

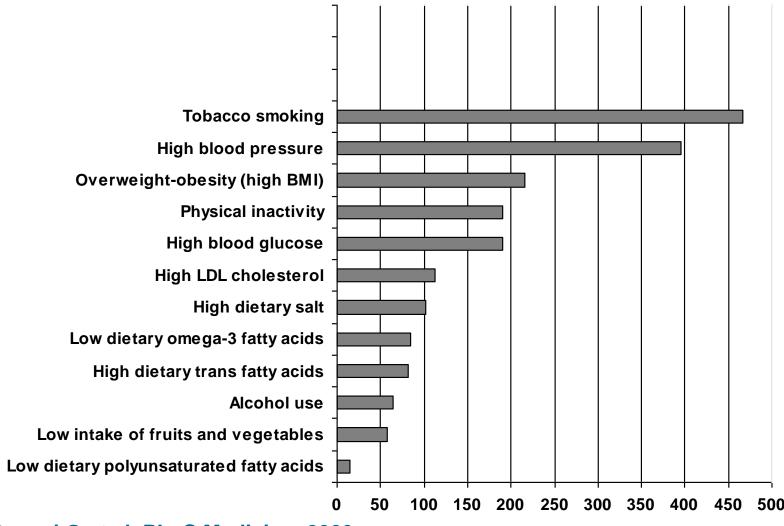
Active Living Research

Building the Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity and Support Active Communities

Welcome to ALR 101

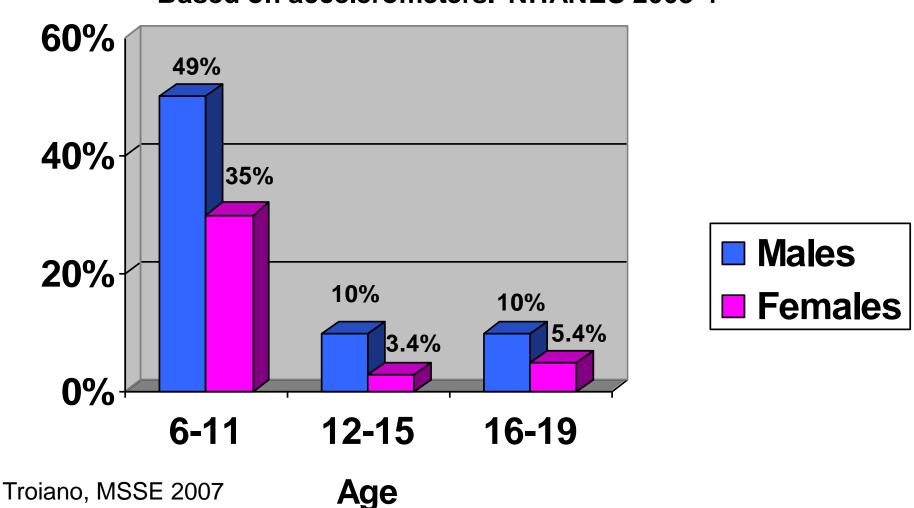
James F. Sallis, Ph.D., Active Living Research, UCSD Robert Cervero, Ph.D., UC Berkeley

