Museums and Communities Working To Build Back Better
Bringing museum practices to community planning
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Agenda

Introduction What is Planning? Examples

Case Study 1: Resilience Planning

Case Studies 2: Water Management Planning

Case Study 3: Community Story Projects

Table Brainstorms

Report out & Wrap-up
How familiar are you with planning?

- 1 - 5 Fingers:
  - 1 - not at all!
  - 2 - I can define it
  - 3 - I’ve read my community’s plan
  - 4 - I/we have participated in a planning event
  - 5 - We’ve partnered with planners!
“The goal of planning is to maximize the health, safety, and economic well-being of residents in ways that reflect the unique needs, desires, and culture of those who live and work within the community.”

~ Cynthia Bowen, Past President, American Planning Association
Many Names:

- City/Town Plan
- Regional Plan
- Long-Range Plan
- Master Plan
- General Plan

Many Sub-Plans:

- Climate Resilience
- Housing
- Transportation
- Downtown/District
- Trees and Greening
Public Engagement

“Planners have little inherent power.”
People *really* like thinking about the ideal community design!
Science Museum of Virginia
In the 1930s, federal officials redlined these neighborhoods in Richmond, Va., marking them as risky investments because residents were Black.

Today, they are some of the hottest parts of town in the summer, with few trees and an abundance of heat-trapping pavement.
Because I dress frumpy, people think I act pathologically...

But actually I volunteer weekly and call attention to government abuses of the community.
It’s Political -
Look for the Levers
MODS HUB FOR RESILIENCY EDUCATION
MODS HUB FOR RESILIENCY EDUCATION

- Introduce the latest scientific concepts related to coastal resiliency and climate change
- Engage visitors in a creative atmosphere that inspires innovative thinking
- Support South Florida’s emerging resiliency industry by cultivating workforce development, seeding entrepreneurship and economic vitality in areas of solutions to these issues
- Increase environmental literacy and empower people to protect themselves and their communities
MODS HUB FOR RESILIENCY EDUCATION

125 actions to reduce carbon pollution and strengthen our resilience to the effects of global climate change

CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE
MODS HUB FOR RESILIENCY EDUCATION

Designing Streets for Kids

CLIMATE CHANGE
CLIMATE JUSTICE

BROWARD YOUTH CLIMATE SUMMIT 2022

Broward Vision: The Path to 2100
What Will Broward Look Like in the Future?

Think Like A Planner: High School Students
• This event provides each student with the opportunity to shadow transportation professionals and conduct their own short group presentations before elected officials.

#ThinkLikeAPlanner

MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY AND SCIENCE
MODS HUB FOR RESILIENCY EDUCATION

- Workforce Development & Public Education
- Staff & Public Engagement
- Museum in Action
- Onsite and Traveling Exhibit
MODS HUB FOR RESILIENCY EDUCATION

- Policy in Action
- Natural Systems
- Water Supply
- Resiliency Innovation
- Energy Resources
- Built Environment
- Transportation
QUESTIONS?

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A powerful motivator!

Land loss projections

a few decades out…
Living with Water – and learning to consider it an asset
Green infrastructure

7,000-gallon cistern collects rainwater from the roof to be used for irrigation in the landscape.
Water Trails lead us around the site to understand Ecosystems, Bioswales, Recycled materials, Nature’s Drains and more.
Water Journals – why water is important in our lives

Kennedy, Age 9

explorers traveled by water. That's why the Mississippi River is important because how else would they have founded New Orleans?
What does my resilient city need?
Waterfront Stories Project
Friends of Waterfront Seattle

Goal: gather local residents’ stories connecting diverse communities benefiting from increased park space on Seattle’s waterfront

Format: popup exhibits outside Pike Place Market, waterfront paths, and Salmon Homecoming Festival

https://www.bradlarson.com/waterfront-stories-project-seattle-2/
Fresh Paint Mural Arts Festival
Community Stories

**Goal:** gather community stories about improvements in downtown Springfield MA related to the mural arts festival

**Format:** Storybike popup recording station with 42 DesignFab, and additional popup paint/draw activities for families at the festival

https://www.bradlarson.com/storybike-fresh-paint/
Suitcase Stories Project
Refugee and immigrant stories in local communities

- Collaboration with nonprofit International Institute of New England
- Highlight the experience of refugees and immigrants as they make a new life here
- Foster a more welcoming and inclusive environment for newcomers
- Tie-ins with museums, local PBS, local news

Choose a Topic for Your Story

What is your first memory here in the US?

What is one thing you brought from your home country that is most precious?

What person have you met here who has had the greatest influence on you?

International Institute of New England

Suitcase Stories
Questions?
Comments?
Table Discussions
What was/might be your role in planning?

- Leadership
- Cohort/collaborator
- Researcher/data contributor
- Stakeholder/representative
- Other?
Report Out & Wrap Up