

3.3 COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

RPOSD recognizes the importance of robust and inclusive community outreach and engagement that actively seeks input from the public when determining how to utilize Measure A funds. Input from community members, and especially those in High-Need or Very-High-Need Areas who have been historically underrepresented in decision-making processes, should be actively sought during community engagement. By engaging a diverse range of community members when identifying, prioritizing, programming, and designing parks and recreation projects, public agencies and their partners can encourage increased levels of community trust and help to ensure that they deliver community-driven and -supported projects.

To qualify for funding, Measure A applicants must conduct community outreach and engagement that meets the minimum requirements (outlined in Section 3.3.2) with the intent to:

- Ensure the applicant's community is included in the determination of spending priorities: and
- Report to the community how Measure A funds are being applied to projects.

The requirements outlined in this section are *minimum* requirements, and all applicants are encouraged to conduct robust outreach and engagement that goes above and beyond these requirements.

To support the practice of robust and meaningful community outreach and engagement, RPOSD will provide technical assistance and training on best practices for conducting outreach and engagement to applicants. Through the Technical Assistance Program (TAP), RPOSD will also establish partnerships with consultants and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) who can assist cities with their outreach and engagement efforts.

To help cover the cost of holding community outreach and engagement, agencies may request an advancement of funds. Approval of the request is at the discretion of RPOSD, and may be based on the amount of annual allocation funds the agency has or on the type of project identified.

See Section 2.4 for additional information about technical assistance and Section 3.4.4 for details regarding advancing of funds.