

City of San Diego – Environmental Justice Element

Roundtable Meeting #2: “Engagement Plan Development”
Meeting Summary Report

Aug. 23, 2023

Prepared by:
City Planning Department



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Roundtable Meeting #2

Meeting Objectives and Agenda

- Review the purpose of the Engagement Plan and align on content provided.
- Identify environmental justice topics commonly addressed through the organization's existing work and which topics can be expanded upon.
- Share engagement strategies to inform activities incorporated into Engagement Plans.

Agenda	
Time	Section
2:00 – 2:10 PM	Icebreaker
2:10 – 2:15 PM	Review of Engagement Scope
2:15 – 3:20 PM	Activities to help inform Draft Engagement Plans
3:20 – 3:30 PM	Next Steps

Project Team Present at the Meeting

Facilitator: Christian Rodriguez, Senior Community Associate (Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI))

Consultant Project Team: KDI

- Jorge Cañes, Planning Coordinator | Martin Gil, Community Coordinator | Robert Douglass, Senior Design Coordinator

City Planning Department Project Team

- Sameera Rao, Assistant Deputy Director | Paola Boylan, Senior Planner | Audrey Rains, Management Intern

Community-Based Organizations

- Kim Heinle, Bayside Community Center
- Cynthia Tecson, Bikes del Pueblo
- Matthew Pendergraft, Bikes del Pueblo

Community-Based Organizations (Continued)

- Alejandro Amador, Casa Familiar
- Jesse Ramirez, City Heights CDC
- Manny Rodriguez, City Heights CDC
- Carmina Paz, Urban Collaborative Project

Summary

Icebreaker

Participants introduced themselves to continue to get familiarized with group members.

Review of Engagement Scope

An overview of the purpose and goal of the engagement plan was provided to inform engagement activities.

Activities to help inform Draft Engagement Plans

Activity 1 – The group worked on building a shared language to share why it is important to address environmental justice issues in San Diego. The language was refined, and a poster was developed to share with community members at future events (see Appendix A).

Activity 2 – Participants indicated each topic the organization has touched on during past engagement to inform expertise and opportunities for further engagement.

Activity 3 – Discussed types of questions that can be asked during the engagement process to gather information on each of the environmental justice issues required to be addressed by SB 1000. Together, the group developed draft questions that (1) help inform the EJ Element, (2) are understandable to people who aren't heavily immersed in the topics, and (3) are relevant to community members. Questions were refined and expanded upon for each topic and those used throughout this process are provided by topic in Appendix B.

Activity 4 - Different Engagement Strategies were discussed and participants selected which activities they would like to carry out to support the Environmental Justice Element engagement process.

Activity 5 - Organizations shared upcoming events where engagement activities could possibly be carried out to begin to develop an events timeline.

Activity visuals can be found in Appendix C.

Next Steps

Participants aligned on content to be included in the draft engagement plans for each organization and agreed to meet with KDI for one-on-one meetings to discuss. As part of this effort, KDI shared a template to facilitate the process.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN SAN DIEGO

San Diego is a fantastic city to live, work, and play. Nevertheless, people that live in our city lack access to clean air and opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, resulting in poorer overall physical and mental health. These issues disproportionately challenge marginalized, low-income communities of color. Let's work together to take action today to preserve our environment and improve our communities so that present and future generations benefit in advancing environmental justice.

Questions to Inform Outreach Activities

Reduce pollution exposure and improve air quality.

1. What are some places you drive to? Select all that apply.
 - a. Grocery Store
 - b. School
 - c. Parks
 - d. Beach
 - e. Work
 - f. Share what other places to frequently visit. _____
2. What are some amenities needed within your community that would help you reduce the number of trips you take in car, or the distance it takes to get there?
3. Are there any factories or waste sites near where you live? If so, can you share any health concerns due to the presence of factories or waste sites for you and your family, or how it affects your daily life?
4. How would you rate the air quality in your community?
 - a. Very poor
 - b. Poor
 - c. Fair
 - d. Good
 - e. Excellent
5. Does the air quality in your community affect your health or activities in your daily life? Please explain how.

