



Technology of Participation®

ToP

STREAMLINED STRATEGIC PLANNING OVERVIEW

TIME REQUIRED: APPROXIMATELY 5 - 7 HOURS

Streamlined Strategic Planning is an alternative to a full strategic planning process that is offered to organizations unable to devote more than one day to the planning process. As in the full planning process, groups will create a three to five year vision, and will work together to develop a one-year action plan. Although not as comprehensive as the two-day process, this alternative works well for agencies restricted by time and budget constraints. The process is as follows:

Prior to the strategic planning event, we meet with representatives from the leadership team to develop our “focus question”. This question identifies the key issues the group needs to address over the next three years, and serves as a guide to keep the strategic planning process on track.

The streamlined strategic planning process begins with a short exercise to allow the group to begin to think strategically and prepare them for planning. Some examples include: an environmental scan, mission statement review/update, relevant article review or data analysis. The remainder of the session consists of a series of four workshops, as follows:

1. In our first workshop the group will work individually, in small teams and as a whole group to develop a shared “practical vision” of what they would like to see in place in 3 - 5 years.
2. In the second workshop we look at the organization’s current reality. We begin by having the group envision what they might celebrate in one year if everything goes perfectly. We then become grounded through a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. Finally, the group will identify specific accomplishments, agreed upon by all, that they would like to see in place in one year.
3. In our third workshop we group the accomplishments into 2 – 3 strategic directions.
4. In our final workshop, each accomplishment will be placed on a one-year implementation calendar, with teams self-assigned to each task.