Deaths (thousands) attributable to individual risk factors in both sexes

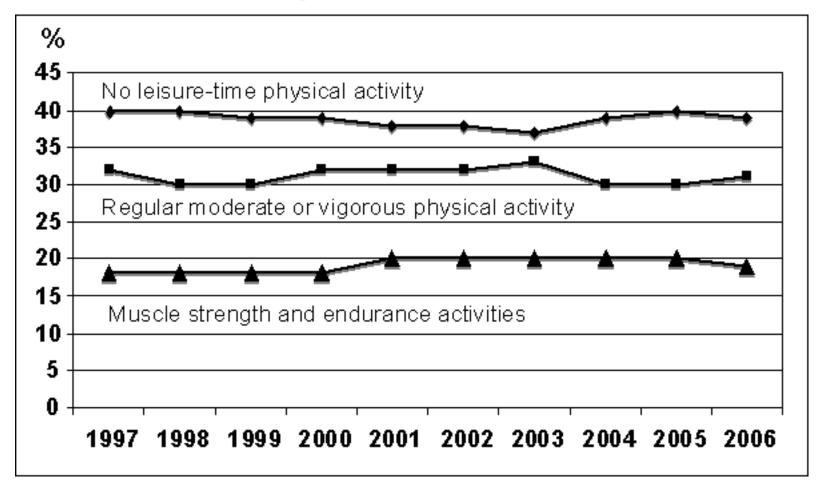


Danaei G et al, PLoS Medicine, 2009

Percentage of youth ages 6-19 meeting 60 min/day physical activity guidelines. Based on accelerometers. NHANES 2003-4



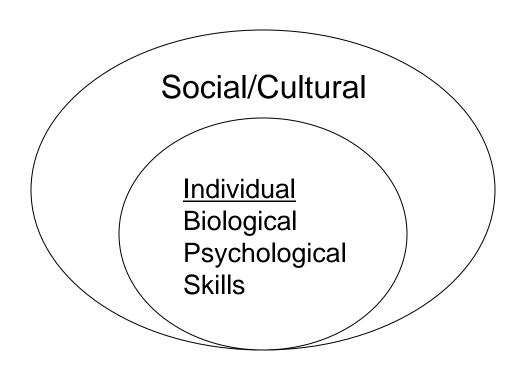
How are we doing?



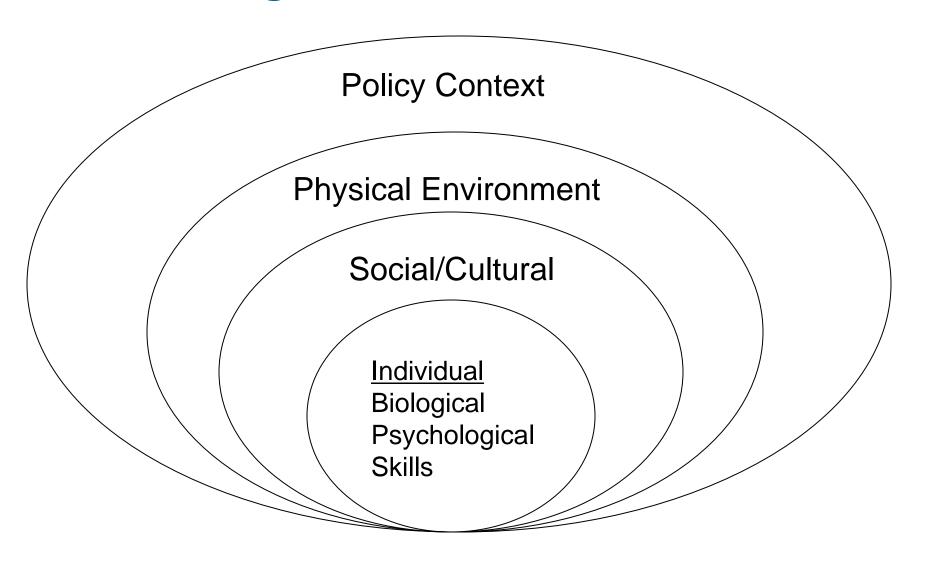
Reported Physical Activity by Adults in the USA: 1997-2006 The Healthy People 2010 Database