Promote public facilities.

1. Do the public spaces and services in your community meet your needs?
 - a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Agree
 - d. Strongly Agree
 - e. Don't know
2. What are some amenities you would like to see in your community?
3. Community members in my community have access (vehicular, public transit, or pedestrian/bicycle) to public spaces, parks and libraries?
 - a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Agree

Questions to Inform Outreach Activities

- d. Strongly Agree
 - e. Don't know
4. What are some features that make you feel safe and comfortable in public spaces?
Select all that apply.
- a. Well-lit paths
 - b. Well-maintained, clean spaces and facilities
 - c. Multiple entrance points
 - d. Spaces that are visible from a distance and connected to adjacent buildings
 - e. Activities for all age groups
 - f. Wide and continuous sidewalks
 - g. Safe intersections (e.g. high visibility crosswalk, audible pedestrian signs, intersections separating pedestrians from cars)
 - h. Streets with lower speed limits

Promote food access.

1. Are you able to easily get fresh and healthy food you need in your area?
- a. Never
 - b. Rarely
 - c. Sometimes
 - d. Often
 - e. Always
2. Where are you able to access fresh and healthy foods in your area?
- a. Major grocery stores
 - b. Farmers markets
 - c. Street vendors
 - d. Community gardens
 - e. Home garden
3. How does the availability of good quality food affect your dining experience?
4. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:
"I am satisfied with the healthy and culturally suitable food options available in my area."
- a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Agree
 - d. Strongly agree
 - e. Don't know

Questions to Inform Outreach Activities

5. How important is it for you to have access to healthy and culturally suitable food options?
 - a. Not at all important
 - b. Slightly important
 - c. Moderately important
 - d. Very important
 - e. Extremely important

6. Do you sometimes have to make food choices based on what's affordable rather than healthy?
 - a. Never
 - b. Rarely
 - c. Sometimes
 - d. Often
 - e. Always

7. Where do you shop for food?

8. How far do you have to travel to buy fresh and healthy food?
 - a. 5 minutes or less
 - b. 6 - 10 minutes
 - c. 11-15 minutes
 - d. 16 minutes or more

9. Do you ever walk/roll, bike or take transit to get there?
 - a. Never
 - b. Rarely
 - c. Sometimes
 - d. Often
 - e. Always

10. What are the primary reasons you choose to walk/roll, bike or take transit to get groceries?
 - a. Close
 - b. Convenient
 - c. Safe to reach
 - d. I don't have a car
 - e. Other: _____

Questions to Inform Outreach Activities








Promote safe and sanitary homes.

1. How would you describe the condition of your current living space?
 - a. Very poor
 - b. Poor
 - c. Fair
 - d. Good
 - e. Excellent
2. Are there any concerns about safety, maintenance, or repairs? Please explain.
3. Does your home provide you and your family with a comfortable and healthy living environment?
 - a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Agree
 - d. Strongly agree
 - e. Don't know
4. Are there any issues you'd like to improve? Please explain.
5. What are the most important deciding factors when looking for a place to live?
6. Does housing affordability affect aspects of your daily life or well-being? How?








Promote “civic engagement” in the public decision-making process.

1. Where do you find trustworthy information about what is happening in your community? For example, what places, groups, or news sources? (e.g. church, school, newspaper, community organization, TV news, internet news.)
2. How can we improve language access so non-English speakers can fully understand and participate in civic engagement activities?

In which ways would you be most likely to provide your input to the City? (Select all that apply)

Technique Categories	Description	Votes
In-Person Meetings	 Focused group meetings (5 or fewer people)	
	 Small community meeting (6-20 people)	
	 Large community meeting (20 plus people)	
In-Person and Virtual Workshops	 Event workshops	
	 Community chats at local venues: coffee shops, restaurants, etc.	
	 Field trips, tours, or site visits	
	 Zoom meetings/video conferencing	

In which ways would you be most likely to provide your input to the City? (Select all that apply)

