

From Plans to Equitable Change: Community Partnerships to Encourage Walkability

Sagar Shah, PhD, AICP

Planning and Community Health Manager
American Planning Association (APA)

sshah@planning.org

Jo Peña, AICP

Research Associate
American Planning Association

jpena@planning.org

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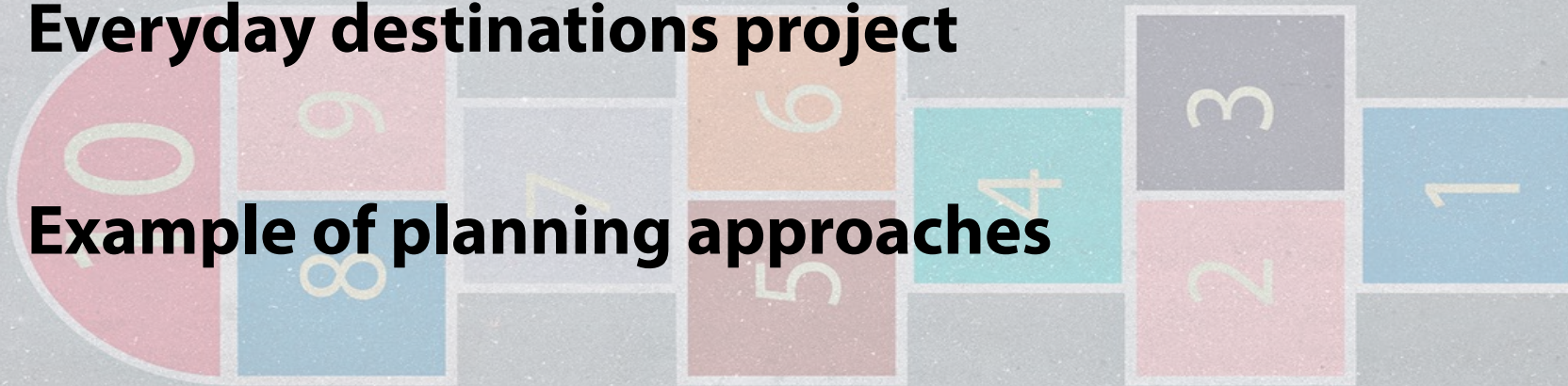


American Planning Association

Creating Great Communities for All

AGENDA

- **Background/Foundation**
- **Everyday destinations project**
- **Example of planning approaches**
- **Q and A**



AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION (APA)



- APA is...
 - 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation
 - A membership association
 - An education organization
- About 40,000+ members
- 23 Divisions and 47 Chapters
- Mission: **Creating great communities for all**



