THE CYCLE OF PUBLIC INNOVATION

1. Intentionality: Develop a mindset and ongoing practice of making decisions grounded in 3 foundational concepts:

1A. Turning Outward: Make the community the main point of reference for your work.

1B. Aspirations: Start with people’s shared aspirations rather than “problems” or “visions.”

1C. The 3A’s of Public Life: Authority, Accountability, Authenticity: Build these touchstones into your daily work.

2. Gather Public Knowledge: Talk to your community members about what they want their community to be; what challenges they face in realizing these aspirations; and what changes are needed to overcome them.

3. Hold Innovation Spaces: Gather your team to share what you are learning and identify implications for your work going forward.

4. Share Public Knowledge: Strategically share this knowledge with conversation participants, partners, and library and community leaders.

5. Develop Your Initial Community Engagement Plan: Drawing on public knowledge you have gathered, decide what actions you will take on your own and with others. Factor in Community Rhythms.

6. Take Action! Act on issues and community conditions.

7. Repeat! With each cycle you will enhance these competencies.