

Location: City of San Francisco

Issue: Planning, Public Outreach and Engagement (POE)

Methodology: POE report

Davenport Institute Role: Consultation and Training

Beginning in early 2011, the Davenport Institute acted as granter and consultant on the creation of the Planning Department's Public Outreach and Engagement (POE) report. The Davenport Institute brought in consultant Greg Greenway to help write the report based on extensive survey/focus group work by the San Francisco Planning Department.

Through a series of consultations and conversations, the Institute, Greenway and the City of San Francisco Planning Department developed an in-depth report outlining the current state of Outreach and Engagement within the City and making recommendations for expanding public input in the future.

As outlined in the Report's Executive summary, the process involved three general phases:

1. Assessing and documenting current POE practices through surveys, interviews, and focus groups
2. Creating guidelines and tools for effective POE
3. Developing staff capacity through a training program for POE

As of 2013, the Davenport Institute co-created and facilitated the training seminar with the planning department as outlined in the 3d step of the POE process. The first training was held on July 31, 2013.