APA's VALUE PROPOSITION



Knowledge



Community



Advocacy



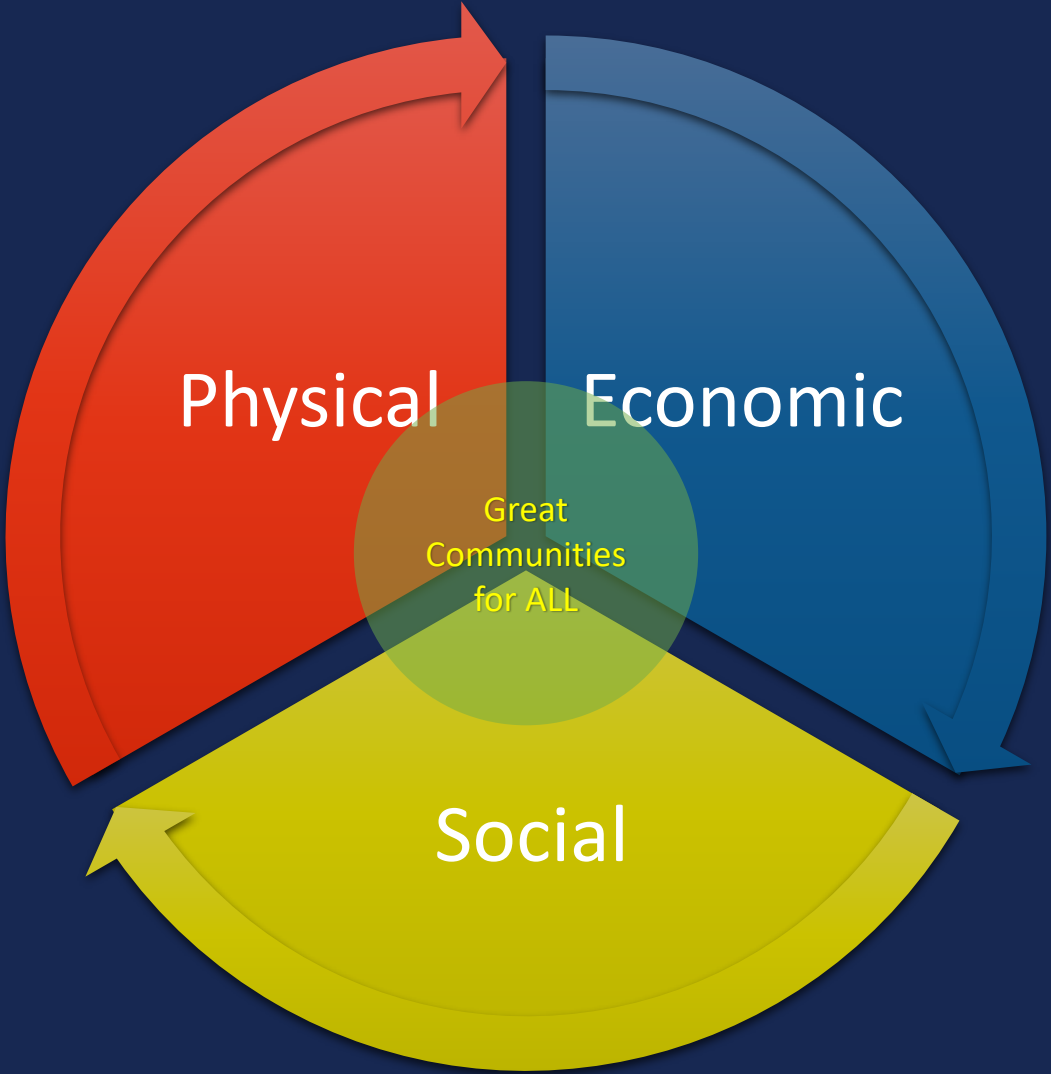
Certification



What is
planning?

- Planning provides a **vision for the community** today – and in the future.
- One of the greatest challenges for planners is to figure out **how a community should grow and change**.
- The goal of planning is to maximize the **health, safety, and well-being** of all people living in our communities.

ADVANCE WELLBEING...



THE NEXUS

- modern American urban planning emerged
- UP and PH relationship strained

physical removal of both "environmental miasmas"

UP and PH started connecting

connection between UP and PH increased to a large extent due to "healthy cities" project

