Denver, CO
One of fastest growing cities
Pop ~700,000
Planning, Land Use and Zoning for Activity-Friendly Routes in Denver, CO
Denver remains as one of America's 'fittest cities'

Runners on the Platte River Trail downtown.
KATHLEEN LAVINE | DENVER BUSINESS JOURNAL

By Ben Miller – Contributing Writer
May 15, 2018, 8:50am MDT Updated May 15, 2018, 1:20pm EDT
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Fittest, healthiest….for whom?
Health Outcomes vary across the City: Diabetes

DENVER TODAY: % OF ADULTS WITH DIABETES This map shows that areas with a diagonal line have a higher percentage of adults with diabetes. Additionally, the map indicates that areas with a lower percentage are also low-income.
Health Outcomes vary across the City:

Asthma
Health Outcomes vary across the City: Childhood Obesity
Socioeconomic Status: Income and Education
Communities of Color
• Cardiovascular disease rate: 214/100,000
• Adult Overweight/Obese: 52-60%

• Cardiovascular disease rate: 192/100,000
• Adult Overweight/Obese: >40%
How do we plan and build our environment differently, for better health and equity?

• **Equity** is when *everyone*, regardless of who they are or where they come from has the opportunity to thrive.

• **Health equity** means that *everyone* has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.

• **Data and maps** guide equitable development.
How do planning, land use and zoning work to increase activity friendly routes?

- **PLANS** are policy guidance documents; not law
- They express the VISION and ASPIRATIONS for future growth and development, including land use
How do planning, land use and zoning work to increase activity friendly routes?

- **PLANS** exist for land use, transportation, parks, neighborhoods, districts, etc.

  - Comprehensive Plans
  - Small Area Plans (downtown, neighborhoods)
  - Mobility Plans
  - Transit Station Area (TOD) Plans
  - Safe Routes to School Plans
  - Campus Plans
  - Parks Plans
  - Master Plans
EXAMPLE: Land Use in Globeville, North Denver
Proposed Land Use
How do planning, land use and zoning work to increase activity friendly routes?

• **ZONING** is law; specifies allowable legal uses for property by the landowner.

• **Zoning** implements the policy vision of plans
Existing Zoning

Zoning - Color
- Single Unit (SU)
- Two Unit (TU)
- Multi Unit (MU, RH, RO, TH)
- Residential Mixed Use (RX)
- Commercial Corridor (CC)
- Mixed Use (MX, M-GMX)
- Main Street (MS)
- Cherry Creek North (C-CCN)
- Downtown (AS, C, CPV, GT, LD, TD)
- Downtown - Civic (D-CV)
- Industrial - Light (I-A)
- Industrial - General (I-B)
- Industrial - Mixed Use (I-MX, M-IMX)
- Campus (EI, EI2, ENT, H, H2, NWC)
- Special (O-1)
- Open Space - Public Parks (OS-A)
- Open Space - Recreation (OS-B)
- Open Space - Conservation (OS-C)
- Airport (DIA)
- Planned Unit Development (PUD-D, PUD-...
• **ZONING** specifies:
  • Lot sizes
  • Type of uses allowed
  • Number of stories
  • Landscaping requirements
  • Building design
  • Width of sidewalks
  • Building setbacks

C. Drive Thru Restaurant

E-RH-2.5

U-MS
How to increase activity friendly routes using planning, land use and zoning processes:

Find the **Intervention Points for Public Health:**

- Comprehensive or General Plan initiatives - join project team
- Small area Plans: neighborhood, transit station – join project team
- Transit service changes (routes, stops): testify on public health impacts
- Budget process: join table as public health voice
- City Council or Planning Board rezonings: testify in support of public health impacts

**Relationship-building is KEY**
Examples of specific strategies in plans to increase activity friendly routes and destinations:

E. Eliminate sidewalk exemptions within the development review process.
Before

After
Denver Neighborhood Equity Index
https://arcg.is/00XjrH

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