Health Impact Assessment Carpentersville Overview

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What is Health Impact Assessment (HIA)?

- Evidence-based analysis with **strong community involvement**

- Examines the potential health impacts of a proposed policy, plan, or project. It is conducted *before* a decision is made

- Report recommendations based on survey results, literature review, analysis of existing data, and stakeholder input.

Six Steps of HIA

* **Screening**

* **Scoping**

* **Assessment**

* **Recommendations**

* **Reporting**

* **Monitoring/Evaluation**

Step One: Screening

Is an HIA appropriate for this project?

* Will it be completed before a decision is made?

* Does our organization have the capacity to conduct an HIA?

* Will the information from the HIA add value to the decision making process?

* What are the health impacts? What health indicators will be affected by this decision?

* Who are the stakeholders?

Today we will complete the Screening Worksheet

Step Two: Scoping

* **What are the goals for the HIA?**
    * Examine what is best for neighborhood residents
    * Improve traffic flow with method best suited for stakeholders
    * Provide evidence to decision makers and public
* **What are the issues we want to study?**
    * Air quality? Pedestrian safety? Current traffic conditions?
* **What are the research questions?**
    * How will the decision affect air quality? Traffic conditions?
* **Who should be involved and how?**
    * Survey residents within ½ mile of intersection?
* **Develop pathway diagram**
    * Links between the proposed decision and community health

Pathway Diagram
What are the health impacts?

* Respiratory health/asthma
* Diabetes
* Obesity

* Chronic Disease
* Injuries (bike, pedestrian, vehicle)

| roundabout vs traffic signal | → | pedestrian safety | → | physical activity | → | Obesity, Chronic Disease |
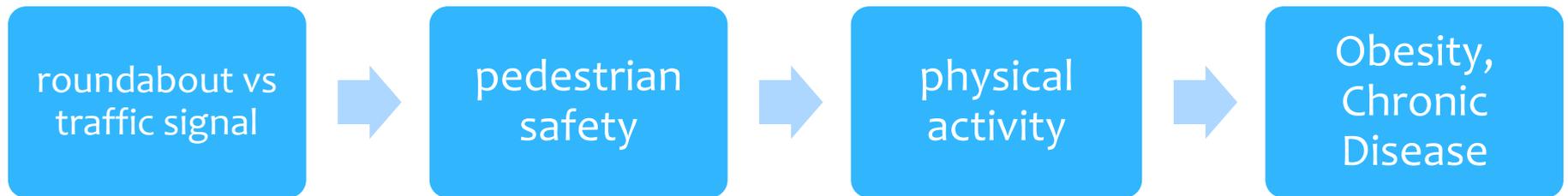
Step Three: Assessment

Gather data on existing conditions and research potential health impacts

* Determined in the Scope
* Literature review
* Survey, focus groups
* Key stakeholder interviews
* Internet resources
  * Census, environmental measures, transportation, health

Step Four: Recommendations

* Make predictions based on evidence from Assessment
    * What do we predict will happen if a roundabout is installed?
* Provide decision-makers (and the public) with recommendations that:
    * **Mitigate** negative health impacts with specific alternatives
    * **Support** positive health impacts
    * **Address** community concerns before decision-making (NIMBY residents)
    * **Reflect** broad stakeholder input

Example Recommendations

Recommendation	Result
Kane County should create and pass a separate, sister ordinance instead of amending the current ordinance 01-67 by Fall, 2013.	Keeps current program and its history intact, demonstrates the past success and desire to continue it. Sister ordinance will allow for more flexibility in funding.
Under the new ordinance, Kane County will offer as appropriate perpetual and term easements; leases of public land, along with funding and incentives, to support retention of existing producers; create more scattered-site and smaller farms transitioning to producing fruits and vegetables.	Secures long term use of the land for food production giving the farmer and the community commitment to local food.
Kane County should work with Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) and Kane County Farm Bureau to study the feasibility locating a food hub by June, 2014.	Farmers have motivation to grow more vegetables with centralized cleaning, packaging and distribution available off farm.
The Farm Bureau should assist those farmers who apply to sell produce, meats and dairy for local consumption with resources and partnership such as Meet the Buyer events and other linkage programs.	More healthy produce and protein is available for Kane County residents, and increases Kane County farmers' earnings potential when paired with food hub.

Step Five: Reporting

Your plan for how to disseminate your findings and recommendations

* Report, presentations, executive summary, social media, newspaper editorial
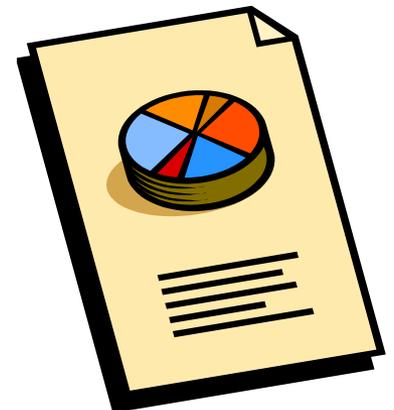
Step Six: Monitoring and Evaluation

What is your plan to track the impacts of the HIA on the decision making process?

* What indicators are tracked? Traffic flow? Pedestrian/Bike counts? Air quality?
* Long term? Asthma rates?
* To whom will you report the data?
* Evaluation can be a survey, interviews

Monitoring Example

Recommendation	Status
Kane County should create and pass a separate, sister ordinance instead of amending the current ordinance 01-67 by Fall, 2013.	Completed August 2013
Under the new ordinance, Kane County will offer as appropriate perpetual and term easements; leases of public land, along with funding and incentives, to support retention of existing producers; create more scattered-site and smaller farms transitioning to producing fruits and vegetables.	Program under development
Kane County should work with Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB) and Kane County Farm Bureau to study the feasibility locating a food hub by June, 2014.	In progress, applied for Illinois Department of Agriculture Grant – Sustainable Agriculture
The Farm Bureau should assist those farmers who apply to sell produce, meats and dairy for local consumption with resources and partnership such as Meet the Buyer events and other linkage programs.	Illinois Farm Bureau Meet the Buyer event held in Kane County on November 8th, 2013

Process Review

* **Select research questions** – how will it affect air quality? Traffic injuries?
* **Health assessment/literature review/data collection** – what is current air quality? How many accidents/pedestrian injuries? Are there examples of roundabouts vs. traffic signals in literature? Survey neighbors.
* **Assessment results/findings** – Safer, better air quality, neighbors are concerned about elementary school nearby
* **Predictions** - How will the roundabout impact selected health indicators? Improve air quality and safety
* **Recommendations** – clearly mark crosswalks, add crossing guard
* **Report** – present to elected officials, publish and print executive summary, publish full report online

HIA Examples

Health Impact Project

http://www.healthimpactproject.org/

Screening Worksheet