

FORTNIGHTLY LITERATURE REVIEW

REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION	ALERT SOURCE	KEYWORDS
GENERAL POLICY AND RESEARCH			
<p>Fisher, F. 2011. "Capital city commuting: time for a review." <i>Australian Policy Online</i> 31 May 2011 http://www.apo.org.au/commentary/capital-city-commuting-time-review</p>	<p>This article addresses current and projected trends in urban commuting (one car per person and 20,000km per year). The planet is not able to support this unsustainable practice, and the article suggests that the problem could be alleviated by making public transport more attractive. The author believes that this can be achieved through establishment of a Public Transport Levy – administered in a similar manner to Medicare, and which would remove the necessity of barriers and tickets. This would lead to a liberated public transport system, which people would want to use because they will have already paid for it, and because of ease of access.</p>	<p>APO</p>	<p>Public transport levy; commuting; neighbourhood design</p>
<p>Mees, P. and Dodson, J. 2011. <i>Public Transport Network Planning in Australia: Assessing current practice in Australia's five largest cities</i>. Brisbane: Urban Research Program, Griffith University. http://www.griffith.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/299452/urp_rp34_mees_dodson_2011.pdf</p>	<p>This report looks at public transport network planning principles, using Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane as case studies. Contemporary planning theory holds that land use is a determinant of public transport use, and this has been difficult to implement in the suburbs of Australia. However there is an emerging body of literature which demonstrates that a sustainable, efficient and well patronised public transport system can exist in a suburban context, without changes to land use. European public transport systems are used as examples – with a focus on specific techniques of line and network planning, fare and timetable structures, and institutional frameworks.</p>	<p>Urban Affairs</p>	<p>Public transport; car dependence</p>

	According to the literature, a key element of success is an overarching public transport network planning agency. The report provides two key principles and five key practices for network planning.		
Simons, M. 2011. "Who should look after the cities?" <i>Inside Story</i> 2 June 2011 http://inside.org.au/who-should-look-after-the-cities/	This article is a response to the recently released <i>Our Cities, Our Future</i> national urban policy. Comparison is made with the Building Better Cities program which was implemented during the 1990s under Prime Ministers Hawke and Keating. The author explores the role the federal government will take in urban planning, and provides a critical analysis of the content of the urban policy, and the funding behind it. Peter Newton of Swinburne University is interviewed about research into retrofitting and regeneration of existing Australian suburbs, and the idea of using demonstration precincts to display the best of planning and building.	APO	National Urban Policy; federal government
Goličnik, B. and Ward Thompson, C. 2010. "Emerging relationships between design and use of urban park spaces." <i>Landscape and Urban Planning</i> 94(1): 38-53 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0169204609001637	This article describes a study which used behaviour mapping and GIS techniques such as spatial annotation and visualisation to explore how people use large urban parks in two European cities. The research describes how common patterns of behaviour can be linked to particular layouts and details of parks, and recommends that the behaviour mapping techniques used in the study be utilised in design decision-making. The article includes some tentative design guidelines relating to sitting in the grass and the desirability of edges; personal space/public distance; size and shape of activity spaces; and buffer zones for activity spaces.	InformeDesign	Observation methods; behaviour mapping; open space
Clark, R., Armstrong, R. and Waters, E. 2010. <i>Local government and obesity prevention: An evidence resource. Interventions to prevent obesity in early years settings; tackling food insecurity and built environment changes to support</i>	This report addresses the extension of the role of local government in public health – from being only concerned with the spread of infectious diseases, to a significant role in the prevention of lifestyle diseases and the creation of healthy communities. The core local council functions relevant to the prevention of lifestyle	APAN	Local government; interventions; physical activity; food security; community services;

