

FORTNIGHTLY LITERATURE REVIEW

REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION	ALERT SOURCE	KEYWORDS
GENERAL POLICY AND RESEARCH			
<p>Tomer, A., Kneebone, E., Puentes, R. and Berube, A. 2011. <i>Missed Opportunity: Transit and Jobs in Metropolitan America</i>. Washington DC: Brookings Institution.</p> <p>http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/Programs/Metro/jobs_transit/0512_jobs_transit.pdf</p>	<p>This report provides an analysis of data from 371 transit providers in the 100 largest metropolitan areas in the US. The research found that residents of cities and lower income neighbourhoods have better access to transit than residents of suburbs and middle/higher income neighbourhoods. However, one quarter of jobs in low and middle skill industries are accessible via transit, compared to one third of jobs in high skills industries. The research shows that residents of low income suburbs who have jobs in low and middle skill industries are particularly disadvantaged, but there is a need to address the relationship between transit services and location of jobs across the board.</p>	HCD	Public transport; employment; socio-economic status

<p>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. 2011. <i>Key indicators of progress for chronic disease and associated determinants</i>. Canberra: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=10737419245&libID=10737419244&tab=2</p>	<p>This report provides a report card on how prevention of chronic disease in Australia is progressing. Baseline data relevant to healthy built environments includes rates of psychological distress and depression in adults and young people; overweight and obesity in adults and children; mortality from preventable chronic diseases; waist circumference; insufficient fruit and vegetable consumption; and physical inactivity. The report states that premature deaths from leading preventable chronic diseases are falling, having decreased by 17% in 10 years. However, about a quarter of Australian children are overweight or obese, and over 60% of adults. The report uses an indicator set which does not include consideration of environmental determinants like the built environment. However, it is noted that this may be included in future data sets.</p>	<p>APO</p>	<p>Health indicators; chronic disease; obesity; physical activity; mental health; healthy food</p>
<p>Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. 2011. <i>The Health of Australia's Males</i>. Canberra: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=10737419204</p>	<p>This report outlines the key factors which influence male health, including fruit and vegetable intake; physical activity; and excess body weight. It also identifies and explores the determinants of male health, including socio-economic characteristics and the built and natural environment. It provides information about the life and healthy life expectancy and burden of disease for Australia's males. Around two thirds of adult males and one quarter of boys are overweight or obese.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Health indicators; chronic disease; physical activity; mental health; healthy food</p>
<p>Evenson, K.R., Satinsky, S.B., Rodríguez, D. and Aytur, S.A. 2011. "Exploring a Public Health Perspective on Pedestrian Planning." <i>Health Promotion Practice</i> doi: 10.1177/1524839910381699 http://hpp.sagepub.com/content/early/2011/06/15/1524839910381699.abstract?papeto c</p>	<p>This article looks at the role of public health professionals in the development of pedestrian plans in the US. It provides a comparison of plans which include reference to health and wellbeing, and those which do not.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Planning and health; collaboration; policy; physical activity</p>

<p>De Nazelle, A., Nieuwenhuijsen, M.J., Antó, J.M., Brauer, M., Briggs, D., Braun-Fahrlander, C., Cavill, N., Cooper, A.R., Desqueyroux, H., Fruin, S., Hoek, G., Int Panis, L., Janssen, N., Jerrett, M., Joffe, M., Jovanovic Andersen, Z., van Kempen, E., Kingham, S., Kubesch, N., Leyden, K.M., Marshall, J.D., Matamala, J., Mellios, G., Mendez, M., Nassif, H., Ogilvie, D., Peiró, R., Pérez, K., Rabl, A., Ragletti, M., Rodríguez, D., Rojas, D., Ruiz, P., Sallis, J.F., Terwoert, J., Toussaint, J., Tuomisto, J., Zuurbier, M. and Lebret, E. 2011. "Improving health through policies that promote active travel: A review of evidence to support integrated health impact assessment." <i>Environment International</i> 37(4): 766-777 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412011000341</p>	<p>This article addresses the interrelationships between different transportation and planning policies designed to promote active travel. It aims to address a gap in knowledge regarding the effect of these policies, how they interact with each other, and potential unintended consequences. The article makes some recommendations for further research into the design of policies, to enhance health benefits through indirect outcomes such as social capital and diet.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Planning policy; active travel; public transport; physical activity</p>
GETTING PEOPLE ACTIVE			
<p>KidsWalk Coalition. 2011. <i>Stepping to school: An assessment of neighbourhood walkability and solutions for a safer, healthier New Orleans</i>. New Orleans: KidsWalk Coalition. http://kidswalknoladotorg.files.wordpress.com/2011/05/stepping-to-school-final-web-single.pdf</p>	<p>In this report, New Orleans is described as a city which has an above average rate of obesity, and poor or non-existent walking and cycling infrastructure. The KidsWalk Coalition conducted a survey of the pedestrian infrastructure in the city by sending groups of trained surveyors to assess around one million linear feet of streets. The surveyors documented the conditions of sidewalks, signage, crosswalks and curb ramps around every public elementary and middle school in Orleans Parish. 38 of 63 school areas were determined to be hazardous, while only 1 area was rated as good. The report provides recommendations for how schools and government can address these issues through funding, inspection and maintenance, and planning provisions and policies.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>Physical activity; active transport; infrastructure; audit; low socio-economic status</p>

