Health Impact Assessments and Other Planning and Design Tools

Chris Danley, Principal Vitruvian Planning

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Bridging Health and Mobility
Topics

• Health Impact Assessment Process
• Activity Connection Plan
• Health and Prioritization
• Simple Solutions
Health Impact Assessments
Ask yourself:

1. What are the health impacts of these projects?
2. What would you suggest as changes?
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Health Impact Assessment: What is it

“a combination of procedures, methods, and tools by which policy or project may be judged as to its potential effects on the health of the population, and the distribution of those effects within the population.”

-Essentially, an extension of the EIS process
Types of HIA

**Rapid:** Brief investigation, exchange existing knowledge, carried out quickly

**Intermediate:** Detailed investigation. Reviews from community/environmental assessments

**Comprehensive:** Intense investigation, review evidence and analysis, community based collaboration
Health Impact Assessment- How it’s conducted

Steps include:

**Screening** - determine whether an HIA should be conducted

**Scoping** - determine all boundaries, issues to be analyzed, and methods and data used

**Assessment** - identify the positive and negative health impacts of the proposal

**Reporting** - coherent, usable synthesis of findings from the analysis

**Monitoring** - tracking decisions and implementation effects
Example of Data Sources

- Census
- Department Of Education
- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System
- Select Metro/Micro Area Risk Trends (SMART)
- National Household Transportation Survey
- State Department of Health Services
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HIA- Example of Findings

Qualitative- Building a sidewalk will increase walking in the area and improve community health

Quantitative- Building a 5 foot wide, ½ mile sidewalk within 500 houses, will result in 300 pedestrian trips per day, 20 minutes of activity and 500 average calories burned.

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Health Impact Assessment - Value it May Provide

Better evidence
- Show who and where impacts felt most
- Can strengthen or diminish support for final project
- Help communities decide on limited resources

Engagement across disciplines
- Transportation, land use, health, youth, housing, etc.

“Spillover” effect
- What else did the HIA uncover? Mitigation steps
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Map Courtesy of A. Dannenberg, A. Wendel, CDC NCEH
HIA Mitigation Example

Highway 99 Sub Area Recommendations:
- Mitigate impacts of air pollution
- Improve access to parks
- Provide maximum bicycle safety features and bicycling incentives
- Improve walkability by developing a complete street network

But How??? HIA offshoot....Activity Connection Plan
Activity Connection Plan
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Activity Connection Plan- Concepts:
I. ID public activity and recreation sites
II. ID generator locations for users
III. ID likely connections to and from
IV. Determine stakeholders and evaluate planning documents
V. Assess connections and sites then conduct needs evaluation
VI. Develop CIP, roles and responsibilities, and cost estimates
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- Crosswalks
- Pedestrian signals
- Site sharing
- Bike lanes
- Major bicycle and pedestrian linkages
- Organized runs
- Public art
- Running track lights

Clean Air Zone

Do Not Block
Identify Connections
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Health and Prioritization

Develop community health profile (General)
Gather census track data (Socio-economic)
Combine with activity sites (Hospitals, schools, parks, grocery)
Generate geographic overlay of all data
Identify hot spots of poor health and needed infrastructure investment
Simple Solutions

- Repaving
- Restriping
- Temporary signage
- Flagging
- Minor Construction
Simple: with a little construction, paint, signage

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Mid-block Crossing, Bulb out

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Flagging, signage, texture...

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Paint and repaving...

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Don’t forget maintenance...

and promotion...

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What Health Considerations Strive For...

- Maximize use of public facilities
- Promote healthy living
- Low income opportunities
- Safety improvements
- Early to Elderly concept
Improvements with Healthy Planning

• Activity ↑
• Health indicators ↑
• Home value ↑
• Motorist safety ↑
• ↑ quality of life
• ↑ air quality
• ↑ return of public facility investment
Contact Information
Chris Danley
cdanley@vitruvianplanning.com
208-570-3561