Health Impact Assessment Tools

- Four off the shelf tools
- Deciding which tool to use
- Other resources

Health Impact Assessment

HIA Tools

- Wide general practice, particularly in rapid assessment with much advice on this type – less planning-specific
- 4 complete "kits" for use by others
- Remaining applications are one-off
- Other resources available

- San Francisco Healthy Development Measurement Tool
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND)
- Sustainable Sites Initiative
- Design for Health HIA Suite

Design for Health

HIA Tools

- HIA tools vary widely:
  - Range of health topics
  - Varied organization
  - Varied scoring and measurement
  - Varied approach to evidence
- Tool selection informed by many factors (e.g. time, resources, purpose, type of project, expertise, timing, relationship to other issues)
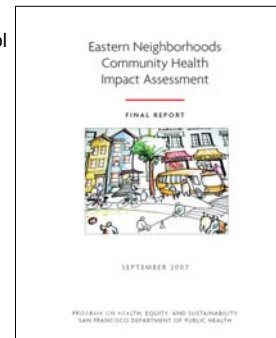

SF Healthy Development Measurement Tool

San Francisco Healthy Development Measurement Tool

- Created by SF Department of Health
- Respond to health impacts of development in eastern neighborhoods – social focus
- Launched widely in 2007
- Reviewed by agencies and technical experts
- Focus on project review
- http://www.thehdmt.org/

Eastern Neighborhoods Community Health Impact Assessment

FINAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2007

PROGRAM ON HEALTH EQUITY AND SUSTAINABILITY
SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

SF Healthy Development Measurement Tool

- 6 elements, 28 objectives, 125 benchmarks
  1. Environmental stewardship (e.g. per capita water use, buildings with green roofs, outdoor noise levels)
  2. Sustainable and safe transportation (e.g. vehicle collisions, transit frequency and access, bicycle commuting)
  3. Social cohesion (e.g. crime, perceived safety, voting rates, active neighborhood watch groups)
  4. Public infrastructure/access to goods and services (e.g. childcare costs, graduation rates, public funding for arts)
  5. Adequate and healthy housing (e.g. eviction rates, residential densities, household income
  6. Healthy economy (e.g. income inequality, works with access to sick days, locally owned businesses)

SF Healthy Development Measurement Tool

- Online tool includes maps, data, and regulations specific to San Francisco
- Citations support relationships between health and built environment, but not thresholds

Social Cohesion		Yes	No	Insufficient Info	N/A to Project	Relevant Information
SC.3.f	Benchmark #1: Did decision-makers provide written explanation of why or why not each public comment was included or not included in the final policy, project or plan?					
	AND Benchmark #2: If the project is commercial greater than 50,000 square feet or residential greater than 50 units, were representatives of four or more city agencies (such as departments of parks and recreation, transportation, schools, public health, public works, mayor's office, housing, etc) present at community meetings to hear community concerns voiced in the planning process?					
ST.3.g	Benchmark: Did project developers create and implement ongoing communication methods to share project status updates and solicit additional input into the planning and construction process through 3 or more of the following: email trees, newsletters, press releases, project update presentations, web pages, email chat rooms, distributed minutes of meetings, photo journals, or teleconferences?					
SC.3.h	Benchmark: Was there a community benefits agreement, impact fee or other legally binding financial contribution created by which the existing community will receive financial or infrastructure benefits from new development as compensation for increased demand for services/on infrastructure?					
TOTAL NUMBER OF CHECKS IN EACH COLUMN						N/A

LEED-ND

- Created by U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)
- Modeled after LEED evaluation tools for buildings, with focus on neighborhood scale
- Integrates smart growth, new urbanism, and green building concepts
- Some focus on health, within broader sustainability context
- http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=148

LEED-ND

- Pilot version tested with 240 projects - final rating system released in 2009
- Point-based system, with scorecard to track points
- 4 certification levels
- Regional credits emphasize priorities by states (e.g. recycling/waste management gets extra credit in northern MN)

LEED-ND

- 4 categories – including 12 prerequisites and 51 credits

1. Smart location and linkage
   Prerequisites: *floodplain avoidance, smart location*
   Credits: *brownfield redevelopment, bicycle network/storage*

2. Neighborhood pattern and design
   Prerequisites: *compact development, walkable streets*
   Credits: *local food production, neighborhood schools*

3. Green infrastructure and buildings
   Prerequisites: *construction activity pollution prevention*
   Credits: *stormwater management, solar orientation*

4. Innovation and design process
   Credits: *LEED accredited professional, innovative or exceptional approaches*

LEED-ND

- References provided in background document
- Extensive technical review process

Sustainable Sites Initiative

- Created by American Society of Landscape Architects, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and U.S. Botanic Garden
- Focus on site selection, sustainable design, construction, and maintenance of landscapes
- Human health and well-being included in site design credits
- http://www.sustainablesites.org/

Sustainable Sites Initiative

- Draft guidelines and benchmarks developed by interdisciplinary experts in 2009
- Currently identifying pilot projects
- May be incorporated into LEED building rating system in future

