



One of CR Planning's founding principles is public involvement in planning processes; a principle implemented in nearly all of our projects. Public involvement is a foundation of our firm because it is a necessary foundation to the creation and implementation of successful plans, ordinances, and programs. Public involvement is necessary in the creation of plans that reflect a community's character and culture. It also builds a constituency that will demand that plans be implemented and not merely sit on the shelf.

CR Planning staff are trained in facilitation and enjoy the challenge of bringing diverse interests to consensus. We have successfully worked with communities defined by neighborhood, city, regional and state boundaries. Listed below are a variety of public involvement techniques that have been applied by CR Planning staff.

- Stakeholder steering committees
- One-on-one interviews
- Visioning
- Focus groups
- Mailed and telephone attitudinal surveys
- Identification of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats
- Shared learning
- Open houses
- Presentation/discussion meetings
- Facilitated small group discussions
- Dot voting/prioritization
- Stakeholder photo shoots
- Special places identification

Effective outreach is critical in producing broad-based public involvement. CR Planning is experienced in all types of outreach and notification, including; targeted and mass mailings, telephone follow-up to mailings, public service announcements on radio and television, custom newspaper advertisements, posted and counter-top flyers, and phone banks.

CR Planning also recognizes that barriers to public participation exist. In each project we work with the client to identify these barriers and methods for reducing the barriers such as: holding meeting in multiple locations and at various times of day; providing child care and transportation; and providing meals or refreshments.

Example Projects:

- City of Duluth Comprehensive Plan
- Crow Wing County Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan
- Duluth Township Comprehensive Plan
- Belle Plaine Parks and Open Space Plan
- Cedar Creek (Anoka County) Greenway Plan
- North Shore Land Use Plan