

ROTARY VISION FACILITATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

By Rotary Clubs

Why is the session being conducted?

Your Club decided to schedule the session because of its dedication to and desire to launch an effort to reinforce the planning principles promoted in the new **Club Leadership Plan (CLP)**. This plan was announced at the 2005 Rotary International Convention.

The first CLP recommendation is that each local Club develops a long-range plan to ensure continuity and consistency among leadership and programming and set the stage for future progress.

Who should participate from my Rotary Club?

The session is intended for all interested Rotarians in your club—from your newest members to your most tenured. The breadth and depth of the facilitation exercise is ensured when Club leaders and its opinion-makers participate.

Participants will often represent current or past roles as president, director, and committee chair.

Moreover, attendance is expected among present board members, the current president, president-elect, president-elect nominee, immediate past-president, and two other past-presidents. Their collective involvement is essential.

Is there someone in my Rotary Club who will provide me more information?

Your club will have a “Coordinator” who will provide all the information and direction you will need before the session.

Where will it take place?

Your local coordinator will select a site that is comfortable, spacious, and convenient.

Your coordinator will also take care of the meeting room environment. Our facilitation coordinator will communicate these requirements to your Club’s coordinator.

Who will conduct the session?

Fellow Rotarians who are interested in seeing individual Clubs grow will facilitate the program. They are experienced volunteers representing Rotary roles from PDG through PEN. Several members of the Vision TEAM have been in Rotary over 25 years. They are experienced facilitators and knowledgeable about Rotary at local, district, and international levels.

What should I expect from the session?

The session will start at 5:00 PM with a light supper provided by your Rotary Club. You should expect the session to last 3 ½ to 4 hours.

The location will be specified by your Club’s facilitation “coordinator”.

The program opens with a brief presentation that describes strategic planning for Rotary at multiple levels—International, district, and local.

The facilitators will then...

- Direct you in a writing exercise where you can describe your Club “not as it is, but as is it has become” five years out. You and your fellow Rotarians will “see” and envision your future Club in terms of membership, club attributes, special projects, fundraising, and the like.
- Convert into “stretch” descriptions what all participating members have written as the desired Club future, writing those descriptions on flip charts.
- Organize those descriptions into a set of categories helpful in prioritizing your Club’s planning focus and post them around the meeting room.
- Lead you through a structured prioritization method enabling Club members to develop consensus around and commit to take action on the most important areas to achieve the desired Club future.

The facilitation concludes when specific assignments of responsibility for next steps are identified and, including a preliminary determination of what needs to be done, by whom, and by when.

What is expected of me?

The facilitation team anticipates you will come with an open mind, stay the entire session and be fully engaged in a productive, creative session to define the future of your Club. That includes our hope you will share your views, hopes, and expectations with thoughtful candor.

To accomplish this cell phones and Blackberry devices should be set to “silent” or vibrate mode. Calls can be returned during the short breaks scheduled during the evening.

How will we know the Vision facilitation was successful?

There are at least three measures of success.

An immediate measure of progress will be the members’ pledge and willingness to move the planning processes from a nice-to-do concept to meaningful growth programs for the Club, its members, and its community.

The second is that the output from this session is woven into the annual plans of the incoming and succeeding Presidents. It will be reflected in the continuity and consistency of programming and leadership in your Club.

Finally, the long-term mark of accomplishment will be at the end of five years when your Club advances from *where it is* to *where it wants to be*.