Sustainable Sites Initiative

- Point-based, some sliding scale

- Includes 15 pre-requisites, 51 credits

- Prerequisites: protect floodplains, reduce water use, use non-invasive plants, restore disturbed soils, store and collect recyclables

- Credits: select sites that encourage non-motorized transportation, manage stormwater on site, use vegetation to minimize building heating/cooling, reuse salvaged materials, minimize generation of greenhouse gases

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Sustainable Sites Initiative

6. **Site Design—Human Health and Well-Being** **32 possible points**
Build strong communities and a sense of stewardship
Credit 6.1: Promote equitable site development (1–3 points)
Credit 6.2: Promote equitable site use (1–4 points)
Credit 6.3: Promote sustainability awareness and education (2–4 points)
Credit 6.4: Protect and maintain unique cultural and historical places (2–4 points)
Credit 6.5: Provide for optimum site accessibility, safety, and wayfinding (3 points)
Credit 6.6: Provide opportunities for outdoor physical activity (4–5 points)
Credit 6.7: Provide views of vegetation and quiet outdoor spaces for mental restoration (3–4 points)
Credit 6.8: Provide outdoor spaces for social interaction (3 points)
Credit 6.9: Reduce light pollution (2 points)

Sustainable Sites Initiative

- Detailed background document – definitions, recommended resources, and submittal requirements

- References provided, but not tied to specific benchmarks or standards

Carissa Schively Slotterback

Design for Health

- 3 HIA tools

- Point-based threshold analysis, some sliding scale, point values reflect strength of evidence

- 16 measures

- Background document – definitions, submittal requirements, citations support thresholds and associations

- Focus on health impacts that planners can influence

- Can be used to assess projects, plans, and policies

- http://www.designforhealth.net/resources/healthimpact.html

Health Impact Assessment Tools

- Four off the shelf tools
- Other resources
  - Images
  - Participation tools
  - Web sites
  - Other assessment and screening tools

Carissa Schively Slotterback

Health Impact Assessment

- Image resources
  - Slide shows on health topics
  - Illustrate HIA documents
  - For educational materials and public meetings
  - http://www.designforhealth.net/resources/imageresources.html

Other Resources

- People on bicycles
- Pedestrian/bicycle facilities
- Streets
- Environment and food
- Active play and exercise
- Social interaction
- Transit
- Street furniture
- Signage, signals, and crosswalks

Ann Forsyth

Health Impact Assessment

Health Impact Assessment

Other Resources

- **Special Populations, Health, and Planning**
- Links to relevant websites and data
- Evidence about health issues and potential impacts
- Suggestions about useful Design for Health resources and tools
- http://www.designforhealth.net/techassistance/specialpopulations.html

Ann Forsyth

Health Impact Assessment

Other Resources

- **Public involvement**
- Strategies for engaging the public and stakeholders in planning processes and HIA
  - Open houses
  - Advisory committees
  - Public hearings
  - Meetings with stakeholder groups
- Approaches to addressing health – questions and activities
- http://www.designforhealth.net/techassistance/participation.html

Carissa Schively Slotterback

Health Impact Assessment

New resources—tools, research summaries, and cases:

- CDC HIA Resources: http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/hia.htm
- UCLA HIA Clearinghouse: http://www.ph.ucla.edu/hs/hiaclic/ with **fantastic training** at http://www.ph.ucla.edu/hs/health-impact/training.htm
- RWJF/Pew Health Impact Project: http://www.healthimpactproject.org/hia?id=0007
- World Health Organization HIA: http://www.who.int/hia/en/
- HIA Gateway in Britain: http://www.apho.org.uk/default.aspx?QN=P_HIA
- HIA Connect in Australia: http://www.hiaconnect.edu.au/index.htm

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Design for Health

Other Resources

- Equality Impact Assessment Tool
  - Developed by UK Department of Health
  - Short screening tool and longer assessment
  - Identify negative and positive impacts
  - Assess availability of evidence
  - http://apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=78091

Negative
- Impacts based on age, disability, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic groups

Positive
- Promote equal opportunity
- Get rid or harassment and discrimination
- Promote good community relations
- Promote and protect human rights…

Design for Health

Other Resources

- Policy Screening Tool
  - Used in Sweden to evaluate potential policy impacts
  - Initial screening tool to identify need for additional HIA
  - Addresses numerous health topics (targets)
  - Considers impacts on population and sub-groups (e.g. unemployed, immigrants, single parents, homeless persons, chronically ill)
  - http://www.who.int/hia/tools/toolkit/whohia037/en/index.html

Sample Health Targets
- Participation in influence on society
- Economic and social security
- Healthy working life
- Sound and safe environments and products
- Health promoting medical care
- Eating habits and safe food
- Prevention of infectious diseases

Design for Health

Summary

- Wide range of tools:
  - Drawn from various contexts
  - Address a range of health issues
  - Helpful in identifying information needs
  - Useful in screening and analyzing impacts
  - Tools available to fit varied needs

Carissa Schively Slotterback