end of 19th century

1930s-1950s

end of 1980s- beginning of 1990s

since the beginning of 21st century

2nd half of 19th century

beginning of 20th century

1960s-1980s

1990s

distance between UP and PH increased

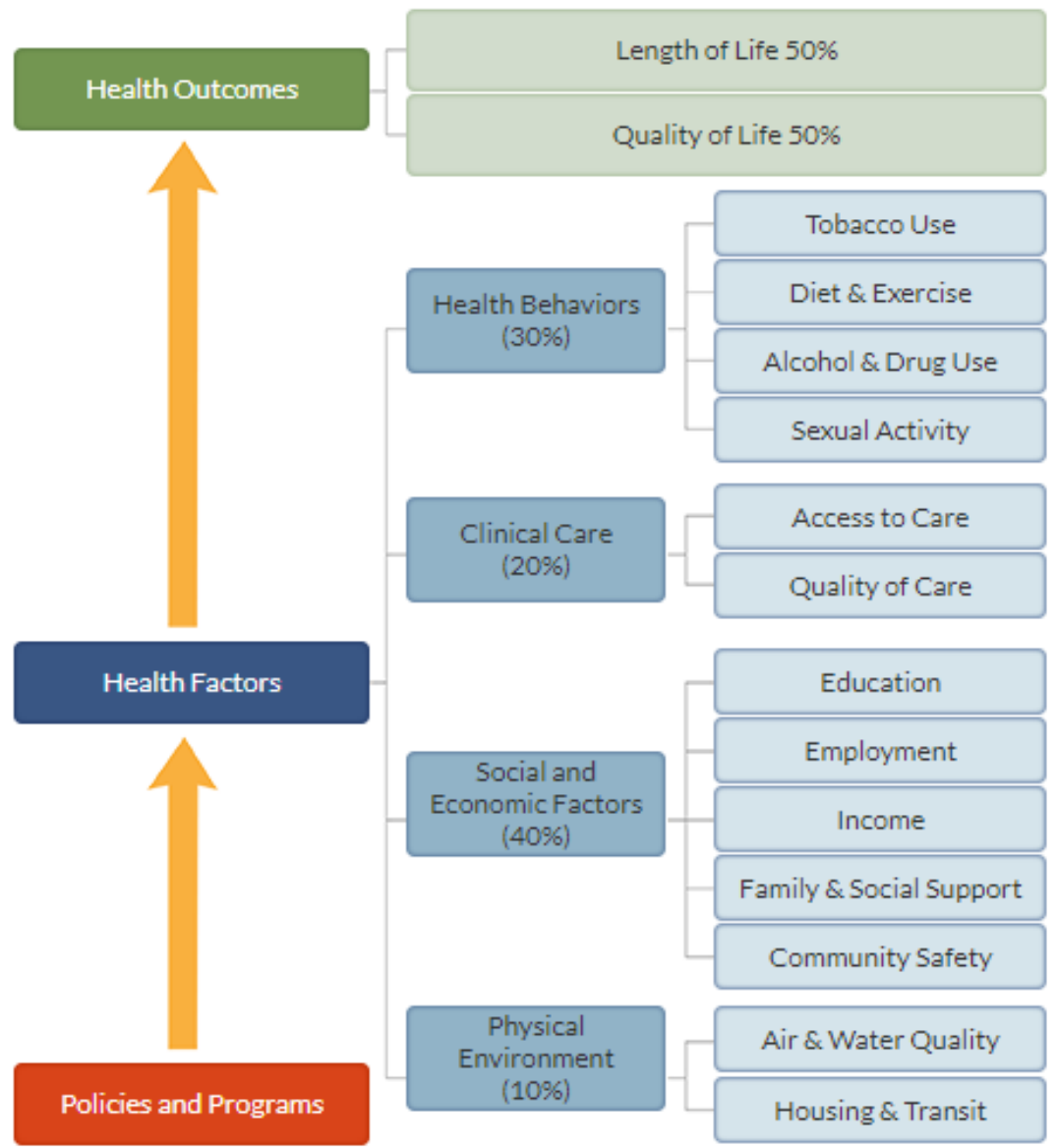
no distinction between urban planning and public health

importance of social factors

increased collaboration between UP and PH in practice and research

historical links

present context:
from healthy cities to healthy urban planning



County Health Rankings model © 2014 UWPHH

DOMAINS FOR PLANNING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



Air Quality
Water Quality
Soil Contamination

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES



Active Transportation
Recreation
Traffic Safety

ACTIVE LIVING



GI/Nature
Housing
Community Development
Public Safety

SOCIAL COHESION



Climate Change
Natural Hazards
Infectious Disease

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



Access
Production

FOOD SYSTEM

A national initiative led by CDC to help

27 million Americans

become more physically active by 2027. Increased physical activity can improve health, quality of life, and reduce healthcare costs.



