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A planner’s perspective on the Urban Planning - Public Health connection:

- America’s future is *urban*

- Urban Planners are tasked with *guiding growth* and *development* in America’s cities

- Cities are *dynamic* and the scope of planning issues is broad and complex and includes issues of *social equity and public health*

- Effective planning needs both generalists and specialists - and *collaborations* between (many) disciplines

- *Political* and *institutional* recognition of the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration is needed

- Cross-disciplinary *tools* are needed (e.g. HIAs)
Urban Planners think about:

- Mobility and access
- Neighborhood design
- Housing options and affordability
- Access to jobs and education
- Public spaces
- Food supply
- Air and water quality
- Green spaces / urban ecosystems
- Green buildings and green infrastructure
- Natural hazards
- Recreation and cultural/arts support
- Spatial distribution of public services
Public Health Professionals think about:

• Obesity, asthma and other diseases influenced by environmental conditions

• Social, physical and community influences on individual health

• Inequities in environmental burdens on health of population groups

• Equity and access to health care

• Disease prevention, risk reduction and public safety
Effective, interdisciplinary urban planning requires:

- Shared conceptual frameworks
- Actionable strategies
- Commonly understood tools for:
  - measuring
  - predicting
  - monitoring and evaluating strategies/choices
- Methods/protocols for continued dialogue and learning
Action Model to Achieve Healthy People 2020 Overarching Goals

Determinants of Health

Interventions
- Policies
- Programs
- Information

Outcomes
- Behavioral outcomes
- Specific risk factors, diseases, and conditions
- Injuries
- Well-being and health-related Quality of Life
- Health equity

Assessment, Monitoring, Evaluation & Dissemination

From: US HHS SECRETARY’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION OBJECTIVES FOR 2020 - 10/08

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Urban and Strategic Planning
Portland, Oregon
A new template for Portland’s planning
Attributes of the “20-minute neighborhood”:

• Walk-able/bike-able
• Most daily/weekly needs can be met there
• Central gathering place(s) / child-friendly spaces
• Variety of housing types/sizes/levels of affordability
• Community facilities present and prominent
• Reliable, frequent transit (“10-minute transit”)
• Capable of supporting district energy systems
• Presence of nature & green features
• Farmer’s market & some local food production
• Community organization / liaison to government(s)
HIAs:

Solid conceptual framework

Potentially useful tool for collaboration in city design

Little known / understood by urban planners

Two issues in applying & further developing:

- Moving deployment “upstream” in policy/project evolution (avoid the CEQA trap; employ early in the planning process)

- Find the right “altitude” of intervention (deploy at the neighborhood/community scale)
Community

Project

Reactive  Proactive

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