CROWDSPACE JOIN VOICES WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

PROBLEM
How can we design a way to allow people to break out of their isolation by increasing opportunities for civic engagement in public spaces? Existing systems either overlook the importance of physical place or have insufficient popular reach.

SOLUTION
What is Crowdspace?
Crowdspace is an online community connecting people with issues affecting their local community. The technology allows issues with the most votes and comments to bubble to the top to prioritize the most relevant issues.

Features and Functionality
Issues with the most votes are features at Westlake Park on an interactive public display. The display is designed in a way to offer different experiences depending on how close viewers are to the display:

1. Important issue questions from vehicle distance.
2. More questions & poll results from pedestrian distance.
3. Detailed responses & touch interaction from arm's reach distance.

EVALUATION
Heuristic evaluation of similar technologies [Neighborland and Mindmixer] revealed key success features for use in the Crowdspace website. Peer reviews of concept showed interest in connecting multiple national communities through a network of public displays.

HOW IT WORKS
- Local Organizations post questions
- Residents prioritize questions and cast their answers as votes
- Realtime results are put on public display at Westlake Park

RESEARCH FINDINGS
Westlake Park is a popular site for public events, protests & rallies:

2014 FEB
Working Washington $15/hr minimum wage rally.

2009 MAY
Prop 8 Day of Decision rally.

Reasons people participate in issue-based events to:
1. Show solidarity nationally
2. Engage residents
3. Raise awareness
4. Physically experience events

Primary Personas:
Local Residents, Event Organizers