

***Healthy Cities and Urban
Governance in San Francisco:
Towards Accountability to
Population Health***

Rajiv Bhatia, MD, MPH

San Francisco Department of Public Health

“Healthy Cities” in San Francisco: The Program on Health, Equity and Sustainability



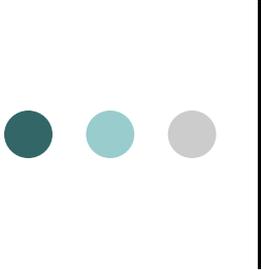
- Inter-disciplinary health equity and environmental justice program at SFDPH
- Envisions a San Francisco “...where communities are engaged in democracy and committed to equality and diversity.”
- Engages with public institutions, social movements, non-profit and for profit organizations
- Inter-disciplinary, policy focused practice in Land Use Planning, Transportation Systems, Safe Housing, Quality Jobs, Workers’ Rights, and Food Resources
- Research and tools serve social change goals



Community and Environmental Justice Challenges to “Smart” Growth and Sustainable Economic Development

- Will development protect and improve environmental quality for existing residents?
- Can development leverage needed infrastructure for health and well being?
- Will development result in displacement or facilitate social inclusion and integration?
- Will economic equity and health be included along with





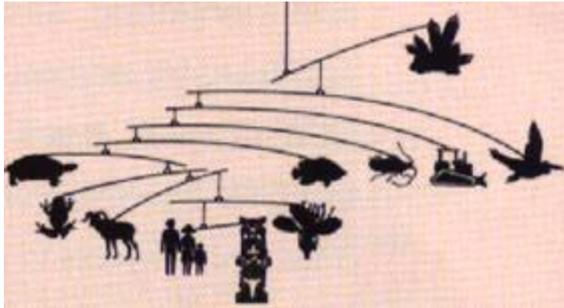
PHES Strategies for Healthy Cities and Urban Governance

- *Assessment and monitoring of health & health determinants*
- *Health impact assessments*
- *Health-protective laws & regulations*
- *Inter-sectoral planning and design*
- *Collaboration and support for NGOs*
- *Advocacy for healthy policy*

Adapted from the WHO Ottawa Charter on Health Promotion (1986)



Health Impact Assessment: Key Characteristics

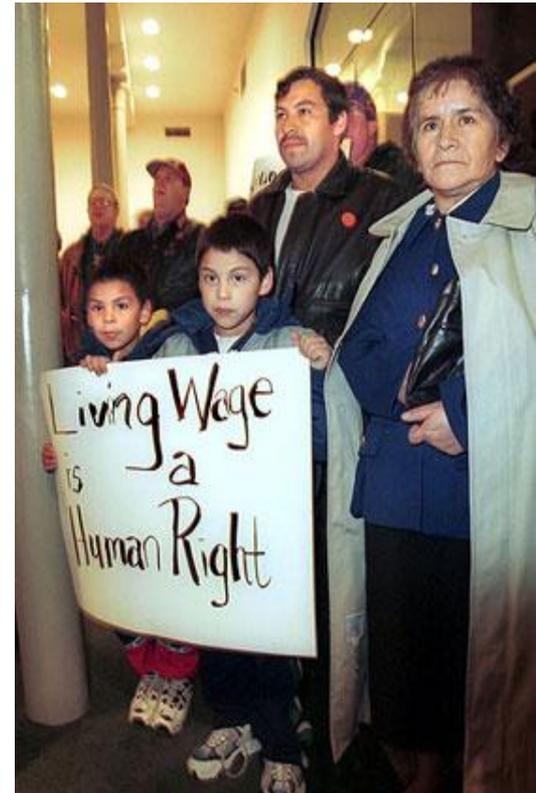


- Systematic and transparent process
- Assessment of multiple health effects
- Holistic definition of health—determinants, behaviors, diseases
- Analysis of beneficial and harmful impacts
- Best available evidence and theory
- Engagement with stakeholders
- Evaluation of alternatives



Health Impacts of a Living Wage (1999)

- Quantified the following Health and Social Benefits of a Living Wage
 - Life-expectancy
 - Graduation rates
 - Teenage childbearing
 - Depression'
 - Sick days
- HIA Outcomes
 - Support for local living wage laws
 - Public health could contribute analysis to social and economic policy



Infill Development & Residential Displacement Trinity Plaza, San Francisco (2003)

- Organized tenants argued that the demolition and redevelopment of 360 rent-controlled apartments to market rate housing would have adverse human impacts
- SFDPH comment on the scope of an EIA documented adverse health effects of on stress, social cohesion, and housing
- Outcomes:
 - City required alternative and study of housing impacts
 - Project alternative replaced rental housing
 - City level planning policy created demolition protections for private housing



