



Best Practices For Leveraging Resources & Funding

Stellar Examples –

- The combination of funding from 4 Neighborhood Council's (Central San Pedro, Coastal San Pedro, Harbor City, and Northwest San Pedro) produced \$30,000 to purchase 3 ATV's and an enclosed trailer for the LAPD's Harbor Division. This enabled police officers to get in and get out certain troubled areas quickly, smoothly, and easily!
- The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council's (NWSPNC) contribution of \$12,500 along with \$70,000 from Council District 15 enabled a future study of Peck Park Canyon to take place. The Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI) was hired to hold a study, create a map, design & conceptual plan, and interpret native plants. Most importantly, neighborhood forums recognized what people want while at the same time developing a community consensus. The organization works as a catalyst to apply for grants and funding from all available sources.

As a result of the securing of the three ATV's for the LAPD, Harbor Division, there has been a noticeable reduction in illegal dumping, off-road motorcycle riding, homeless encampments, and various other criminal activities. Although this may have been accomplished by increasing patrol, hiring more police officers, or greater vigilance, *the ATV's allowed the police department to leverage the resources they already possessed.*

The LANI Project will help the communities surrounding the huge Peck Park Canyon meet its goals. The park will be friendlier and have lesser crime. With the generous contribution from the Council office, NSPNC is not only able to hire the LANI, but will be receiving more money due to the organization's efforts. *Funding is leveraged on a two folded scale* that would not have been possible without the generous assistance of Councilwoman Janice Hahn or the collaboration with LANI.

Special thanks & acknowledgement to those interviewed:

Mark Lewis, Senior Project Coordinator for Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)

Maryann Cypher, member of the LAPD Booster Organization

John Greenwood, Vice President of NWSPNC

Mike Feyder, President of Harbor City NC (HCNC)

Doug Epperhart, President of Coastal San Pedro NC (CSPNC)

Kevin McNeely, Funding Administrator for DONE

Interpretation of interviews & creation of 'best practices' by DONE intern: Helen Leung



Best Practices for Leveraging Resources & Funding:

- ❖ **Amplify people power**
 - Through more resources, mutually beneficial partnerships, and volunteer training
- ❖ **Collaborate with others**
 - Request another organization (NC, Council office, non-profit, City department) to match your NC contribution
 - Especially those with similar concerns & interests
 - Especially those on a regional level
- ❖ **Work with local community organizations**
 - Find out what they need in order to expand their services
- ❖ **Spend money to get more money**
 - Especially for underdeveloped areas in the community
 - Hire an organization that will administer a study and apply for grants
 - Work with a professional grant writer
- ❖ **Think big**
 - Even if it is not achievable by a single NC
 - Because opportunities for collaborations are endless
- ❖ **Be aware of funding regulations**
 - City policy is to pay a vendor directly, not through a third party - have a non-profit apply for a business license! (Kevin)
 - If funding will come from more than one NC – get all the money to one place.
 - Neighborhood Council cannot pay for an overall event and have a third party issue payments to specific vendors
 - To make it easier for DONE funding staff – “have all participating Neighborhood Council’s pass a motion before payment processing begins” (Kevin)
- ❖ **Work with your project coordinator**
 - who is in an ideal position to work with the DONE funding staff, Controller’s office, and the Senior Projector Coordinator at DONE
- ❖ **Be on the same page**
 - By making sure that everyone has the basic facts of the project in the VERY BEGINNING!
- ❖ **Contact the Controller’s office**
 - for advanced payment
 - involve your project coordinator & provide a letter from your Councilmember
- ❖ **Work with your Council office**
 - They may assist with funding
 - Are also in great positions to facilitate & mediate projects

“Work with your Council Office, without our Council Office to give us the push, we would not be anywhere as far as we are!” (John Greenwood)

Remember to check in with your DONE Project Coordinator for regulation updates, new info, and other resources!