Healthy People 2010 Database (DATA2010) for men and women combined

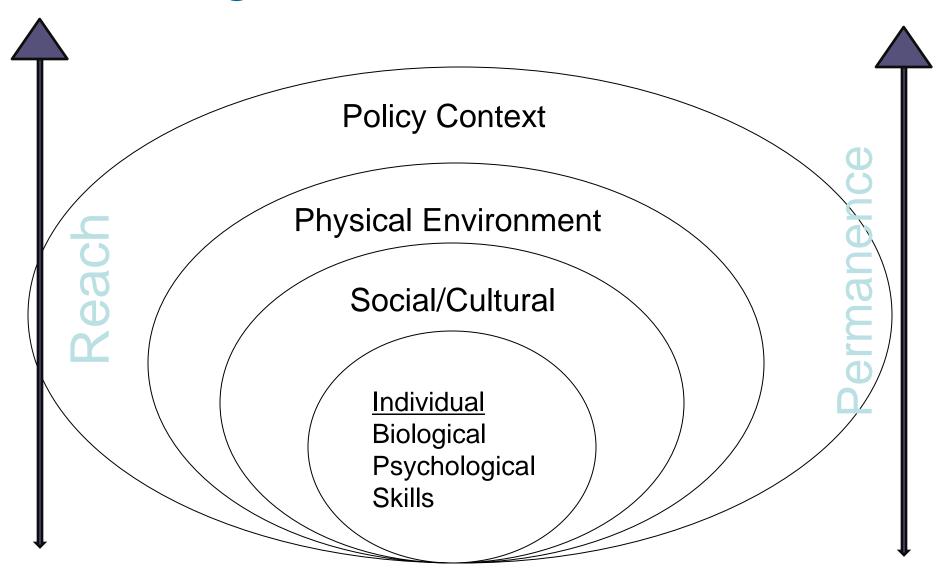
Most Models of Health Behavior



An Ecological Model of Health Behavior



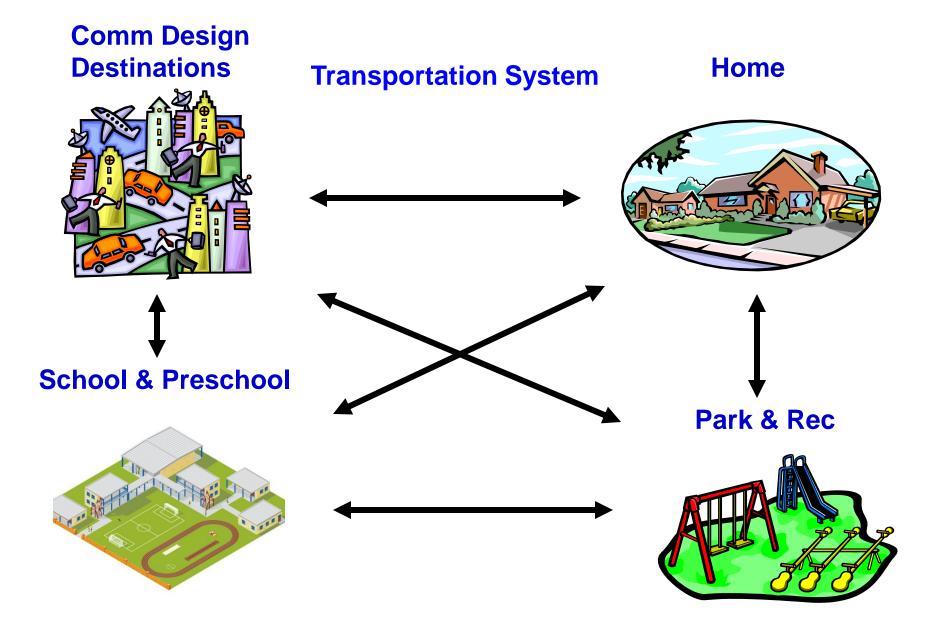
An Ecological Model of Health Behavior



Practical Policy Rationale for PA Environment & Policy Research

- ■IOM, CDC, Surgeon General, AHA, WHO, National PA Plan, and many other groups recommend policy changes as essential for improving PA, diet, and obesity.
- Policy initiatives with the intent to change PA and obesity are occurring in governments, school districts, and industry.
- Evidence is needed as a basis for this work

Elements of An Active Living Community



Active Living Research Goals: 2001-20012

- Establish a strong research base
 - Administer a \$28 million research budget
 - Contribute to reversing childhood obesity
 - Focus on ethnic, racial, & income groups at highest risk of obesity
- Build a transdisciplinary & diverse field of researchers
- Stimulate & inform policy change

Building Evidence

- Calls for proposals 1-10 & Rapid Response
 - Funding rates, 8%-25%. Higher for dissertations
 - Approximately 220 grants funded
 - No more CFPs to be issued

Conference

- Highly competitive abstract selection
- Best papers in journal supplement with wide distribution

Website

- Free access to journals & conference slides
- Measurement resources
- Literature searches, reference lists; article database
- Information for policy makers and media



Evaluation of Active Living Research 2001-20011 (mostly since 2007)

Marjorie Gutman, PhD
Dianne Barker, MHS

"ALR has probably done more to move this whole field of active living forward than anything before or anything that has come since...."

