explore other [Toolkit](#) information to help support the need for the project or program.
- ◆ Develop a concept for the new park project or recreation program that would meet the community's highest priorities (location, description or illustration, cost estimate, benefits).

▣ **Shape California's Future of Parks and Recreation:**

- ◆ Create a video documentary to tell the community's story and share what you learned throughout the process.
- ◆ Provide [feedback](#) about which Toolkit item(s) was the most helpful.
- ◆ [Nominate Your Story](#) for an award. **Inspire a statewide audience!**

Consider partnerships with film/videography students who can help document these experiences in a powerful way. Student partnerships between parks and recreation, health/kinesiology, public administration/government, social work, and graphic design departments may also be effective!