<p>Internicola, D. 2011. "Americans slow to embrace cycling and walking", New York: <i>Reuters</i>, May 23 2011, http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/05/23/us-fitness-walking-cycling-idUSTRE74M1QI20110523</p>	<p>This article describes recent research which shows that walking has increased only slightly and cycling rates have stagnated over the past decade. The increases have occurred among men, the employed, well educated, and people without a car. For women, children and seniors, walking and cycling rates have decreased. Dr John Pucher was interviewed for the article, and states that he believes the resistance to active travel is primarily related to safety concerns. Pucher recommends better sidewalks for pedestrians, separate and protected cycle lanes and traffic calming measures.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>Physical activity; active transport; infrastructure; safety</p>
<p>Pucher, J., Buehler, R. and Seinen, M. "Bicycling renaissance in North America? An update and re-appraisal of cycling trends and policies." <i>Transportation Research Part A</i> 45(7-8): 451-475 http://www.ecf.com/files/2/12/22/PucherBuehlerSeinen_BikeRenaissance_TRA2011.pdf</p>	<p>This article provides an assessment of cycling levels, safety and policies in Canada and the US over the past two decades. The research shows that cycling rates have increased in both countries, while cycling fatalities have decreased. It reveals significant spatial variation and socio-economic disparity in cycling rates – with cycling concentrated in central cities, in particular near universities and gentrified neighbourhoods near the city centre, and mostly undertaken by men 25-64 years old. Cycling rates for children have decreased. The article describes how the cycling policies of Portland have succeeded in increasing levels of cycling to six times the previous rate.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>Physical activity; cycling; government policy; safety; infrastructure</p>
<p>Fuller, D., Gauvin, L., Kestens, Y., Daniel, M., Fournier, M., Morency, P. and Drouin, L. 2011. "Use of a New Public Bicycle Share Program in Montreal, Canada." <i>American Journal of Preventive Medicine</i> 41(1): 80-83 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0749379711001851</p>	<p>This article describes a study of the implementation and use of a new bicycle share program in Canada. The aim of the study was to explore the prevalence and correlates of use of the program. The results showed the program was predominantly utilised by females (61.4%). Significant correlates included having a bicycle docking station within 250m of home; being aged 18-24; being university educated; being on work leave; and using cycling as a primary mode of transportation to work.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Physical activity; active transport; cycling infrastructure; bicycle share program</p>

<p>Griffith, D.M., Gunter, K. and Allen, J.O. 2011. "Male Gender Role Strain as a Barrier to African American Men's Physical Activity." <i>Health Education & Behaviour</i> doi: 10.1177/1090198110383660 http://heb.sagepub.com/content/early/2011/04/07/1090198110383660.abstract</p>	<p>For this study, 14 exploratory focus groups were conducted with 105 urban, middle-aged African American men from the Midwest in the US. The aim of the study was to examine the factors that influence their health behaviours. The research shows that there are three interrelated barriers to physical activity: (a) lack of time due to work, family and community commitments and priorities; (b) physical activity was not seen as a normative individual and social activity, and therefore was not prioritised above work and family responsibilities; and (c) the effort men expended in fulfilling their responsibilities as provider for their family limited their energy and motivation to engage in physical activity. The authors recommend that interventions aimed at improving levels of physical activity need to consider how health fits into the contexts of these men's lives.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Physical activity; men; culture</p>
CONNECTING AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES			
<p>Spiess, P. 2011. "Neighbourhood 911: the importance of not being disconnected", <i>New Urban Network</i>, 13 April 2011 http://newurbannetwork.com/news-opinion/blogs/petra-spiess/14509/neighborhood-911-importance-not-being-disconnected</p>	<p>This article addresses the relationship between neighbourhood design and social interaction. The author describes a scenario in a large-lot subdivision where she did not know any of her neighbours, and found that she could not ask them for help in a medical emergency. In contrast, when living in a new urbanist neighbourhood, she was able to make friends with her neighbours, due to elements of the neighbourhood design which encouraged people to be outside and interacting. These included communal facilities (e.g. a community mailbox), a walkable street network and open space.</p>	<p>HCD</p>	<p>Social interaction; neighbourhood design</p>

<p>Lederbogen, F., Kirsch, P., Haddad, L., Streit, F., Tost, H., Schuch, P., Wüst, S., Pruessner, J.C., Rietschel, M., Deuschle, M. and Meyer-Lindenberg, A. 2011. "City living and urban upbringing affect neural social stress processing in humans." <i>Nature</i> 474: 498-501 http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v474/n7352/full/nature10190.html</p>	<p>This article describes research conducted into the effect of city living on mental health. The research shows that mood and anxiety disorders are more prevalent in city dwellers; and the incidence of schizophrenia is strongly increased in people who are born and raised in cities. The research links the urban environment to social stress processing.</p>	<p>City Futures</p>	<p>Mental health; city living</p>
PROVIDING HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS			
<p>Donovan, J., Larsen, K. and McWhinnie, J. 2011. <i>Food sensitive planning and urban design: A conceptual framework for achieving a sustainable and healthy food system</i>. Melbourne: National Heart Foundation of Australia (Victoria Division). http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/SiteCollectionDocuments/Food-sensitive-planning-urban-design-full-report.pdf</p>	<p>This report provides guidelines for how planning and urban design can be used to improve food systems and create healthy communities. It addresses emerging issues in the food system, such as climate change; vulnerability to peak oil; loss of land and resource scarcity. It outlines the key principles of Food Sensitive Planning and Urban Design (FSPUD), and how it interacts with food production; processing and transportation; consumer access and utilisation; and waste disposal, recycling and post-use management. The report looks at how FSPUD would interact within the current Victorian planning system, and shows how it can be applied to planning and urban design strategies, and each step of the planning process. The report also provides case studies and precedents.</p>	<p>Urban Affairs</p>	<p>Healthy food; planning system; food security; Victoria</p>

* denotes an item which has been placed in a number of different categories