Technique Categories	Description	Votes
In-Person Outreach	 House meetings	
	 Door knocking	
	 Surveys (digital or hardcopy)	
Other Traditional Outreach	 E-newsletter and e-mails	
	 Social media and livestreams (Twitch, YouTube Live, etc.)	
	 Phone calls and text messages (including WhatsApp and hotlines)	
	 Traditional mail	

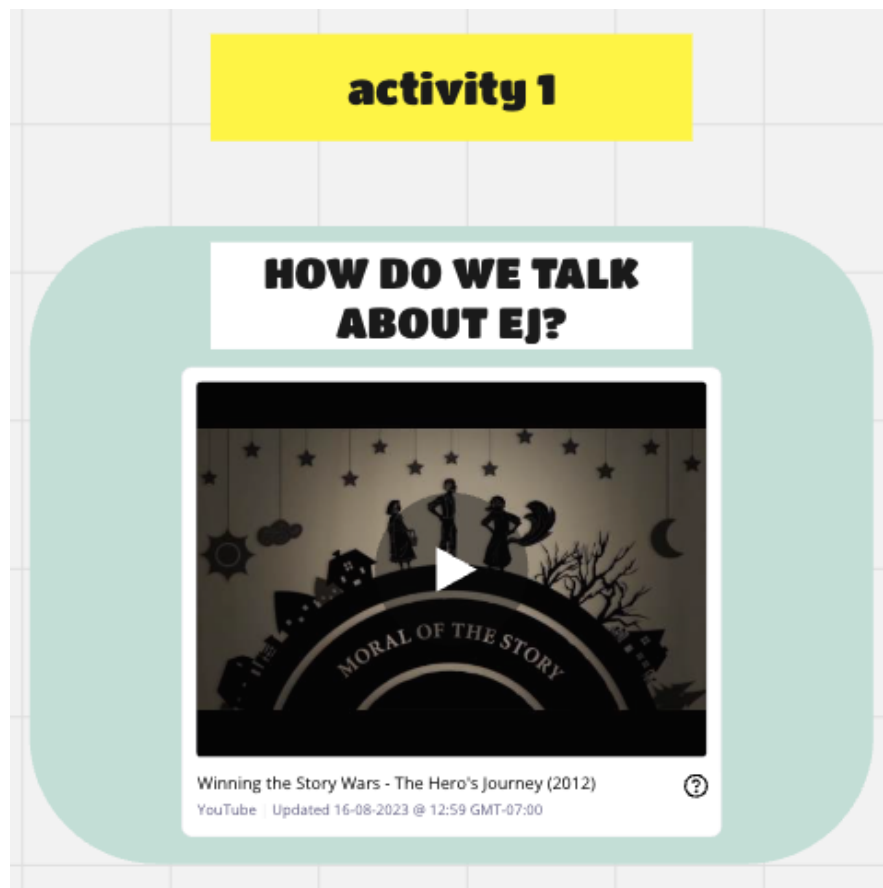
City of San Diego's Environmental Justice Roundtables: Interactive Digital Whiteboard Activities

Roundtable 2

Date of the event: August 23, 2023

Facilitator: KDI

Organizations: Bayside Community Center, Bikes del Pueblo, Casa Familiar, City Heights CDC, Urban Collaborative Project



activity 1

HOW DO WE TALK ABOUT EJ?

Winning the Story Wars - The Hero's Journey (2012)
YouTube | Updated 16-08-2023 @ 12:59 GMT-07:00

The image shows a digital whiteboard activity titled 'activity 1'. The main question is 'HOW DO WE TALK ABOUT EJ?'. Below the question is a video thumbnail for 'Winning the Story Wars - The Hero's Journey (2012)'. The video thumbnail features a dark background with silhouettes of people and a rainbow, with the text 'MORAL OF THE STORY' visible. The video is hosted on YouTube and was updated on 16-08-2023 at 12:59 GMT-07:00.

HOW DO WE TALK ABOUT EJ?

