

The Introduction meeting allows the Delegates to begin a high level discussion of the chosen topic and also provides an opportunity for them to request any data points that could help set the context for their discussion and, eventually, recommendations. This data is gathered and presented at the Data Presentation meeting, traditionally by Town staff. The Delegates are presented with guiding questions during the Panel Discussion meeting, based on the discussion over the past meetings, and are tasked with creating tangible recommendations to present to the Town Council. All three of these meetings are facilitated by a trained Facilitator and the Introduction and Panel Discussion meetings are recorded by a trained Recorder. Both of these positions are vital to keeping the group on task as well as culminating the discussion to a consensus statement.

The Forum Delegates are made up of members from all across the community. Some of the Commissioners decided to continue as Delegates, but most of the Delegates come from additional sources. There are appointees from the Town Council, community partners (Marana Unified School District, Marana Health Center, Northwest Fire District, Marana Chamber of Commerce, CalPortland), and an at-large application process. These diverse Delegates create a vibrant and energetic conversation and generate smart and thoughtful recommendations. The only costs associated with the Marana Citizens' Forum are minimal staff time and the trained Facilitator. The savings are primarily Town-wide staff time since this program creates a streamlined and direct approach to multi-disciplinary problems.