Dear Healthy Community Design News Subscribers,

Healthy Community Design News wants to highlight your Healthy Community Design project success story! Your story should be no longer than 150 words and your project should have taken place within the past year. We would also like to know if information in the Healthy Community Design News helped with or inspired your project in any way. Please include a link to your work, if available. Send your stories to me at CGreen1@cdc.gov. Here’s an example:

“Recognizing the relationship between the built environment, transportation, and health, the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization adopted a set of guiding principles, goals, and objectives to help the region pursue quality growth as a central part of its 25-year regional transportation plan. Emphasizing mass transit, active transportation (e.g., biking, walking), and preservation and enhancement of roadways, the plan incorporates health considerations into infrastructure project selection. Sixty percent of the selection criteria are related to health, safety, congestion reduction, and active transportation, which has resulted in the inclusion of sidewalks, bicycle lanes, or shared-use lanes in 70 percent of funded roadway projects (up from 2 percent). The plan also reserves a minimum of 25 percent of Federal Surface Transportation Project dollars for active transportation.”
http://www.nashvillempo.org/plans_programs/rtp/

Speaking of success stories, an online Health Impact Assessment self-directed study course is the most popular course among approximately 200 courses managed by Captus, an Internet learning host. CDC sponsors the course—Planning for Healthy Places with Health Impact Assessments—free of charge until mid-September. It is available at http://professional.captus.com/Planning/hia/default.aspx. Adobe Flash Player is required to access the course.

If you missed the June 28 Webinar Creating Healthy Communities Through Design hosted by the NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene and AIANY, you are in luck: The Webinar and presentations are available at http://www.nyc.gov/html/ddc/html/design/activedesign_webinar.shtml.
Until next time - keep up the great work!

--Charles Green, CGreen1@cdc.gov, www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces

*If you sleep til noon, you have no right to complain that the day is short.*  ---Thomas Fuller

**Conferences, September/October 2011**

September 7, 2011, Place Matters National Conference
Washington, DC

September 13-16, 2011, 23rd International Society for Environmental Epidemiology Conference
Barcelona, Spain
(Sessions include the built environment, active transport and health, and health impact assessment)

September 20-22, 2011, Healthcare Facilities Symposium and Expo
Chicago, IL
(Sessions include brownfield redevelopment, the function nature plays in generative spaces and treatment zones, and creating places to flourish with environmental psychology)

September 28-30, 2011, 1st International Conference on Age-friendly Cities
Dublin, Ireland

October 3-5, 2011, Walk 21: The International Conference on Walking and Sustainability
Vancouver, BC
October 16-19, 2011, Rail-Volution 2011
Washington, DC
http://www.railvolution.com

October 17-18, 2011, 2011 HIA of the Americas Workshop (registration deadline August 8, 2011)
Oakland, CA

October 29-November 2, 2011, American Planning Association 139th Annual Meeting & Exposition
Washington, DC
http://www.apha.org/meetings/AnnualMeeting

October 30-November 2, 2011, American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Meeting & Expo
San Diego, CA
http://www.asla.org/2011meeting/

**Funding, Scholarship, and Award Opportunities**

CDC: Promoting Health Policy and Disease Prevention (deadline August 1, 2011)
http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=3KQTTPvQWBvJFp8FGr1416lv8L7dMX2NwjtSVhF89znSLJ2KBj1-1724479261?oppId=99795&mode=VIEW

The purpose of the program is to create, evaluate, test, and otherwise inform health policy development that will aid CDC in creating and advancing health policies that positively affect health at the population level. The objectives of this cooperative agreement support and align with Healthy People 2020. The cooperative agreement is expected to serve multiple program areas as well as support cross-cutting initiatives, such as policies that encourage healthier food choices in communities, or incorporate avenues for physical activity into plans for local residential or commercial development.
Manager of Healthy Communities, Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida
(applications must be received by July 29, 2011)
http://www.hpcnef.org/about/careers-internships/

This newly created leadership position is responsible for the direction and development of the Health Planning Council’s Healthy Community Initiatives. The manager will work across cross-sector organizations such as the public health systems, hospitals, city and county governments, FQHC, philanthropic organizations, and nongovernment organizations to develop, manage, and facilitate community-based participatory research initiatives; MAPP health needs assessments, strategic prevention framework assessments, community convening events. The incumbent will also manage the Northeast Florida Counts health-related quality of life indicator Web site. The manager will facilitate or lead special projects relating to the development and implementation of public health or healthcare prevention initiatives. The manager will also be responsible for designing methodology for surveys and focus groups and generate reports from qualitative or quantitative data.

Minimum education and experience: Bachelors degree in health planning, health science, health promotion, public health, or healthcare marketing. Have at least 5 years of combined experience in community health, health promotion, health marketing. Preference will be given to candidates who can demonstrate effective experience conducting community needs assessments.