Number of Competitive Grants by Topic Area

Note: Grants could be coded in multiple categories.

	ALR I (n=91)	ALR II (n=117)
Built Environment	65	46
Health, Economics, Policy Process	4	29
Recreation	24	26
Schools	18	65
Social Environment, including crime, disorder	11	31

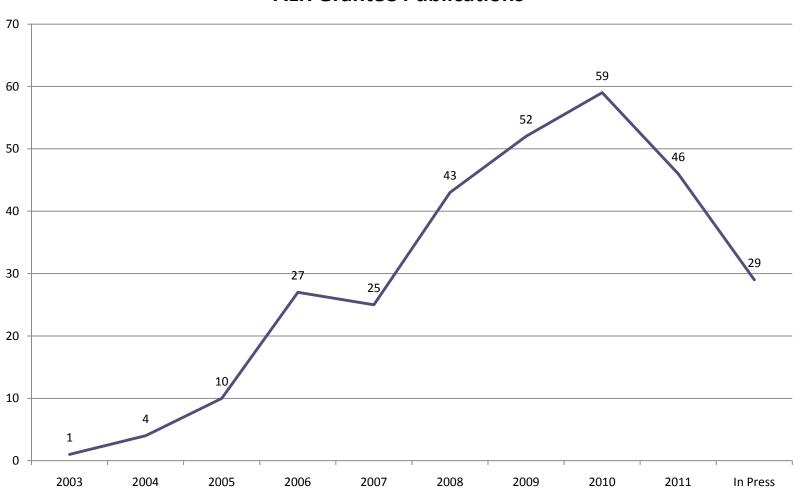
- •In the 2006 evaluation, 26% of grantees were people of color.
- •In the 2011 evaluation, that increased to 34%
- •ALR supported 12 New Connections grantees 2007-2011

2011 NPO Grantee Survey Respondents by Race/Ethnicity

Grantee Race/ethnicity	%
American Indian/Alaska Native	2
African American	9
Asian	10
Latino/Hispanic	9
Multiple race/ethnicity	3
White	66

296 Publications from ALR Grants by Mid-2011

ALR Grantee Publications



Field Building: Cultivating New Relationships

- Architecture
- Environment & Behavior
- Geography
- Landscape Architecture
- Parks & Recreation
- Planning
- Transportation
- Criminology
- Economics/Law/Policy
- Advocates/Policymakers



Building a Transdisciplinary Field

- Multidisciplinary advisory committee
- Recruiting non-traditional partners through talks at conferences
- Broad distribution of Calls for Proposals
- Seminar Program with many organizations to bring speakers from other fields
- Principal Investigators from 25+ fields

