

Session Topic: Community Engagement

Date: Oct 2016

Session Leader:

What were the main strategies or solutions that you discussed?

1. Joint county commissioner and agency meetings that are quarterly and/or regular to give the community a heads-up on both county and agency issues and projects. Explain roles and responsibilities.
2. Identify the local community champion to assist in outreach and sharing of material.
3. Invite the public to participate in the priority setting process, which typically is tied to budget. This will allow the public and collaborators know which projects may be coming in the future an opportunity to comment and an opportunity to identify additional funding.
4. Host meetings and field trips for specific projects. Utilize community champion to outreach opportunity.
5. County Fire Chiefs involvement during the project to interact with public and engage with the Fire Council and rural fire department annual public meeting. Engage with Fire Department pre-project to make roles and responsibilities clear.
6. County Commissioners can assist public with obtaining public comment.

Products

- Training sessions for county commissioners
- Map of funding connections that makes it easier for all to understand how we can leverage funds across federal, state, county and collaborators.
- Template for project comment and letters that assists with demonstrating collaborations, public concern and investment that solicits the response that helps FS support rationale.