

Eastside Greenway Health Impact Assessment

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Cuyahoga County Board of Health
July 14, 2014

Program grant supported by a grant from the Health Impact Project, a collaboration of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the PEW Charitable Trusts, with funding from the Saint Luke's Foundation.

***“TO MAKE A GREENWAY IS
TO MAKE A COMMUNITY.”***

Charles E. Little, Author of Greenways for America

Trails and Greenways can:

- ▶ Create and preserve open spaces
- ▶ **Encourage physical fitness & healthy lifestyle**
- ▶ **Create opportunities for outdoor recreation & active transportation**
- ▶ Create linkages between communities, goods & services, & jobs
- ▶ Strengthen local economies
- ▶ Protect the environment



Introduction to Health Impact Assessment

The highest standards of health should be within reach of all, without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition

Constitution of the World Health Organization

Despite growing awareness that social factors have powerful impact on health –

Decisions about policies and programs that shape these factors are often made without considering their potential health consequences.

Unintended Consequences

Planning, policy and program decisions may have unintended consequences, particularly if a limited set of issues are discussed in the decision-making process



HIA Purpose

Through HIA report and communications

Judge health effects of a proposed project, plan or policy

Highlight health disparities

Provide recommendations

Raise awareness among decision makers and the public

Make health impacts more explicit

Through the HIA process

Engage & empower community

Recognize lived experience

Build relationships & collaborations

Improve the evidence

Improve transparency in decision making

HIA Step	Description
Screening	Determines the need and value of an HIA
Scoping	Determines which health impacts to evaluate, methods for analysis, and a work plan
Assessment	Provides: 1) a profile of existing health conditions 2) evaluation of potential health impacts
Recommendations	Provide strategies to manage identified adverse health impacts and maximize benefits to health
Reporting	Includes: 1) development of the HIA report 2) communication of findings and recommendations
Monitoring	Tracks: 1) impacts on decision-making processes and the decision 2) impacts of decision on health determinant

When is a HIA carried out?

The purpose of HIA is to inform decision-makers before they make decisions

A HIA is most often carried out prospectively – before the decision is made or the policy is implemented



HIA is used to assess a defined project, plan or policy

“Health and Equity in All Policies”

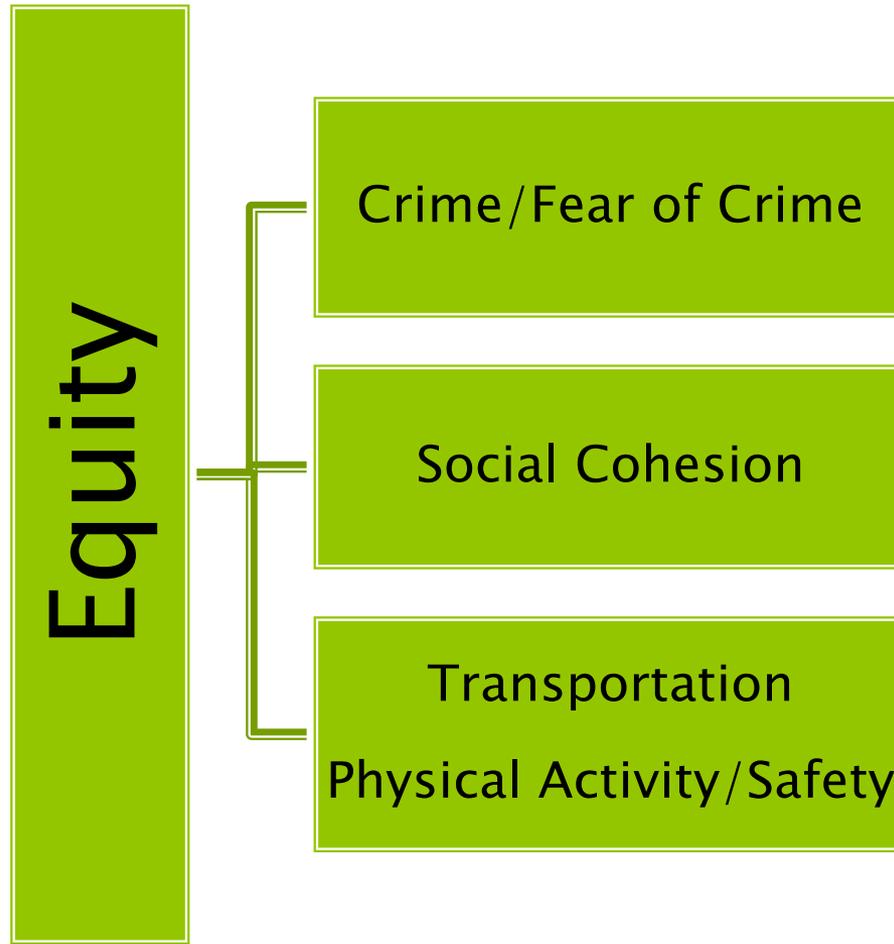
A collaborative approach to improving the health of all people by incorporating health considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas.

Goal is to ensure that all decision-makers are informed about the HEALTH, EQUITY, & SUSTAINABILITY consequences of various policy options during decision making.