<p><i>physical activity</i>. Geelong: CO-OPS Secretariat, Deakin University. * http://www.co-ops.net.au/File.axd?id=5284d5c4-669d-406b-8419-2df0128064c2</p>	<p>diseases are identified as: infrastructure provision and property services; provision of recreation facilities and open space; some health services; community services; building services; planning and development approval; administration of facilities; and provision of cultural facilities. The authors acknowledge that local councils have limited resources for preventative health interventions. The report provides recommendations for how local councils can undertake interventions within these parameters, using existing services.</p>		<p>infrastructure</p>
<p>Christian, H., Giles-Corti, B., Knuiman, M., Timperio, A. and Foster, S. 2011. "The influence of the built environment, social environment and health behaviours on body mass index. Results from RESIDE." <i>Preventive Medicine</i> doi: 10.1016/j.ypmed.2011.05.004 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0091743511001757</p>	<p>This study examined the individual, behavioural, social and built environment correlates of BMI in an adult population in Perth, WA. The results showed that age, gender, hours of work, total physical activity, sedentary leisure time and dietary fat were all positively associated with BMI. BMI was not found to have a relationship with objective measures of the built environment, social capital, social cohesion or dog ownership, but was found to have a relationship with perceived safety from crime. The authors conclude that although there is a clear link between the built environment and physical activity, there is difficulty in then establishing the link between this and BMI.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Physical activity; built environment; BMI</p>
<p>Douglas, M.J., Watkins, S.J., Gorman, D.R., and Higgins, M. 2011. "Are cars the new tobacco?" <i>Journal of Public Health</i> 22(2): 160-169 http://jpubhealth.oxfordjournals.org/content/33/2/160.full.pdf+html</p>	<p>This article addresses the relationship between human health, global sustainability and private car dependence; and provides a comparison with the experience of public health work on tobacco use. This includes consideration of the activities of the 'car lobby' and factors underpinning car dependence. The authors find many similarities between marketing strategies used by the tobacco industry to encourage uptake and maintenance of smoking, and advertising and sponsorship strategies used by the car lobby. They also note that location and design of neighbourhoods is a critical element of car</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Car dependence; physical activity; active transport; marketing; advocacy; public health</p>

	dependence. The authors recommend that public health professionals advocate for policies that reduce car use and promote active travel.		
Richards, R., Murdoch, L., Reeder, A.I. and Amun, Q. 2011. "Political activity for physical activity: health advocacy for active transport." <i>International Journal of Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity</i> 8(52) doi:10.1186/1479-5868-8-52 * http://www.ijbnpa.org/content/pdf/1479-5868-8-52.pdf	This New Zealand study explores the role of local government in effective health advocacy, through looking at submissions made by city residents and health professionals to city council annual plans, in regard to active transport. An information sheet about active transport was distributed prior to the making of submissions. The article describes the contents of the submissions made, and analyses the effectiveness of the information sheet as an advocacy tool.	APAN	Public health advocacy; local government; active transport
GETTING PEOPLE ACTIVE			
Morency, C., Trépanier, M. and Demers, M. 2011. "Walking to transit: An unexpected source of physical activity." <i>Transport Policy</i> doi:10.1016/j.tranpol.2011.03.010 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0967070X11000631	This Canadian study uses data from a regional survey to show that there is a positive relationship between modal shift from cars to transit and volume of daily physical activity, due to the walking distance involved in every transit trip. The results show that an average round transit trip accounts for 25% of the recommended volume of physical activity per day.	APAN	Physical activity; active transport
Clark, R., Armstrong, R. and Waters, E. 2010. <i>Local government and obesity prevention: An evidence resource. Interventions to prevent obesity in early years settings; tackling food insecurity and built environment changes to support physical activity.</i> Geelong: CO-OPS Secretariat, Deakin University. * http://www.co-ops.net.au/File.axd?id=5284d5c4-669d-406b-8419-2df0128064c2	This report addresses the extension of the role of local government in public health – from being only concerned with the spread of infectious diseases, to a significant role in the prevention of lifestyle diseases and the creation of healthy communities. The core local council functions relevant to the prevention of lifestyle diseases are identified as: infrastructure provision and property services; provision of recreation facilities and open space; some health services; community services; building services; planning and development approval; administration of facilities; and provision of cultural facilities. The authors acknowledge that local councils have limited resources for preventative health interventions. The report provides recommendations	APAN	Local government; interventions; physical activity; food security; community services; infrastructure

