

Navigating Change Workshop Series

Seven workshop topics drawn from the Navigating Change framework, a system for building stronger communities from the inside out. Each topic runs as a 90 minute virtual workshop with interactive exercises, tailored to emerging design professionals learning to move community projects from vision to implementation. Topics work as single sessions or as a series aligned to your certificate milestones.

Prepared by Christa Stoneham, Connecting Dots and Strategies | July 2026

01 Mission and Vision

How a community project defines what it stands for before it builds anything. Volunteers learn to write mission language communities recognize as their own and test whether a project's vision survives contact with real constraints.

02 Research and Historical Context

Reading a neighborhood's history before designing within it. Land records, past plans, displacement patterns, and the stories data alone will not tell. Volunteers learn why authentic engagement starts with homework.

03 Stakeholder Mapping

Who holds power, who holds trust, and why they are rarely the same people. Volunteers build a working stakeholder map for a live project and learn to sequence conversations so support compounds.

04 Advocacy and Activation

Turning community priorities into campaigns decision makers cannot ignore. Public comment, coalition building, and the difference between showing up loud and showing up prepared.

05 Real Estate and Development Pathways

How land moves from vacant lot to community asset. Site control, entitlements, the capital stack, and where emerging architects fit in the deal. Drawn from the volume closest to my daily work leading one of the largest land banks in the country.

06 Fundraising and Capital Strategy

Where the money lives and how to go get it. Grants, contracts, philanthropy, and earned revenue, and how to match the right capital to the right project stage. Built from experience raising more than **\$50 million** across my career.

07 Succession Planning and Legacy Leadership

Building knowledge so it outlasts any single volunteer. Documentation habits, leadership pipelines, and how a young organization keeps its memory as people cycle through.

FORMAT

90 minutes, virtual, live and interactive.

Each session includes worksheets from the framework participants keep. Content can be tailored to a live A+A project so the learning lands on real work.

ABOUT THE FACILITATOR

I am an architect by training and a community developer by calling. Across two decades I have stewarded more than \$150 million in land assets, raised more than \$50 million for community work, and testified before the U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce on brownfield redevelopment. These workshops teach the system I use to move community projects from vision to funded reality.

Choose the one or two topics your volunteers need this year.

I will come back with proposed dates and session details.

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