ACTIVITY-FRIENDLY ROUTES



EVERYDAY DESTINATIONS



STRATEGIC POINTS OF INTERVENTION



Long-range community visioning and goal setting



Plan-making



Standards, regulations, policies, and incentives



Development work



Public Investments



LAND USE

A type of activity that occurs on a parcel of land



Industrial



Residential



Commercial

LAND USE PLAN | COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



“**Blueprint**” for growth and development of a community over a certain time frame (usually 10 to 20 years)

LAND USE PLANNING PROCESS:

- Identify land capabilities and constraints
- Consider where private and public developments and infrastructure should be located

Includes visioning process which includes **input from community members**

LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS: ZONING

Zoning divides a community into districts and specifies different sets of rules or development standards for each district, and some requirements that are common to all districts.

Zoning district regulations address the following basic sets of issues:

- The permitted use of land and buildings
- The intensity or density of the development
- Height, bulk, and placement of structures
- Amount and design of parking

Urban Residential

Low-Density Residential

Medium-Density Residential

High-Density Residential

Downtown Commercial

Service Commercial

Mixed Employment

Industrial

Institutional

WHY DO WE NEED LAND USE AND ZONING

- Protect the **health, safety, and welfare** of people.
- Protect existing businesses and residences from **incompatible neighbors** and other adverse impacts
- Protect the **look and feel** of an area
- Leave **adequate light and air** around property
- **Plan future** development of communities
- Guide where **people live and work** (in accordance with comprehensive plans)

LAND USE PLAN + ZONING and ACTIVE LIVING

BARRIERS (TRADITIONAL)

- Urban sprawl
- Low density development
- Complex regulations
- Neglect of pedestrians
- Lack of street connectivity

INNOVATIONS TO PROMOTE ACTIVE LIVING

- Pedestrian overlay district
- Inclusionary zoning
- Traditional neighborhood development and new urbanism/smart growth-supportive regulations
 - Traditional neighborhood development
 - Transit oriented development
 - Form-Based Zoning...
- Other pedestrian-oriented zoning provisions: Sidewalks, crosswalks, bike-pedestrian connectivity, street connectivity, bike lanes, bike parking, bike-pedestrian tails/paths

EVERYDAY DESTINATIONS



Product Overview

- Everyday Destinations
- Website
- Components
 - Planning approaches to support planners and public health professionals
 - Small and rural town context
 - Equity considerations
 - Strategic Points of Intervention
 - Collaboration
- How to use product

