

2020 Green Communities Criteria

**Criterion 1.7 Resilient Communities: Strengthening Cultural Resilience – Option 2: Convene a Cultural Advisory Group**

**Project Name & Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

The goal of convening a cultural advisory group is to ensure broad cultural stakeholder input throughout a project’s community planning, design and development, and decision-making processes to create spaces that are unique, reflective of resident cultures, and representative of community values.

Whether the cultural advisory group has its own committee with a representative that bridges to the larger planning process or whether they are all members of the larger planning team, this group is critical to making space for perspectives and people grounded in local culture to be full contributors to the project.

While gathering stakeholders for the project, utilize this template to define and build the critical elements for a successful cultural advisory group.

*This document serves as a guide, but we welcome the information to be submitted in alternative formats, including maps, diagrams, or other creative forms of representation.*

**CULTURAL RESILIENCE ADVISORY GROUP TEMPLATE WITH GUIDANCE**

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| **PREBUILD**  ***(enter your responses here)*** | **GUIDANCE**  ***(you may delete this column when completed)*** |
| **Purpose** | **Define the cultural advisory group’s purpose:** A cultural advisory group provides grounding and focused input on how the project will reflect and amplify community cultural assets. Convening a cultural advisory group goes beyond typical community meetings, thereby fortifying your organization’s connection with residents and community members and incorporating cultural values more deeply into the development process.  ***For example:***   * *Prioritize racial, ethnic and gender diversity and continuously represent this diversity throughout project development and operations.* * *Integrate community-identified cultural assets, values, identities and expression in the project development and design.*   + *Contribute creative ways to elicit additional insight from diverse stakeholders, especially those who cannot commit to intensive engagement* |
| **Criteria for Membership** | **Define criteria for membership in the cultural advisory group:** As a cultural advisory group, members should include current and/or future residents, community members, elders, artists and culture bearers. Include members of different ages and experiences and with varied networks. Remember that many residents may have arts and cultural skills and leadership to contribute, though they may not be professionally employed as such.   ***Categories of expertise to consider include:***   * Residents and community members * Local culture bearers, Artisans, craftspeople * Local literary, visual, performing and multi-media artists * Cultural organizers, Teaching artists, Healing artists * Cultural leaders in the community, Spiritual leaders or elders * Emerging artists, Youth artists * Cultural organizations, Creative businesses * Individuals affiliated with arts and culture venues or activities * Individuals affiliated with local cultural heritage practices   ***For example:***   * *If you do not already have a cultural advisory group formed, specify how you will implement a process for local community cultural leaders to participate in the group* * *Specify the process for selection/participation in the initial group* * *Specify the process for transition of future members in or out of the group.* |
| **Roles & Responsibilities** | **Define the responsibilities, expectations and incentives for participation in the cultural advisory group:** The members of the cultural advisory group, as well as others on the project team, should have a clear understanding of the roles and expectations for participating in the advisory group.  ***For example:***   * ***Resp*o*nsibilities:*** *Develop and evaluate indicators of success for development project(s), provide community-based, cultural resilience lens on goals, strategies, and ideas for the project. Design and lead/ participate in process of selecting architects, artists, or other creative contributors as relevant. Review design at specific intervals.* * ***Expectations:*** *attend meetings (specify frequency and duration / term), contribute to defining priorities and give feedback on design. Offer leadership in areas of your expertise.* * ***Incentives/Compensation:*** *Leadership role in guiding community development. Childcare provided during all meetings. Stipend / honorarium for time.* |
| **Structure & Coordination** | **Define the structure and process for coordinating the cultural advisory group:** The cultural advisory group should take the form that best suits the context and needs of the community – if you have an ongoing group that exists outside the bounds of a specific development project, that group may be already positioned to perform the roles and responsibilities of the advisory group. If relevant, it is appropriate to organize the cultural advisory group as a subcommittee of a broader advisory group.   * **Structure:** Specify the form the cultural advisory group will take – is it a standalone group, a committee or sub-committee, or a group of cultural resilience representatives integrated into a larger advisory group? Are they a group designated for an ongoing role or finite term focused on this project? Does it have a different name?   **Process:** The cultural advisory group may convene themselves and establish their own culture of participation, or your staff or a consultant may play a role in coordinating, facilitating, and ensuring the integration of the cultural advisory group into project goals and decisions. However you choose to do this, please articulate the following:   * **Contribution:** Specify how your organization will ensure or has ensured that the group is informed and positioned to contribute to the project goals, processes, and decisions. * **Coordination:** Specify any individuals (staff, residents, advisory committee members, or others) coordinating or liaising with this group and describe their role and responsibilities with regards to supporting this group and its contribution to the project. If your advisory group would like facilitation support, consider integrating a staff member who is interested in cultural resilience and is positioned to champion the values and goals of the group. * **Consistency:** Specify how you will create or have created ongoing opportunities to meet with the advisory group and residents, hear concerns, and provide progress updates in addition to the input of the core integrative design team. |
| **Decision Making** | **In what way(s) is the cultural advisory group impacting the project?**  This may include contribution to the goals of the project, participation in charrettes, approval at certain project phases, participation or leadership in an aspect of project implementation (e.g. commissioning a work of art or leading a community-based art project), and additional ways, including those that the group may take part in defining. |
| **Timeline** | **Show the cultural advisory group’s timeline for input on this project**  The Cultural Advisory Group should be assembled at minimum for the finite period and purpose of the specific development project and may also be a standing group that contributes to multiple projects and processes. It is important to articulate here the overall purpose of the group and to specify below the group’s role in influencing the specific cultural resilience aspects of project being certified. |