Eastern Neighborhoods Community Health Impact Assessment

- Collaborative, consensus-based health impact assessment to analyze how growth and development impacts health in four SF neighborhoods
- Facilitated by SFDPH & Guided by a Community Council Comprised of >20 organizations and government stakeholders
- 18-month process culminated in the development of the “Healthy Development Measurement Tool”



Healthy Development Measurement Tool (HDMT) – A Bridge Between Health and Planning

- 1) Framework of Community health objectives
- 2) Community-level Health Indicators
- 3) Policy and Design Strategies
- 4) Development Targets
- 5) Public Health Evidence

Healthy Development Measurement Tool
A comprehensive evaluation metric to consider health needs in urban development

[Home](#) | [Introduction](#) | [Tool Instructions](#) | [The Tool](#) | [Application Resources](#) | [About ...](#)

Recent News

2008-05-27 HDMT Website and Data Revision Complete
We recently completed an extensive update to HDMT website content, including to indicators and data, development targets and checklist, and neighborhood profiles. In addition, we added a "Tool Instructions" section to the website to better explain how the HDMT can be applied. Thank you for your patience as we completed this update.

2008-05-27 Draft Evaluation of Eastern Neighborhoods Area Plans Released
The public draft of our evaluation of the Eastern Neighborhood Area Plans using the HDMT is now available. [Click here](#) to download the report "[Impacts on Community Health of Area Plans for the Mission, East SoMa, and Potrero Hill / Showplace Square: An Application of the Healthy Development Measurement Tool](#)".

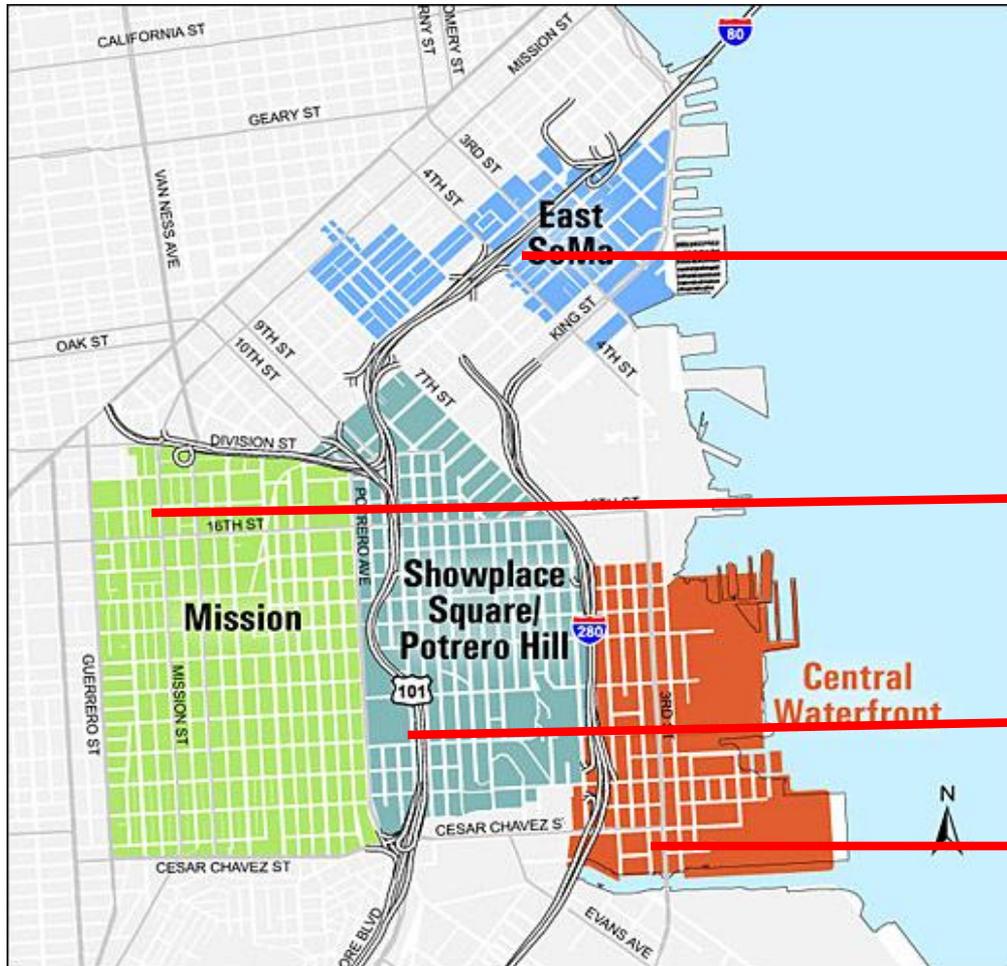
For additional HDMT updates and changes, please visit [News Archives/Corrections and Errors](#).



