

Sneak Peek:

Public Engagement Nonprofit Survey (PENS)

What We Know From Previous Studies

- The public supports charitable nonprofit public engagement: in an Independent Sector Survey, almost **9 of 10 respondents** said they support charities informing public officials about communities they serve.
- We also know that lack of capacity, in terms of **staff, time and money**, is one of the largest barriers to nonprofit public engagement.



- While **77% of nonprofits** in a Center for Effective Government survey said that government funding discouraged them from public engagement, academic research suggests the opposite is actually true.

- Academic research suggests that **collaboration** in the form of advocacy coalitions can alleviate barriers to nonprofit public engagement.



What We Want to Learn With Your Help

Your responses to the PENS Survey will help to answer these important questions:

- What funding sources and structures can support nonprofit public engagement, and what is the real role of funding sources in the level of public engagement by nonprofits?
- Do nonprofit leaders think of themselves as part of the public policy process? And if so, how do they learn about the process of public engagement?
- Are nonprofit leaders using collaboration to lessen the barriers to public engagement?
- How do nonprofit constituents and clients play a role in the organizations' public engagement?