	for how local councils can undertake interventions within these parameters, using existing services.		
Richards, R., Murdoch, L., Reeder, A.I. and Amun, Q. 2011. "Political activity for physical activity: health advocacy for active transport." <i>International Journal of Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity</i> 8(52) doi:10.1186/1479-5868-8-52 * http://www.ijbnpa.org/content/pdf/1479-5868-8-52.pdf	This New Zealand study explores the role of local government in effective health advocacy, through looking at submissions made by city residents and health professionals to city council annual plans, in regard to active transport. An information sheet about active transport was distributed prior to the making of submissions. The article describes the contents of the submissions made, and analyses the effectiveness of the information sheet as an advocacy tool.	APAN	Public health advocacy; local government; active transport
CONNECTING AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES			
Ryan, R.M., Weinstein, N., Bernstein, J., Warren Brown, K., Mistretta, L. and Gagné, M. 2010. "Vitalizing effects of being outdoors and in nature." <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i> 30(2): 159-168 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0272494409000838	In this article, five different studies were used to explore the relationship between being in outdoor and/or natural environments and subjective feelings of vitality (i.e. physical and mental energy). The studies are based on the premise that subjective vitality has a positive influence on behavioural and health outcomes, and physical activity and social interaction often occur outdoors and increase vitality. They collectively showed that being outdoors and around natural elements has a positive impact on subjective vitality.	InformeDesign	Green space; social interaction; subjective vitality
Hodgson, M.H., McCulloch, H.P. and Fox, K.R. 2011. "The experiences of people with severe and enduring mental illness engaged in a physical activity programme integrated into the mental health service." <i>Mental Health and Physical Activity</i> 4: 23-29 http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1755296611000032	This article presents the findings from a qualitative research study of how best the positive relationship between mental health and physical activity (established in other studies) can be utilised for people with severe and enduring mental illnesses, and how physical activity programs can be initiated and maintained. The results showed that barriers to participation in physical activity programs include a combination of the mental illness and the effects of medication. Enabling factors included support of mental health staff, and the organisation and structure of physical activity sessions. The authors recommend that	APAN	Physical activity; mental health

	physical activity programs be integrated into the mental health service, to provide the best level of access and support.		
PROVIDING HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS			
<p>Malpass, L. 2011. <i>Alcohol Policy and the Politics of Moral Panic</i>. Sydney: The Centre for Independent Studies. http://www.cis.org.au/images/stories/policy-monographs/pm-118.pdf</p>	<p>This report explores whether regulation of alcohol supply, distribution and consumption is an effective method for reducing the harmful effects of alcohol in New Zealand, in response to proposed measures to increase regulation. Key public health strategies for the reduction of alcohol consumption include restricting supply and increasing costs. The author presents the view that liberalisation of alcohol in the 1970s had the effect of reducing alcohol consumption and changing consumption patterns; while regulation has historically had a negative effect on alcohol consumption. In his view, further society wide regulations and restrictions will not reduce the harmful effects of alcohol. Instead, targeted interventions aimed at problem groups are needed.</p>	APO	Alcohol regulation; freedom; access to healthy food
<p>Clark, R., Armstrong, R. and Waters, E. 2010. <i>Local government and obesity prevention: An evidence resource. Interventions to prevent obesity in early years settings; tackling food insecurity and built environment changes to support physical activity</i>. Geelong: CO-OPS Secretariat, Deakin University. * http://www.co-ops.net.au/File.axd?id=5284d5c4-669d-406b-8419-2df0128064c2</p>	<p>This report addresses the extension of the role of local government in public health – from being only concerned with the spread of infectious diseases, to a significant role in the prevention of lifestyle diseases and the creation of healthy communities. The core local council functions relevant to the prevention of lifestyle diseases are identified as: infrastructure provision and property services; provision of recreation facilities and open space; some health services; community services; building services; planning and development approval; administration of facilities; and provision of cultural facilities. The authors acknowledge that local councils have limited resources for preventative health interventions. The report provides recommendations for how local councils can undertake interventions</p>	APAN	Local government; interventions; physical activity; food security; community services; infrastructure

	within these parameters, using existing services.		
--	---	--	--

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