What are the key take aways from the video?

community
is the hero!

storytelling

we
guide

people should
get to
determine
their own
stories/lives

building a shared language

San Diego is a fantastic city to **live, work** and **recreate**. Nevertheless, San Diego faces environmental challenges such as **(all the ideas)**. These issues disproportionately impact **BIPOC, marginalized, low-income** communities. Let's take action today to **preserve** our natural resources and **improve our built environment**, so that **present and future generations** benefit from **healthy environment to enjoy**.

miro

City Heights CDC

San Diego is a fantastic city to live and work. Nevertheless, San Diego faces environmental challenges such as environmental racism and disproportionate traffic violence. These issues disproportionately impact EJ (communities of color) communities. If we don't take action today, our natural resources will deplete, and residents will face adverse health issues. We need to join forces and work towards a equitable and sustainable San Diego.

Bayside Community Center

San Diego is a fantastic city to live and be. Nevertheless, San Diego faces environmental challenges such as heat risks and air pollution. These issues disproportionately impact low income communities and communities of color. If we don't take action today, our natural resources will deplete, and residents will suffer. We need to join forces and work towards a more just, safer, healthier, and green San Diego.

miro

Casa Familiar

San Diego is a fantastic city to Live and enjoy. Nevertheless, San Diego faces environmental challenges such as water and air pollution. These issues disproportionately impact marginalized communities & communities of color. We need to take action today, our natural resources will be cleaned up and preserved, and residents will be able to enjoy equitably the beauties and wellness benefits that SD has to offer. This includes access to clean air & water, healthy foods, and affordable and dignified living conditions. We need to join forces and work towards a true equitable and sustainable San Diego.

Bikes del Pueblo

San Diego is a fantastic city to enjoy and improve. Nevertheless, San Diego faces environmental challenges such as climate change and unsafe roads. These issues disproportionately impact car-less communities. If we don't take action today, our natural resources will be bought up, and residents will have to pay just to breathe. We need to join forces and work towards a sustainable and equitable San Diego.

miro

Urban Collaborative Project

San Diego is a fantastic city to live, recreate, and work in. Nevertheless, San Diego faces environmental challenges such as low amounts of tree canopies, high urban heat island effect, and air pollution. These issues disproportionately impact low-income BIPOC communities. If we don't take action today, our natural resources and infrastructure will continue to decline and deteriorate, and residents will face more health and social inequities. We need to join forces and work towards a sustainable and truly equitable San Diego.

miro

activity 2

choosing the right topics for your community

Place a sticky on each topic to indicate whether your organization has already engaged communities about or those you haven't, but want to.

