**Week 2: Understanding foundations of coalition building**

Objectives:

* Understand the foundations of coalition building
* Apply these foundations to generate a plan for understanding your neighbor’s opinion

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| Time: | Activity: |
| 00- :10 | OPENING & INTRODUCTION* Welcome & Introduction
* Restating of issues named in the last workshop
* First thing to do is to understand your neighbor’s opinion
	+ Essentially, this is the foundation of good coalition building
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|  | KEY CONCEPTS (Case study- story of issue, unveiled through key concepts below); have the beginning of James Page * CASE STUDY: Key Concepts:
	+ Key concept 1: Know the story of your city; assess efficacy of current actions
	+ Key concept 2: Start showing up to events; begin building relationships with elected officials (eventual goal: coalition has to be overwhelming, has to apply gentle pressure, well organized, imminently logical, has to be a benefit for the community, building relationships with elected officials over time)
		- If you find there is a coalition, don’t assume they are doing it right - (who are they affiliated with?)
	+ Key concept 3: Gain expertise on the issue
	+ Key concept 4: Begin pulling in everyone you know
		- Tapestry of connections
* Best practices:
	+ Look for people with resources that you need (i.e. folks with paid staff)
	+ Ask for advice (city staff told them which alderpersons would be good to work with)
	+ Show up -- relationships are everything and start anywhere (the tapestry)
	+ Brainstorm contacts! (“One person knew another one”)
	+ Working together builds relationships (doing the climate denier work brought people together, generated passion and interest)
	+ Partnership and coalitions are everything
* Best practices: UN Toolkit
	+ Partnerships -- underlying best practices
		- Equality, transparency, results oriented, responsibility, complementary
		- Helpful norms: explicit agreements, regular review, monitoring and evaluation, exit process
	+ Coalitions work on joint actions
		- As a rule, they are more formal and have a decision making process
		- Benefits: information sharing and delegation, connections to decision makers, build relationships for other issues
		- Disadvantages: drain resources -- should consider:
			* Communication barriers, credibility, undemocratic decision making, loss of autonomy, competition, expectation of shared values/ unity
	+ Tips for establishing
		- Clarity with advocacy issue -- written issue statement is helpful; develop membership criteria (pg. 100)
		- Create a steering committee
		- Establish a task force -- agendas, fund raising, leading meetings
		- Assess progress periodically
		- Develop a code of conduct
		- Clearly state what you have in common and what you don’t
		- Type of coalition depends on the issue
		- Diverse membership, but committed is necessary
		- Choose interim objective strategically
		- Coalition leaders should have ties to major organizations
		- Make fair, clear agreements and stick to them
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|  | APPLICATION* Creation of plan
	+ Questions that prompt knowledge of your city
	+ Questions that research which events are happening in your city related to the issue
	+ Questions that prompt you to understand what you know/ don’t know about the issue, and who you need to reach out to know more from
	+ Questions that prompt who is currently in your corner, and who needs to be added (with a lens of who SHOULD NOT be added)
* Next steps
	+ Workshop - come with answers, come with questions
	+ Next content- unpacking legislation
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|  | SYNTHESIS |
|  | CLOSING & NEXT STEPS |