Get Started...	The Tool	Who We Are
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin with an introduction or download a helpful presentation (PDF). Use the Tool. Look at community indicators. Check out SF neighborhood data. Access Tool resources. 	<p>The Healthy Development Measurement Tool is a comprehensive evaluation metric to consider health needs in urban development plans and projects.</p> <p>The HDMT explicitly connects public health to urban development planning in efforts to achieve a higher quality social and physical environment that advances health.</p>	<p>We're committed to assessing urban environmental conditions and responding to health inequities and environmental policy gaps using health impact assessment methods. We're the San Francisco Department of Public Health, Program on Health, Equity and Sustainability.</p> <p>Be sure to contact us with any questions or comments.</p>



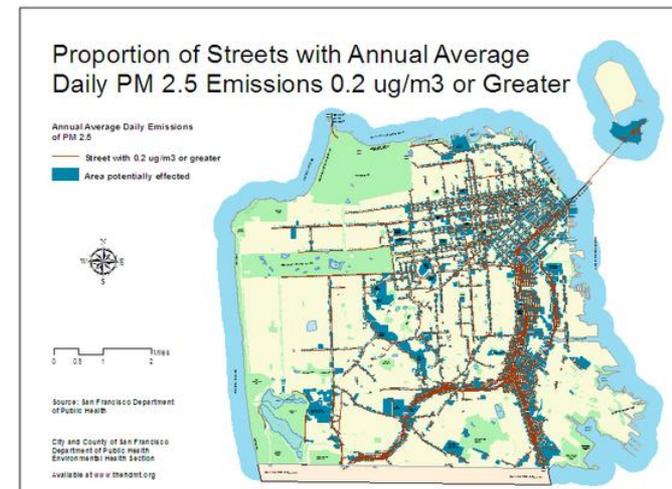
Addressing Research Gaps in City Planning: Vehicle-Pedestrian Injury Collision Model



Predicted
**% change in
pedestrian injury
collisions** based
on estimated
**changes in
resident
population and
traffic volume.**

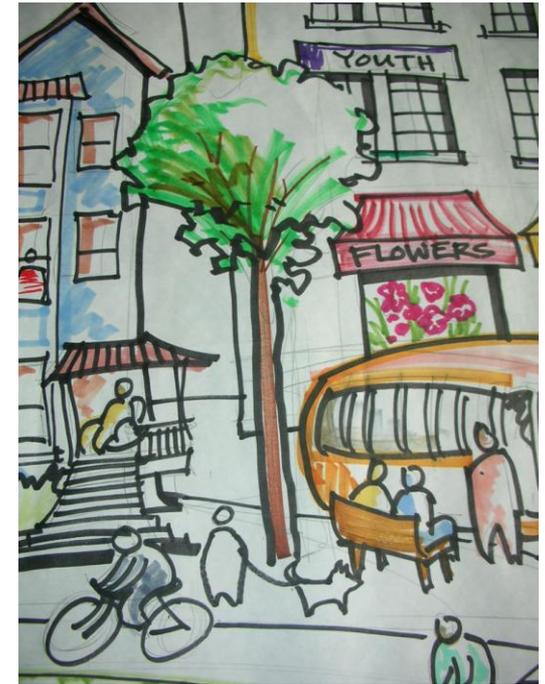
New Public Health Laws as Health Cities Interventions

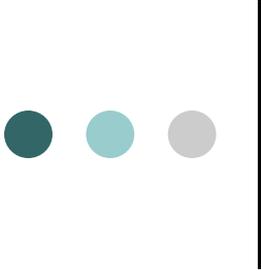
- San Francisco Sensitive Use Protections for Traffic Pollution Hot Spots (HC Article 38)
 - Identify Areas with Potential Conflicts through Roadway Exposure Zone Map
 - Establish an PM 2.5 based Action Level for Mitigation
 - Conduct Site Specific Air Quality Modeling
 - Mitigation via Building Design or Engineered



Impacts of Health Equity Practices in the Planning Sector

- Changes public understanding of the causes of poor / good health
- Development of new policy agendas
- Composition of policy coalitions
- Changes to policy design
- Integration of health in cross-sector activities
- Accountability to CEQA and other laws for health protection
- Capacity building for participation in urban governance by public health





Some Deeper Lessons for Healthy Cities

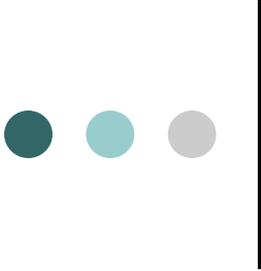
- *Governments are currently not accountable to existing values and laws intended to protect public health*
- *Public health institutions need to proactively engage in urban governance*
- *Social movements / Civil Society Organizations need to demand and organize around the improvement of health*





**Cities have the capability of
providing something for
everyone only because and only
when they are created by
everybody.**

- Jane Jacobs



California HIA Resources

Healthy Development Measurement Tool

○ www.TheHDMT.org

Health Impact Assessment Collaborative

○ www.HIAcollaborative.org

UC Los Angeles – HIA Clearinghouse

○ www.ph.ucla.edu/hs/hiaclic

