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Dr. Patricia A. Wilson, Professor of Planning and Civic Engagement, University of Texas, Austin

Sarkissian et al.

understand how people learn – with short, interesting stories which inform clear guidelines for future practice. SpeakOut is a practical guide that ensures people’s voices are captured in a way that is respectful, creative and productive.

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This is exactly the kind of practical, illustrated, how-to information based on real projects and real experience that practitioners need. SpeakOuts are practical and influential, and in all the refinements Australia has a huge amount to offer everywhere in the world.

Nick Wates, author of The Community Planning Handbook and site editor of communityplanning.net

The Step-by-Step Guide to SpeakOuts and Community Workshops

By Wendy Sarkissian and Wiwik Bunjamin-Mau with Andrea Cook, Kelvin Walsh, and Steph Vajda

Finding specific advice on inclusive processes for engaging a community in a planning or design process can be a daunting undertaking. The latest offering in the Tools for Community Planning Series is the product of two decades of successful practice by internationally acclaimed community planning specialists. It is designed to support veterans and people with little or no experience to conduct a wide variety of community engagement events with absolute confidence.

The book introduces the SpeakOut, an innovative, interactive drop-in engagement process. It provides hands-on, systematic guidance and detailed checklists for managing community engagement processes, as well as targeted advice on facilitation, recording and training. Five international case studies are included. This unique, illustrated manual is a ‘must-have’ tool for community, city and regional planners, activists, community organizations, students in planning and the other land professions and workshop facilitators and trainers everywhere.

This sourcebook of designing for meaningful community participation offers many lessons as a research tool for people in the design fields – as well as being a means of building community and invigorating civic engagement in itself.

Janis Birkeland, School of Architecture and Planning, University of Auckland, New Zealand

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