Equity Lens for Parks & Public Spaces

This tool provides a framework for establishing a community-informed understanding of place. By developing transparent objectives and measurable outcomes, this equity lens can help parks and public spaces proactively seek to surface injustices and advance equity, diversity, and inclusion.

**Purpose**

- What is the issue or the decision to be made?
- What are the key priorities?
- What are the intended outcomes?

**People**

- Who will be impacted by this decision and how?
- What is the demographic profile of the people who will be impacted?
- Who are the stakeholders and trusted messengers in the impacted community?
- Who must be included in the decision making process and whose perspective is missing?

**Power**

- How is power distributed among those who are impacted?
- What are the barriers to creating more equitable outcomes?
- Who is accountable for negative outcomes and how are they held accountable?
- What resolutions can be made if a negative outcome occurs?
- How will the intended outcome improve quality of life for those impacted?

**Process**

- What needs to happen to achieve the goal?
- How are trauma-informed and empowering processes integrated at every level of engagement?
- How, when, and to whom will the process and outcome be communicated?

**Place**

- What are the physical assets (such as built and natural environment) and social assets (such as cultural traditions and social networks) of the community impacted?
- How are resources and investments geographically distributed to ensure environmental justice?
- What are the community values and historic traumas, and how can retraumatization be actively resisted?