Everyday Destinations

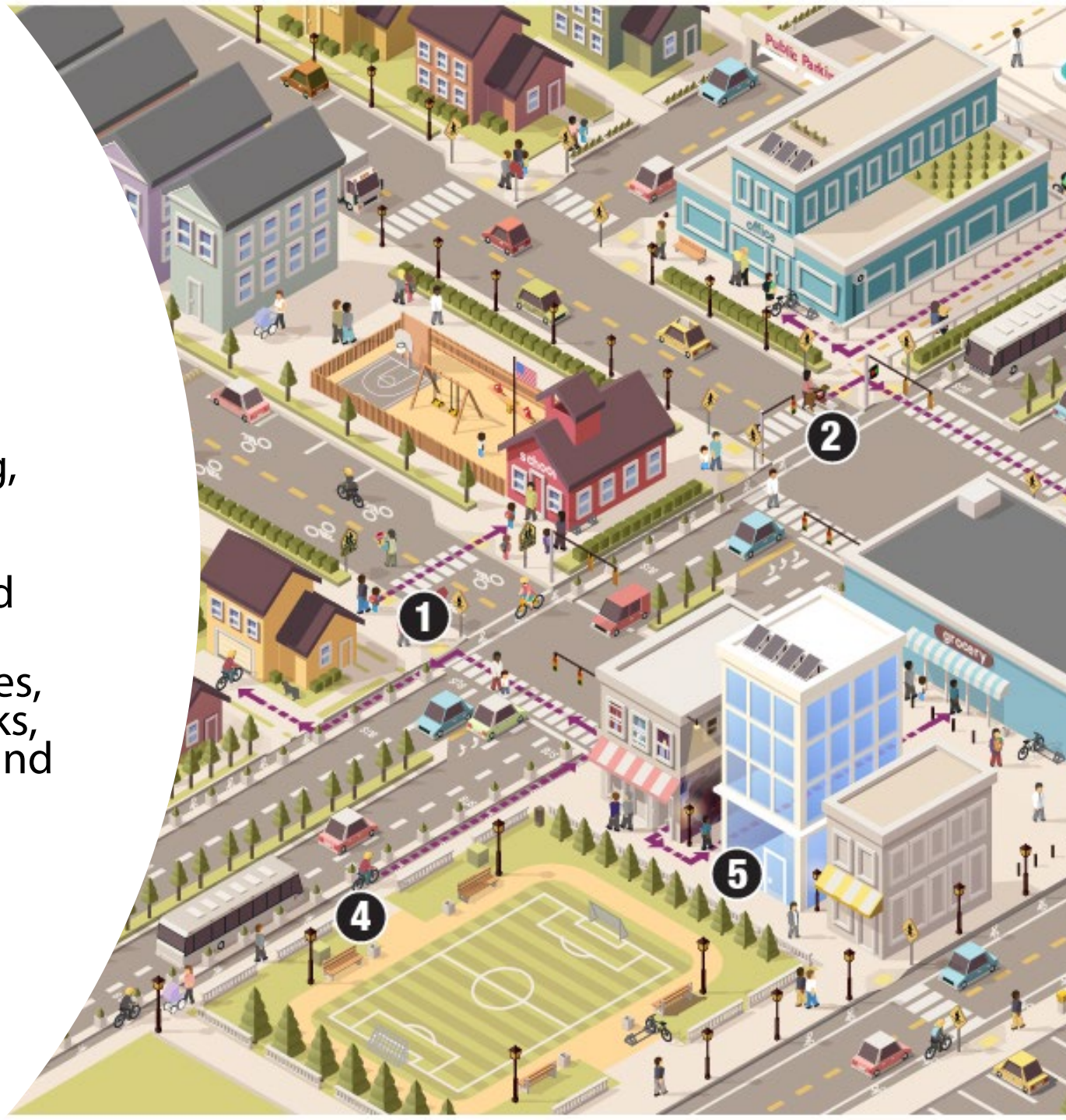
- Active People, Healthy Nation
- Guidepost based on equitable and inclusive access
- Activity-friendly routes to everyday destinations



Everyday Destinations

- Accessible by walking, bicycling, or public transportation.
- “Desirable, useful, and attractive”
- Includes grocery stores, schools, libraries, parks, restaurants, cultural and natural landmarks, or healthcare facilities.

Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/community-strategies/beactive/visual-guide.html>



Activity-Friendly Routes Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Transportation Systems	Everyday Destinations Land Use and Environmental Design
1  Safe Crossing	+  School
2  Crosswalk	+  Library
3  Shared-Use Path	+  Worksite
4  Protected Lane	+  Home
5  Attractive Alley	+  Grocery Store
6  Bus Stop	+  Park



Asset-Based Development



Community Events



Pop-up Designs and Activation



Growth Area Identification



Adaptive Reuse



Creative Placemaking



Green Space Improvements



Improvement Districts



Pedestrian-Oriented Design



Mixed-Use Development



Traditional Neighborhood Development



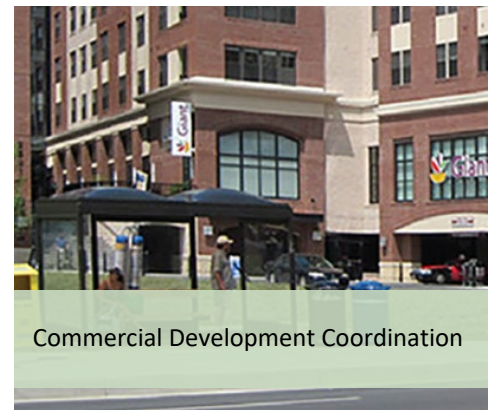
Community Facilities Siting



Cluster Development



Infill Development



Commercial Development Coordination

Everyday Destinations Blog Series



planning.org/research/everyday-destinations/

Small and Rural Town Context

- **Common elements:** limited resources, varying priorities.
- **Unique characteristics:** community history, changing demographics.
- Translation to larger communities.



