

Location: Western Riverside Council of Governments

Issue: Sub-regional Climate Action Plan

Methodology: Online Platform

Davenport Institute: 2012 Public Engagement Grant Recipient

The Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) is a sub-regional planning agency whose purpose is to unify Western Riverside County so that it can speak with a collective voice on important issues that affect its members.

One category of issues that lends itself to this regional approach are environmental issues – such as reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The Council is seeking to engage residents in developing a regional Climate Action Plan (CAP).

In order of the CAP to be successful, it must be adopted by local jurisdictions throughout the region. Given the controversy of many environmental regulations, and the potential impact of climate change on both the economy and environment of Western Riverside County, WRCOG values the importance of reaching out early to receive constructive input that will better inform the development of recommended GHG reduction measures to be implemented in Western Riverside County.

The process has both an on-line and an in-person element. Through the Davenport Institute Civic Engagement Grant, WRCOG will be able to utilize the online engagement platform, UserVoice, to involve residents who are not traditionally engaged in local or regional decisions.