ALR Conference Evaluations: 75-95% rated 4 or 5

Conference Goals

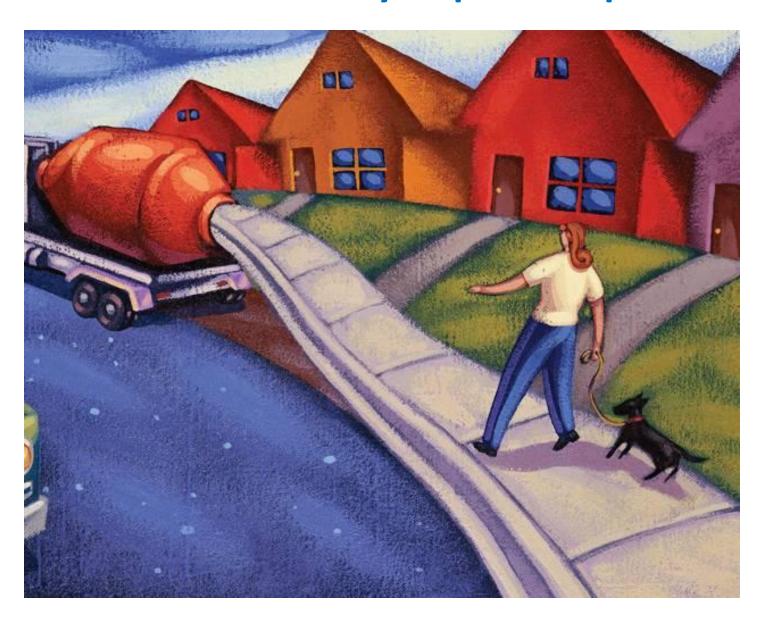
Stimulated ideas likely to lead to changes in my research

Learned new concepts from another discipline likely to enhance my work

New contacts might lead to collaboration

Builds capacity to conduct transdisciplinary studies

Research is not easy to put into practice



Translating Research into Policy

- Regular input from policy makers on research priorities & communication strategies
- CFPs for case studies & policy studies—targeting policymakers
- Research briefs for policymakers & advocates
- Sessions at ALR Conference with policymakers to show how they use research
- Research Translation Grants to communicate results from ALR grants
- Lay summaries of ALR journal articles & grants

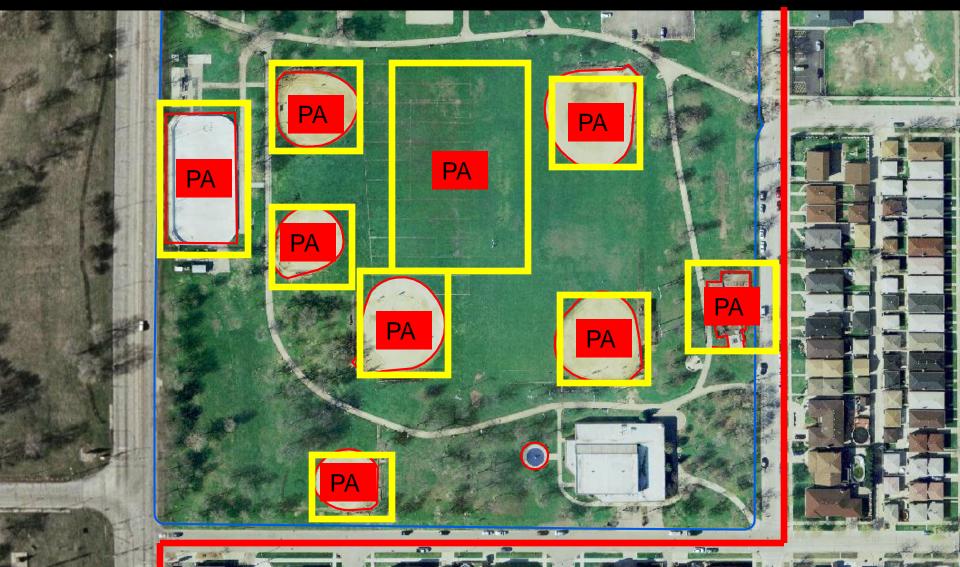
ALR research is making a difference in communities

- Study of environmental factors related to active living in rural youth helped obtain Safe Routes to School Funding in Mississippi communities
- Evaluation of family fitness zones in parks led to Trust for Public Land support for 40 more installations in LA County
- Study finding poor pedestrian access to parks in DeKalb County, GA, led parks director to build sidewalks and realize "access is as important as acres"
- Study on use of federal transportation funds across states with varying policies led Transportation 4 America to recommend changes in federal transportation law

