

Passion, creative possibilities and aspirations for meaningful outcomes can be hugely motivating for municipal and artist partners. However it's hard work to get there, and often stretches partners' human, financial, and time resources. Use these questions to help gauge if you and your potential partner are ready to work together. Ask these early on in the process.

## Questions for Municipalities

1. What core strengths, knowledge, sensibilities, and resources can we (as people and professionals) bring to the partnership?
2. What are the gaps? What more do we need to learn to help us imagine and define opportunities to work with artists in our community and/or agency?
3. To what degree are we able to allow aspects of the creative work to evolve through collaboration with the artist?
4. How open are we to new ways of working that may disrupt our usual practices? What is our risk threshold? Where can we bend and what are our risk limits? Can we be critically reflective of our work in order to pave the way for new ways of working?
5. Is the timing right to embark on this? What internal and external factors might propel or impede this work?
6. Do we have buy-in? Who are the champions in the city and in relevant departments? Who are the skeptics? Where are the barriers in the system that will require preliminary work to ensure buy-in and assistance?
7. Can and will we commit time and resources to pay artists fair compensation and provide space, access to staff, and other resources as needed?
8. How will we think about incorporating this work within staff roles and responsibilities, and compensation requirements?

## Questions for Artists

1. What core strengths, knowledge, sensibilities, and resources can I bring to the partnership?
2. What are the gaps? What more do I need to learn that will help me imagine and define opportunities to work with the agency and to effectively engage community?
3. How will I handle working in the context of bureaucratic systems, timelines, and procedures? How will my practice need to bend to work within these parameters?
4. To what degree am I able to allow aspects of the creative work to evolve through collaboration with municipal partners and/or community members?
5. Am I the right artist for this context? What is my connection to the cultural context, issue, community, population and/or how will I assure credibility, authenticity, and integrity in the way that I work?