

THE COOL BLOCK VISION EXERCISE

Agenda:

- Introduction – 3 minutes
- Exercise – 12 minutes
- Partner Share – 20 minutes
- Large group Share – 10 minutes
- Total – 45 minutes

The goal of the visioning exercise is to build excitement and motivation for your neighbors to participate in this program. It establishes the “Why?” of the program, before getting into the “How?”.

This exercise now replaces the assessment exercise in the Information Meeting script. It adds an additional fifteen minutes that you can substitute for the social time at the beginning of the meeting. Tell people it is a 2-hour meeting and to please arrive fifteen minutes early for social time and refreshments.

To open up people’s imagination consider playing quiet music in the background.

- Vision Introduction – 3 minutes
 - 1) *The Cool Block* program is an operating system for a block in the age of climate change, scarce natural resources, natural disasters, social isolation, and the need to reinvent our cities to address these serious issues.
 - 2) Moreover, it’s about community building, sharing economies, and developing collaboration muscle with neighbors.
 - 3) Think of living on a socially connected, disaster resilient, and planet friendly block as twenty-first-century quality-of-life indicators.
 - 4) We are now going to do a visioning exercise to help you experience what it would be like to live on a Cool Block. The exercise will help you expand your imagination, stimulate your creativity, and invent a possible future for our block.
 - 5) Hand out paper and pens.
- Vision Exercise – 12 minutes
 - 1) In your highest vision for our block, what does the quality of life feel and look like?
 - 2) In your highest vision for our block, what do we do to conserve natural resources and reduce our impact on climate change?

- 3) In your highest vision for our block, what emergency preparedness and safety practices have been adopted?
 - 4) In your highest vision for our block, what has been done to support vulnerable neighbors such as the elderly, infirm, or disabled to survive a natural disaster?
 - 5) In your highest vision what does our block do to share tools and other resources with one another?
 - 6) In your highest vision for our block, what is the quality of the relationships between neighbors?
 - 7) In your highest vision for our block, what are we contributing to our city and what is our city contributing to our block?
 - 8) In your highest vision as a member of a Cool Block team, what are you learning?
 - 9) In your highest vision as a member of a Cool Block team, what are you doing that is allowing us to be successful?
- Divide group into pairs and have neighbors share their insights from doing the exercise—20 minutes.
 - Tell them: You will have 10 minutes each to share.
 - Let them know you will keep time and alert the group at ten minutes to reverse roles.
 - Invite them to share their reflections in the large group—10 minutes.