HIA Technical Advisory Committee

- ▶ Lead Agency: Cuyahoga County Board of Health
- ▶ TAC Member Agencies:
 - Cleveland Planning Commission (HIA funding agency)
 - Human Impact Partners (HIA technical advisors)
 - Kent State University (crime/perception of crime lead)
 - LAND studio
 - Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
 - Metroparks
 - Cleveland State University
 - City of Euclid
 - National Park Service
 - NOACA
 - Doan Brook Partnership

HIA Focus Areas



Eastside Greenway HIA Goals

- ▶ Create opportunities for all by influencing plan design, construction and future programming.
 - ▶ Build capacity for Health Impact Assessment.
 - ▶ Enhance voice, engagement and empowerment of community residents.
 - ▶ Influence systems changes that consider health and equity in land use decision making.
 - ▶ Foster cross municipality collaborations to inform and influence local land use decision making.
 - ▶ Advance a “Health and Equity in All Policies” approach to decision making.
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Cuyahoga County: Life Expectancy (2008-2010) & Eastside Greenway 1/2 Mile Buffer Area



CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH

YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

Life Expectancy (in years)

< 72.7

72.8 - 78.6

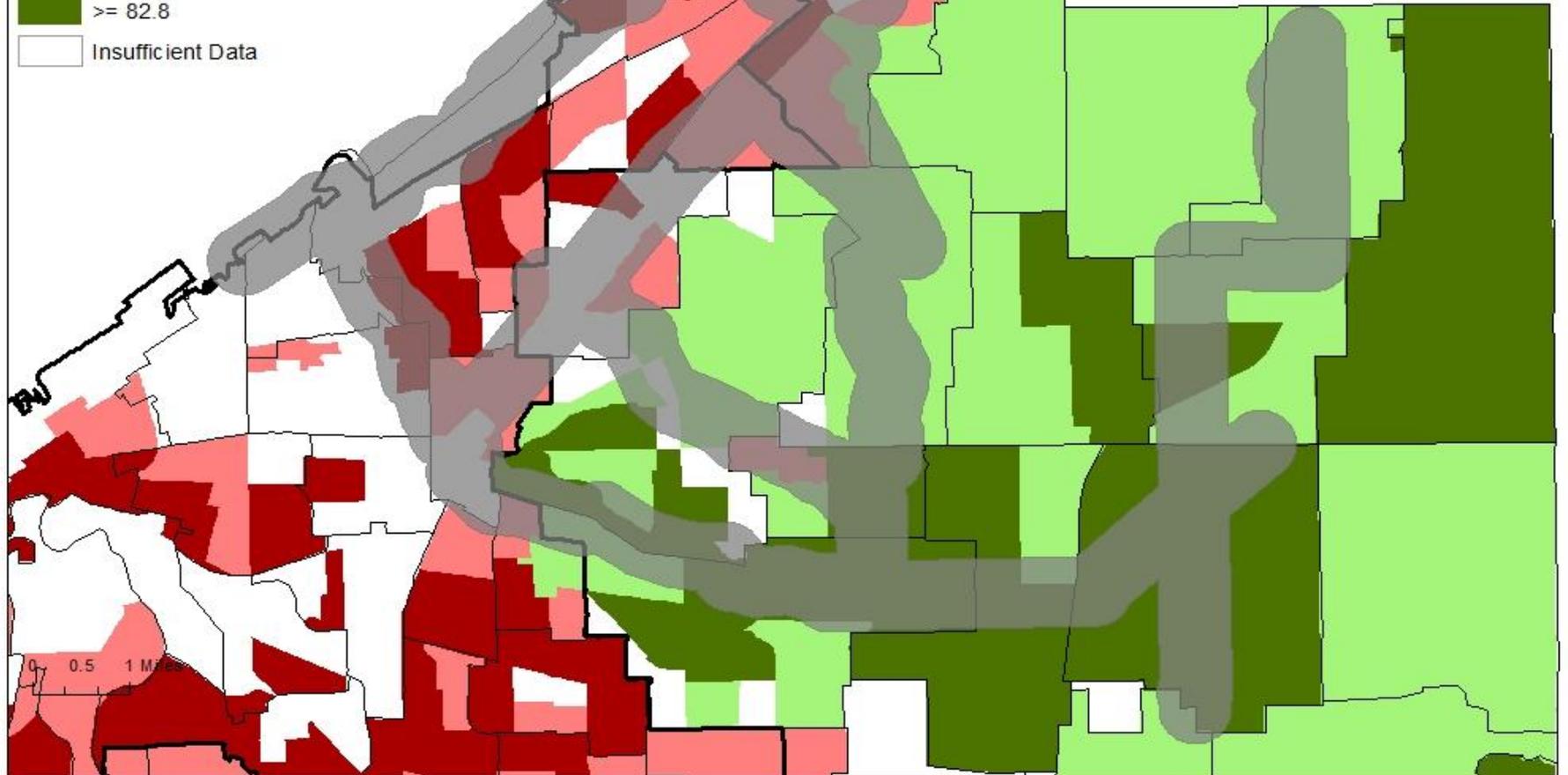
78.7 - 82.7

>= 82.8

Insufficient Data

Cleveland

Municipality



Map created and analysis performed by
Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Informatics
at the Cuyahoga County Board of Health,
March 2014. Data are preliminary.

HIA Recommendations

Categories:

- ▶ Funding
- ▶ Community Engagement/Support
- ▶ Policy
- ▶ Infrastructure
- ▶ Systems/Programs
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Assessment



HIA Next Steps

- ▶ Presentation of HIA recommendations to consultant
 - ▶ On-going participating on ESG Steering Committee
 - ▶ HIA final report
 - ▶ Communications of HIA findings and recommendations
 - ▶ Monitoring and evaluation plan
 - Impacts on decision-making process and decision
 - Impacts of decision on health determinant
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Questions?

For More Information Contact :

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