Equity Considerations

- Community walkability and desirability
- Avoid displacement
- Equitable access to destinations



Action Framework



Collaboration

- Emphasis on public health professionals and planners
- Elevate community perspectives through public engagement
- Bring in local organizations, institutions, local government practitioners, and many more



FACTORS TO CONSIDER FOR SELECTING AN APPROACH

- Prioritize approaches based on community context. Consider:
 - Availability of resources (funding, staff, etc.)
 - Access to technical assistance
 - Presence or absence of existing partnerships
 - Agility to making local regulatory changes
 - Community readiness to change
 - Demographic changes
- Equitable development
- Co-benefits beyond health
- Case examples

PLANNING APPROACH

What is it?

Practice of remodeling or repurposing an underutilized building to fulfill a need different from the original intended use.

Active Living

Encourages active living by converting previously unoccupied or underoccupied spaces into destinations.

Connection to Small and Rural Towns

Lower-cost approach to reuse vacant industrial properties and unused spaces. Maintain community character and traditional design.

ADAPTIVE REUSE



PLANNING APPROACH: ADAPTIVE REUSE

Example: Schenectady, New York

- Adaptive reuse property that aims to meet the needs of residents that have been economically and socially marginalized.
- The 100-year-old property was adapted from a former insulator-production company to a 155-unit housing complex.

Potential Partnerships:

Land banking authorities, land trusts, small businesses, realtors, economic development department, historic preservation groups, business improvement districts, etc.



PLANNING APPROACH

What is it?

Combines land uses by site or within a designated area.

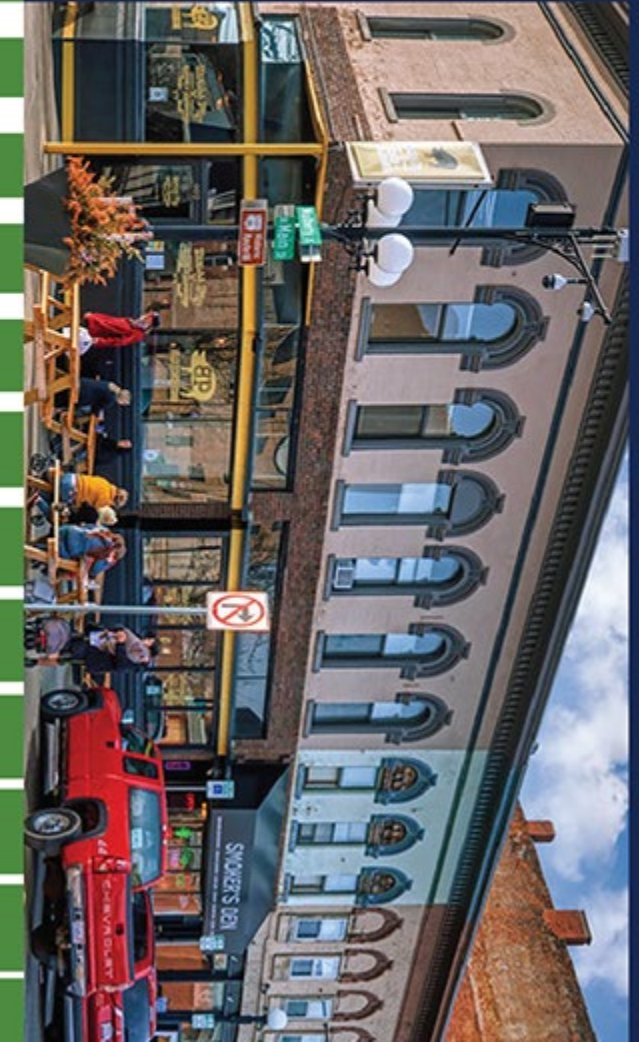
Active Living

Increases array of destinations available in a smaller location.

