



## **CIVIC ACTION PROJECT**

### **Sample Thinking It Through**

#### **Problem**

The problem we have chosen to work on is the lack of recreational facilities in the City of Aurora.

#### **Goal**

Our goal is to have more recreational space available to the residents of Aurora Colorado. In order to meet this goal, funds would have to be raised. We would like to see a ballot initiative in the election year 2010. On the November ballots in 2010, we would like for the residents in Aurora to be able to vote for either increasing sales tax or homeowners' taxes so that the necessary funds can be raised. The funds will be used to both build new facilities and maintain older facilities. Ultimately, the goal is to have recreational facilities in Aurora that can compete with the facilities that exist in surrounding areas.

#### **Questions**

- What recreational facilities are offered in surrounding areas? How do the facilities in Aurora compare to the surrounding areas (including Centennial, Littleton, Denver and Parker.)
- What is the approximate cost of building new facilities? What is the approximate cost of maintaining current facilities?
- What do the residents of Aurora want /need when it comes to recreation?
- What are the residents of Aurora willing to pay for when it comes to recreation?
- What are the possible benefits to the community if recreational facilities are added?
- How do we get an initiative on the ballot? How does the process work?

#### **Possible Resources**

- Aurora Residents Recreation Task Force (AARTF)
- City Councilmen
- City of Aurora Recreation and Parks Committee
- City Council Meetings
- City Councils of Surrounding Areas
- Mayor of Aurora (Ed Tauer)

#### **Next Civic Actions (with timeline)**

- Call AARTF for the survey results (by Oct 2nd)
- Call AARTF for a list of their upcoming meetings (by Sep 25<sup>th</sup>)
- Call AARTF for a copy of the power point they showed at last meeting (by Sep 25<sup>th</sup>)
- Get on AARTF's website (by Sep 25<sup>th</sup>)
- Get others to take the AARTF survey (ongoing, until deadline)
- Get a list of upcoming City Council meetings (by Sep 25<sup>th</sup>)
- Get a list of upcoming Recreation and Parks Committee meetings (by Sep 25<sup>th</sup>)
- Call and possibly schedule a meeting with my Ward Representative (by Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Research process of getting an issue on an upcoming ballot (by Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>)