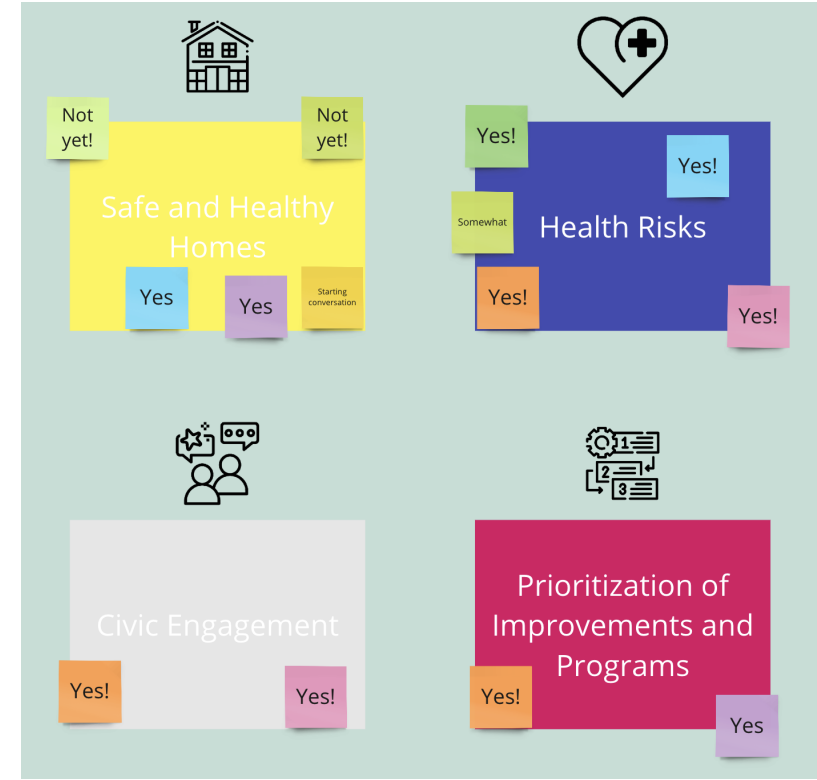
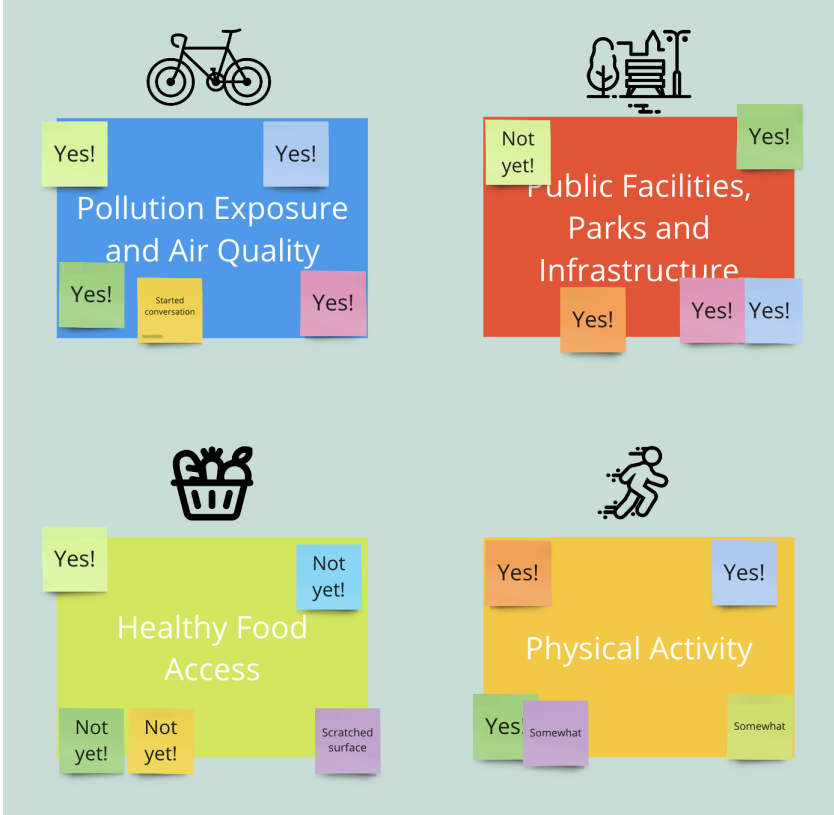
City
Heights
CDC

Casa
Familiar

Urban
Collaborative
Project

Bayside
Community
Center

Bikes
del
Pueblo



activity 3

asking the right questions

We want to ensure that the questions we bring the community:

- Gather information that will help inform the EJ element.
- Are understandable to people who aren't heavily immersed in the topics
- Relevant to the community you are working in.

Instructions:

1. **Grab and drop the sticky note color of your organization to each question that you think is appropriate to ask during your engagement activities.**
2. **Add comments on how to reword the questions or**
3. **Add more questions around each topic you feel are important.**

City
Heights
CDC

Casa
Familiar

Urban
Collaborative
Project

Bayside
Community
Center

Bikes
del
Pueblo



Pollution Exposure and Air Quality

Have you noticed differences in air quality around your community? How does this impact you?

What concerns do you have about groundwater contamination in your area, and how does it impact your access to clean and safe drinking water?

Is there a place where you see dangerous waste often? How does it affect the community?



Healthy Food Access

Do you find getting the fresh and nutritious food you want in your area easy? How does the availability of good quality food impact your meals?

Are resources available for you to grow your own food in your neighborhood?

How do you access healthy food in your neighborhood?



Safe and Healthy Homes

Do you feel that your home provides a comfortable and healthy living environment for you and your family? Are there any issues you'd like to improve?

If you rent, does your landlord provide sufficient repairs and maintenance to make your home livable, safe, and dignified?



Civic Engagement

What types of workshops, training, or educational programs do you believe would empower community members to get involved in shaping the future of the neighborhood?

