Step 1: Organizing for Participation
Is public input possible?

- Remember the promise to the public!
- Public relations vs. public participation
Is your organization committed and able to involve the public?

- Are decision-makers committed?
- Are adequate resources available?
- Are there conflicting or hidden agendas?
- What will a “successful” decision look like?
Where is public input desired and possible?

• What are the specific *issues and questions* where public input is desired?

• In what steps of the *process* can the public have input? ---do before the la publicacion del plan

• Communicate, *communicate, communicate*!
Do you and your organization have the necessary skills?

- Transparency
- Openness
- Humility
- Respect
- Honesty
- Reliability
- Flexibility
- Resiliency
- Project Management
- Stakeholder Communications
- **Conflict management/Facilitation**

If these skills are not available in your organization, can you build capacity or bring in outside help?
Where to Look on the Guide

• Public Participation Process Planning: Step 1- Organize for Participation