Senior Research Associate, Planning and Community Health Research Center, American Planning Association, Washington, DC (no deadline)

APA seeks a planner to join its staff in Washington, DC to manage its Planning and Community Health Research Center (http://www.planning.org/nationalcenters/health/index.htm) and to be actively engaged in research, policy, and partnership activities. The position requires education and experience in urban and regional planning plus extensive knowledge about the community health benefits of sound planning.

Candidates must have a Masters degree or doctorate in planning or a closely related field, plus at least 3 to 5 years of experience in planning. Degrees in both planning and public health are desirable. AICP designation is preferred, or without AICP, a commitment to attain certification within 24 months of the hire date. Salary is commensurate with experience. For more detailed information about the position, including important instructions on how to apply, send an e-mail to research@planning.org with the following EXACT words in the subject line: SRADCJob Description.
**Call for Papers, Proposals, Speakers and Abstracts**

Transportation Research Board 91st Annual Meeting Call for Papers (Deadline August 1, 2011)


The aim of this call for papers is to expand and improve current understanding and evaluation of the health impacts of federal, state, regional, and local transportation policies, procedures and actions. Papers may encompass wide-ranging impacts and issues related to health; these include:

- sustainable and active transportation modes (e.g., walking, biking, transit);
- health data analysis and data needs;
- mobility;
- accessibility;
- safety;
- freight and aviation impacts;
- transportation-related air pollution and noise impacts;
- health impact assessments (HIAs) and other health metrics.

Active Living Research 2013 Active Living Conference Call for Abstracts (deadline August 19, 2011)


The theme of the March 2012 conference to be held in San Diego, CA, is Disparities in Environments and Policies that Support Active Living. The theme recognizes the importance of engaging experts from multiple disciplines to address the inequities seen in many communities throughout the nation where childhood obesity and inactivity are the highest. Abstracts related to the conference theme and abstracts on research that generally informs strategies for increasing physical activity among children—especially those at greatest risk for obesity—are strongly encouraged.

**News**


“In addition to prescribing the usual cold medications and antibiotics, Dr. Charles Owyang, a pediatrician at Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara, gives his young patients “nature prescriptions” — a recommendation to spend more time outdoors. He even has a special prescription pad that reads, ‘Go Outside and: Play!’”

The Geography of How We Get to Work (The Atlantic, July 13, 2011)

“America overwhelmingly remains a nation of drivers. Across the board, nearly nine in 10 (86 percent) of Americans commute to work by car and more than three-quarters (76.1 percent) drive to work alone, according to the most recent estimates from the American Community Survey. Only five percent use public transit to get to work. But does where we live make a difference in how we commute?”

“Envision” Sustainability Rating System Needs Your Input (SmartBrief, July 11, 2011)

The Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) seeks feedback from persons with civil engineer expertise on the version 1.0 draft of its Envision rating system. Envision evaluates the sustainability of civil infrastructure projects vital to communities, to economic competitiveness, and to protecting the environment. The system will evaluate and score existing infrastructure and serve as a target for new and renovating projects to achieve.

To read the draft and provide comments, visit ISI's Web site, http://sustainableinfrastructure.org. All comments and suggestions are confidential and will be considered. Comments will be accepted over the next 6 months. Envision is slated for an official rollout in early 2012. ISI is an independent nonprofit created by the American Society of Civil Engineers, American Public Works Association, and American Council of Engineering.

EPA Administrator Announces $76 Million to Clean Up Contaminated Sites and Revitalize Communities/EPA Brownfields (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency press release, June 6, 2011)
http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/1e5ab1124055f3b28525781f0042ed40/498775232d23689b852578a700506001!OpenDocument

EPA awarded more than $76 million for cleanups in 40 states to help redevelop contaminated properties, boost local economies, and help create jobs while protecting public health.
Transportation Secretary LaHood Announces up to $175 Million in ‘Livability’ Grants to Increase and Improve Transportation Options (U.S. Department of Transportation press release, June 16, 2011)


Local transit agencies will be able to compete for livability dollars from the pool of up to $175 million to help urban, suburban, and rural communities develop transit options to better connect people to where they live, work, and play. The competitive grant program began accepting applications when announced in the Federal Register during the week of June 20.

Journal Articles and Reports


http://www.hindawi.com/journals/jar/2011/138931/

“This paper attempts to define mobility-related elements that contribute to optimal health and quality of life, within the context of successful aging. It then examines the impacts of community design on individual mobility, delving into which traditional and nontraditional actors—including architects, urban planners, transportation engineers, occupational therapists, and housing authorities—play critical roles in ensuring that community environments serve as facilitators (rather than barriers) to mobility.”


Partnership for Prevention collaborated with Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC) at UC Berkeley, Booz Allen Hamilton, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to produce this report examining the effects of transportation policies on public health in three key areas—environment and environmental public health, community design and active transportation, and motor vehicle-related injuries and fatalities.

