

Civic Engagement Indicator Planning Meeting 10 -20-2000

I. Goal:

To discover the level of SOAR-generated public activity as a measure of ongoing public interest in the measure and thereby focus civic engagement on SOAR issues

II. Tentative hypothesis:

that increased public activity around SOAR issues indicates growing concern over quality of life issues.

III. Macro-Indicators:

1. the number of votes cast as a percentage of the total number of votes that could have been cast by registered voters in SOAR plebiscites, both city-focused and county-focused.

Data sources: voting records.

2. The number of responses to drafts of SOAR-related EIRs.

Data source: EIRs, which tabulate the number of responses as a requirement.

(This information can serve as baseline data for future studies.)

IV. General Profile of a Community's Engagement Level in Shaping its Quality of Life:

1. the number of neighborhood watch groups

2. the number of environmental groups

3. the number of neighborhood councils

4. the number of community activist and advocacy groups

Groups categorized in three areas: social justice, economy, environment

(Again, the assumption is that the more groups there are, the more a community is engaging in shaping its quality of life.)

Data sources: list of groups requesting small grant funds from City Councils, the County list of groups participating in events such as Vision 2000 and other parallel processes

V. Ad-Hoc Community Preview Panel

to form an ad hoc community preview panel to solicit responses from the minority, poor, and disadvantaged communities to our Quality of Life Indicators.

(This is itself as form of civic engagement and outreach and may result in expanded members for the Council's Board.)