Connection to Small and Rural Towns

Can enhance community center through amenities (benches, clean sidewalks, etc.), and encourage non-vehicular access to destinations.

MIXED-USE INTERVENTIONS



PLANNING APPROACH: MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT

Example: Missoula, Montana

- Connected community areas and mixed-income neighborhoods with a variety of housing.
- Aligns with local form-based code.

Potential Partnerships:

Community members, developers, institutions, housing authorities, transit authorities, environmental health professionals, etc.



PLANNING APPROACH

What is it?

Adding or enhancing existing green space, such as parks and trails.

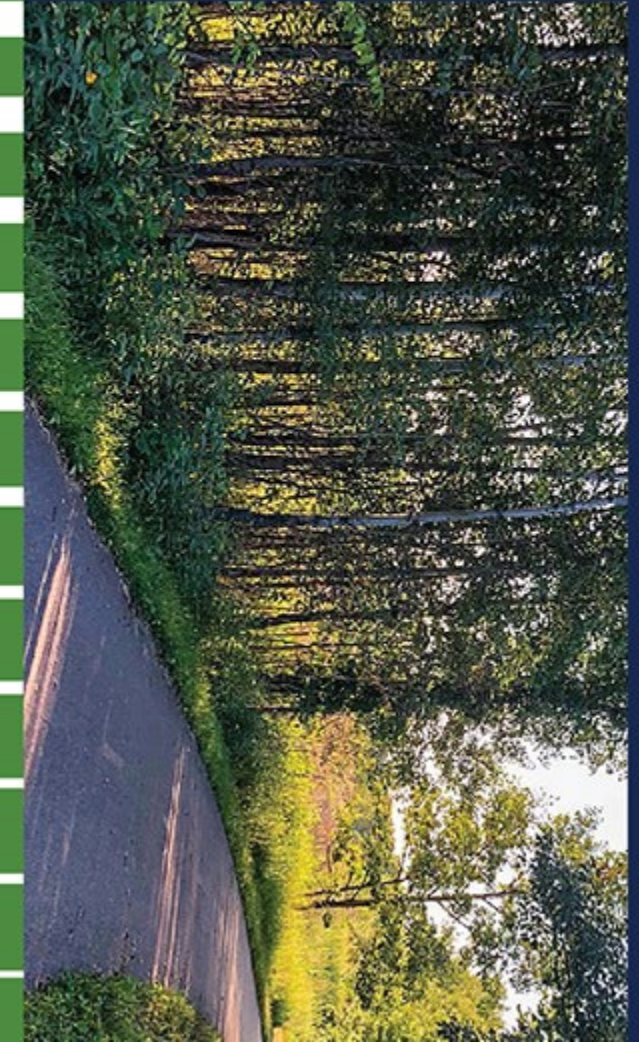
Active Living

Key components that improve conditions for physical activity.

Connection to Small and Rural Towns

Augment existing resources, increased environmental services, and attract and retain community members.

GREEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS



PLANNING APPROACH: GREEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS

- **Example: Eugene, Oregon**

- Changing demographics sparked park improvements with inclusive and accessible elements.
- Implementing through public investments.

- **Potential Partnerships:**

- community members, public departments, local businesses, park professionals, metropolitan planning agencies, community-based organizations, etc.





Call to Action

- Identify activities in the local community.
- Connect with partners interested in supporting everyday destinations.
- Seek public health and planning counterparts to encourage change.

Fostering Healthy Communities through Planning and Public Health Collaborations

- Benefits of connection between profession
- Recommendations on how to get started
- Overview of shared interests





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