Krizek K, Stonebraker E, Tribbey S. Bicycling access and egress to transit: informing the possibilities. San Jose, CA: Mineta Transportation Institute; 2011.
“To aid in developing a framework to evaluate the cost effectiveness of different strategies to integrate transit and bicycling this project: (1) reviews the state of the knowledge, (2) proposes an analysis framework for communities and transit agencies to consider in efforts to maximize the integration of bicycling and transit, (3) conducts focus groups with cyclists from five case study communities to gauge preferences for bicycle and transit integration strategies, and (4) develops a preliminary application to evaluate four bicycle and transit integration strategies based on focus group discussions and use of the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP).”


“Overall we find that bicycling infrastructure creates the most jobs for a given level of spending: For each $1 million, the cycling projects in this study create a total of 11.4 jobs within the state where the project is located. Pedestrian-only projects create an average of about 10 jobs per $1 million and multi-use trails create nearly as many, at 9.6 jobs per $1 million. Infrastructure that combines road construction with pedestrian and bicycle facilities creates slightly fewer jobs for the same amount of spending, and road-only projects create the least, with a total of 7.8 jobs per $1 million.”

Training Opportunities

Health & the Built Environment: Conducting Health Impact Assessments: August 8-12, 2011, Seattle, WA. Summer Institute for Public Health Practice

This interdisciplinary course examines how the design of communities can have positive and adverse impacts on human health and provides tools to examine these impacts, specifically health impact assessment (HIA). In this course, students will review the links between health and the built environment, learn the steps to conduct an HIA, review HIA case studies, discuss how HIA findings may impact decision making, and participate in class exercises to gain practical experience in conducting HIAs. This course is appropriate for students interested in the links between public health and community design and will
include readings, discussions, and in-class exercises. Cost: $1,500. Registration closes on August 1, 2011.

**New and Notable Resources**

**Optimizing Bike Sharing in European Cities: A Handbook (OBIS Project, June 2011)**

[http://www.obisproject.com/palio/html.wmedia?_Instance=obis&_Connector=data&_ID=739&_CheckSum=521968685](http://www.obisproject.com/palio/html.wmedia?_Instance=obis&_Connector=data&_ID=739&_CheckSum=521968685)

“Three years research on more than 50 bike sharing schemes in ten European countries, visualised in 27 tables and 73 figures, results and recommendations....the OBIS (Optimising Bike Sharing in European Cities) handbook....is intended to serve local, regional and central governments involved in traffic issues, bike sharing providers and other companies and organisations related to bike sharing (such as providers of street furniture, outdoor advertisers, municipal parking operators), public transport operators, urban planners and cycling organisations.”

**Cool Planning: A Handbook on Local Strategies to Slow Climate Change (Oregon Transportation and Growth Management Program, September 2010)**


The purpose of the handbook is “to help local governments and communities ....understand how specific community development, land-use, and transportation planning techniques can enable us to reduce our carbon footprints. The desired outcomes of such planning often are described as “smart growth” or “sustainable development.” The handbook is aimed at local elected officials, planning commissioners, planners, community organizations, and developers. It describes planning tools currently available as well as new climate action plans that can advance local efforts to reduce transportation-related GHG emissions.”

**i-Tree: Tools for Assessing and Managing Community Forests (USDA Forest Service)**


“i-Tree is a state-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software suite from the USDA Forest Service that provides urban forestry analysis and benefits assessment tools. The i-Tree Tools help communities of all sizes to strengthen their urban forest management and advocacy efforts by quantifying the structure of community trees and the environmental services that trees provide.”
Comprehensive Planning for Public Health: Results of the Planning and Community Health Research Center Survey (American Planning Association, March 2011)


In summer 2010, the American Planning Association conducted a national Web-based survey to identify draft and adopted comprehensive and sustainability plans that explicitly address public health. The survey report provides an overview of the public health topics addressed, public health data and data collection tools used, and the successes and challenges faced by local governments in the inclusion of public health into the plan. In addition, the report includes a list of the 240 identified comprehensive plans and 27 sustainability plans that explicitly address public health. Funding for this project was provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Pathways for Play Web site

http://pathwaysforplay.org/

PlayCore and the Natural Learning Initiative (NLI) have partnered to develop Pathways for Play, a comprehensive program that provides solutions for creating attractive, playful pathways for children, youth, and families. Program elements available on the Web site are a Pathways for Play guidebook, online resources, educational activities, and unique mobile applications to enhance the experience of pathway users.

From Here to There: A Creative Guide to Making Public Transport the Way to Go (World Resources Institute)


The guide helps transit agencies develop strong and successful strategies to achieve three important goals:

- Attract new users that currently use private transport, such as cars and motorcycles.
- Retain existing public transport users who might feel compelled to buy a private vehicle.
- Secure political and financial support from government officials.

The ability to form friendships, to make people believe in you and trust you, is one of the few absolutely fundamental qualities of success.

---John J. McGuirk
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