5G. Getting Creative with Community Engagement

Speakers: Pete Brown, ASH Interactive; Travis Tranbarger, PROS Consulting





What to Expect:

- 1) Overview / Case Studies
- 2) Practical Solutions / Who Will Do It?
- 3) Lessons From Around The Country
- 4) Wrap Up / Q & A





ASH interactive

- Education and Non-profit Professional Experiences
- Engaging Marketing & Content Creation since 2012
- Non-profit, Small Business & Parks Enthusiasts
- Social Media, Websites, Photo/Video, Branding & Virtual
- Municipal Parks System, Parks Foundations, IPRA, etc.









Many parks and recreation departments have been increasingly using social media, and other creative forms of technology, to engage with their communities. It's a great way to share information about events, programs, and facility updates. Social media can help build a sense of community, encourage participation, and even attract new visitors.





The impact on community support can be substantial. Social media platforms provide a direct and accessible channel for departments to communicate with residents. It fosters a more interactive and dynamic relationship, allowing for feedback, suggestions, and quick dissemination of important information. This can translate to increased support and participation.







QR Code Scavenger Hunts/Tours:

 Create QR code-based scavenger hunts within the park. Participants can scan codes at different locations to receive clues, information, or even discounts for nearby businesses.

 This encourages both physical activity and technology engagement.





Social Media Challenges:

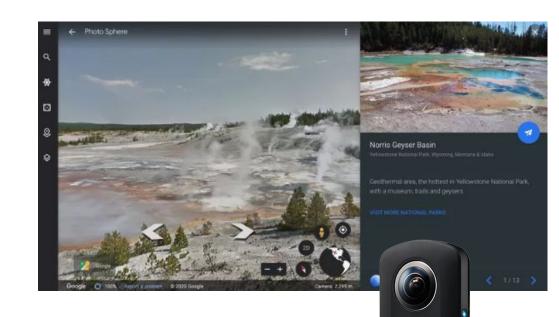
- Create and promote challenges on platforms like Instagram or TikTok that encourage community members to showcase their favorite park activities.
- Use hashtags to track and share user-generated content.





Virtual Tours:

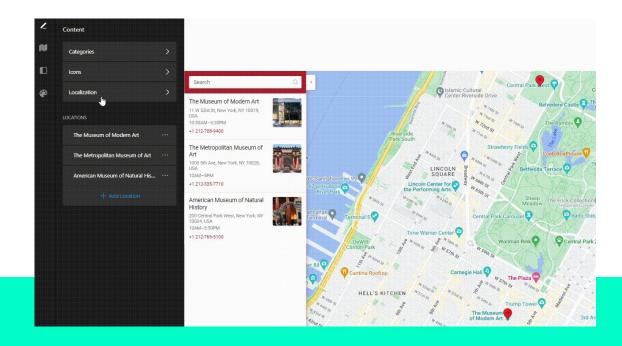
- Develop virtual tours of different park areas, facilities, or trails.
 This is particularly useful for attracting visitors and showcasing the park's features.
- Integrate interactive elements or 360-degree views for a more immersive experience.





Interactive Maps:

Create interactive maps that users can access via QR codes or mobile apps. These maps could highlight points of interest, upcoming events, and amenities within the park.





Crowdsourced Content:

 Encourage the community to contribute content, such as photos or stories, through social media or a dedicated platform. Feature this content on the park's website or in promotional materials.

Online/Livestream Workshops and Classes:

 Offer virtual workshops or classes related to outdoor activities, wellness, or environmental education. Participants can join from the comfort of their homes.

Community Surveys and Feedback:

• Use online surveys or polls on social media to gather feedback about park experiences and preferences. This information can help shape future initiatives and improvements.





Who's Gonna Do the Work?

- 1) Do you have a system/town marketing person?
- 2) Student/Intern/Local influencers?
- 3) Outsource it to a marketing/content company?
- 4) Share the love amongst staff/board of directors/etc?
- 5) Anyone on team with a passion for it already?























Leave a Comment on the **Interactive Map**





Share Priorities with the Budget Tool









Pop-Up

Events



Community Engagement Principles

- Assess staff capacity staff engaging with community should ideally reflect the community
- Create an advisory group of community leaders from different areas of the community - can increase capacity and build trust
- Build City/Town leadership support funding, implementation
- Create a clear plan goals, strategies, and metrics for evaluation
- Employ a mixture of methods including technology to collect data and communicate with public

Resource: Community Engagement Resource Guide - National Recreation and Park Association



Community Engagement Principles

- Collect the necessary data to know and involve as much of your community as possible - demographics, community needs, opinions, advocate/opposition opinion
- Engagement Goals to inform, collaborate with, or support community?
- What does success look like two years after project completion?
- How will you continue to evaluate your engagement strategies?





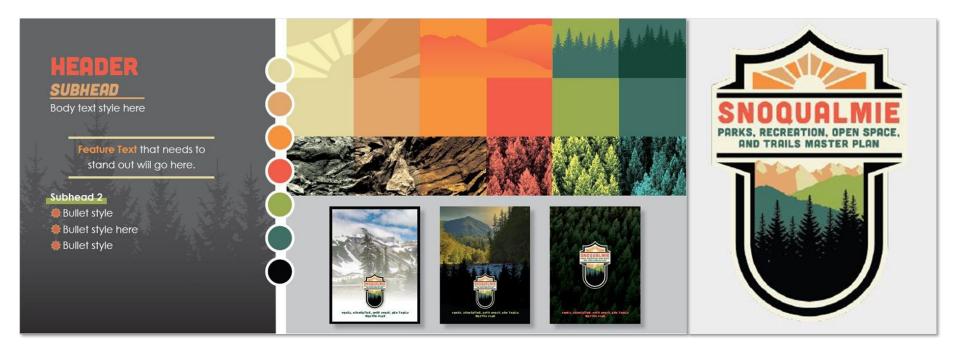






- City of Goodyear, AZ Master Plan update
- Strong project identity and brand development

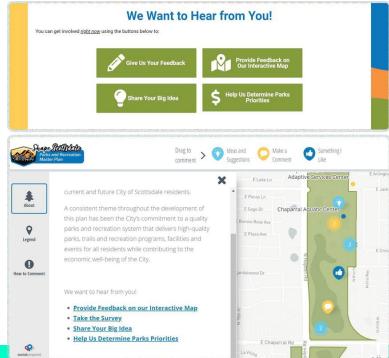




- Snoqualmie, WA Master Plan Update
- Creating consistent brand standards and scalable graphics package











Love Your Park Fall Weekend 2023 is November 10-12! Register to volunteer HERE!



- Philadelphia Parks and Recreation & Fairmount Park Conservancy
- Engaging with Friends Groups and Volunteers Toolkit to support volunteer initiatives



DIY Graphics, Video, and Social Media Management

- Adobe Express
- Canva (free account upgrade for nonprofits)
- Vengage creating infographics
- Animoto
- CapCut/iMovie
- Meta Business
- Hootsuite/etc
- Google/Bing/Apple Maps



Other cutting edge tools



Understanding who you are engaging with and where they are coming from -

- Placer.Al visitor demographics, behavior and trends
- Customer Journey Mapping and Heat Maps
- ESRI/ArcGIS
- Other ideas from the Park pros in the audience?







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