How can local civic engagement efforts better reflect and respect the cultural diversity within our community? What steps could be taken to ensure everyone's perspectives are acknowledged and valued?



Public Facilities, Parks and Infrastructure

Do residents in DACs have access (vehicular, public transit, or pedestrian/bicycle) to public facilities such as health centers and wastewater systems?



Physical Activity

Are there places in your neighborhood where pedestrians or cyclists have encountered safety issues due to traffic? How does this impact your willingness to walk or bike?

What kind of public spaces/infrastructure do you want to see in your community to promote physical activity?

How does the built environment influence your physical activity choices?



Health Risks

Are there concerns in your community about living close to places that might pose health risks, such as industrial areas or waste disposal sites? How do these concerns affect you and your neighbors?

What does equity mean to you?



Prioritization of Improvements and Programs

Do you feel like your communities needs are appropriately prioritized? How would you like the city to prioritize improvements and programs?

What would be the easiest way for you to provide feedback related to your community (online, in person, social media)?

Do you agree that San Diego is America's Finest City? If not, how could it be improved?

activity 4

Grab and drop the sticky note color of your organization to each activity you would like to carry out for the Environmental Justice Element engagement process. Feel free to add more activities.

City
Heights
CDC

Casa
Familiar

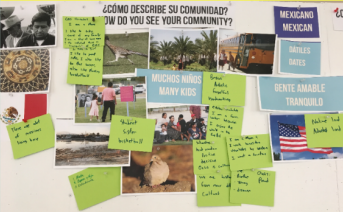
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Pueblo

UCP w/
Walk
Audit

Identity Spectrum



Board that defines community identity using pictures and pos-its.

Photographic Insight Gathering



Residents form a street team that takes pictures of their community

Gamification Workshops



Participants place clothespins on a flagging tape line for their top 3 priorities, then kick soccer balls into corresponding goals.

Open to this idea but we'd

Obelisk



Customize a peg board to add options for community members to prioritize amenities.

Popsicle Cart



Rent a popsicle cart and gave away free ice cream pops to whoever completed our survey.

Asset Mapping



Community members answer questions about their neighborhood using a map.

Walking Tours / Audits



UCP

Listening Sessions



UCP monthly community meetings

Community Cleanups



UCP

Cultural Events



Repair your Bike Workshop



Bike Rides



UCP's SED
Transportation
Expo (Partner
with City Heights
CDC Bike Ride &
Bikes Del Pueblo)

Murals



UCP

activity 5

timeline development

Post the important events your organization has planned for the coming months that you think would be good for EJ Engagement

City
Heights
CDC

Casa
Familiar

Urban
Collaborative
Project

Bayside
Community
Center

Bikes
del
Pueblo

August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Tabling at the Linda Vista Farmers Market	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Linda Vista Community Cleanup	11	12	13	14	15 Community Meeting: Linda Vista Leaders in Action	16
17	18	19	20 Community Meeting: Linda Vista Collaborative	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Vaccine Clinic at Bayside	28 Tabling at the Linda Vista Farmers Market	29	30

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Linda Vista Community Cleanup (and CA Clean Air Day)	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Community Meeting: Linda Vista Collaborative	19	20 Community Meeting: Linda Vista Leaders in Action	21 Linda Vista food distribution
22	23	24	25 Fall Festival - Cultural Event: Dr. San Ysidro	26 Tabling at the Linda Vista Farmers Market	27	28
29	30	31 Linda Vista Senior Lunch	1	2	3	4

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Día de Muertos - Cultural Event: 212 East Park, San Ysidro	2	3	4
5 Linda Vista Community Cleanup	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Community Meeting: Linda Vista Collaborative	16 Tabling at the Linda Vista Farmers Market	17 Community Meeting: Linda Vista Leaders in Action	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Linda Vista Planning Group	28	29	30	1	2

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3 Linda Vista Community Cleanup	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Community Meeting: Linda Vista Leaders in Action	16
17	18	19	20 Community Meeting: Linda Vista Collaborative	21 Tabling at the Linda Vista Farmers Market	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6