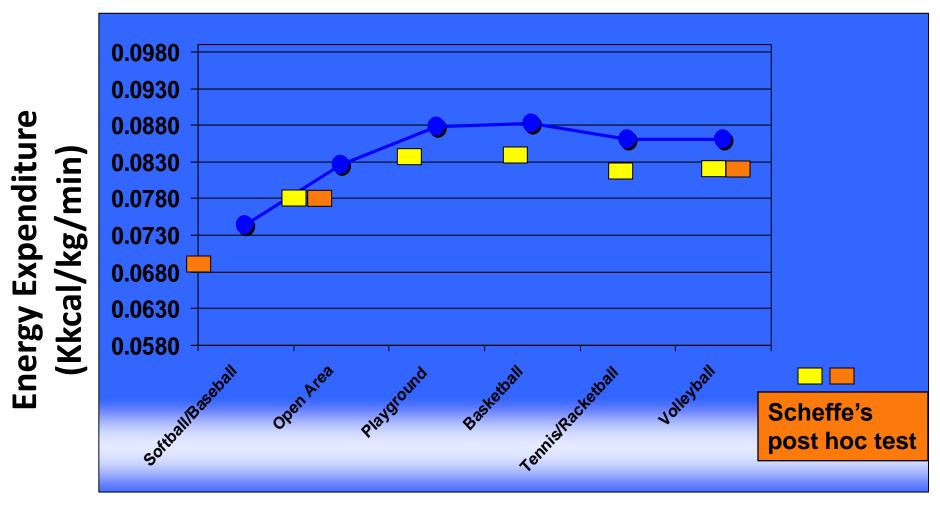
How can parks be designed to optimize active living?



Myron Floyd. NC State U Type of activity zones in parks Are related to PA



Mean Energy Expenditure by Park Activity Zones



Chicago, F = 10.20, p < .001

ALR-funded studies hitting the big TIME





Back Off, Mom. Parents Who Hover Impede Kids' Activity

By MEREDITH MELNICK Friday, September 16, 2011

Parents, if you want your kids to get more exercise, you'd be wise to get out of their way.

In a new study, published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, researchers sought to observe how kids play in parks. Their overarching goal was to help park designers create public spaces that would better entice kids to run around and exercise. But along the way, the authors discovered something else: the single biggest barrier to children's physical activity had less to do with park design itself and more to do with the hovering presence of a parent.

Children whose parents hung around monitoring them closely were only about half as likely to engage in high levels of physical activity as kids whose parents granted more freedom, the researchers found.

MORE: The Growing Backlash Against Overparenting

"It's a catch-22 for today's parents, unfortunately. Many parents are worried about the safety of their children, so they tend to hover," said study co-author Dr. Jason Bocarro, associate professor of parks, recreation and tourism management at North Carolina State University, in a statement.



What PE is—too often

What PE should be

ALR research is making a difference in schools

- Evaluation of converting schoolyards to community parks in low-income Denver neighborhoods helped achieve passage of a \$48M bond issue to convert all schoolyards in Denver
- Study of School Wellness Policies on physical activity in rural Colorado Schools led to a \$1.8M grant from CO Health Foundation to improve PE in 14 schools in San Luis Valley
- Presentation of an evaluation of MA policy requiring 60 minutes of physical activity in preschools led to NC legislature passing a similar law. Grantee got CDC contract to develop a guide for states on how to develop similar policies

Research Briefs & Syntheses, 2007-2011

- Parks
- Economic benefits of open space & walkable communities
- Growing demand for walkable communities
- Transportation policies
- Active travel to school
- Power of Trails

- Active education
- School PA policies
- Playgrounds
- Environmental disparities
- Recess
- 3 briefs on parks disparities from UC Berkeley Research Translation Grant

Examples of ALR Policy Input

- Supported ALR grantees to testify at Congressional hearing on transportation
- Participated in House staff briefing on physical activity, PE, & academic achievement
- Additional briefings with Congressional & DOE staff on reauthorization of EASA & transportation bills
- ALR is considered a "co-author" of New York City's Active Design Guidelines
- ALR brief was sent to all members of transportation committees
- Sallis spoke at Mississippi Health Summit, made proposals to CA Governor, & presented to NCSL, NASBE, NACCHO, IOM, and others

Our research is being used



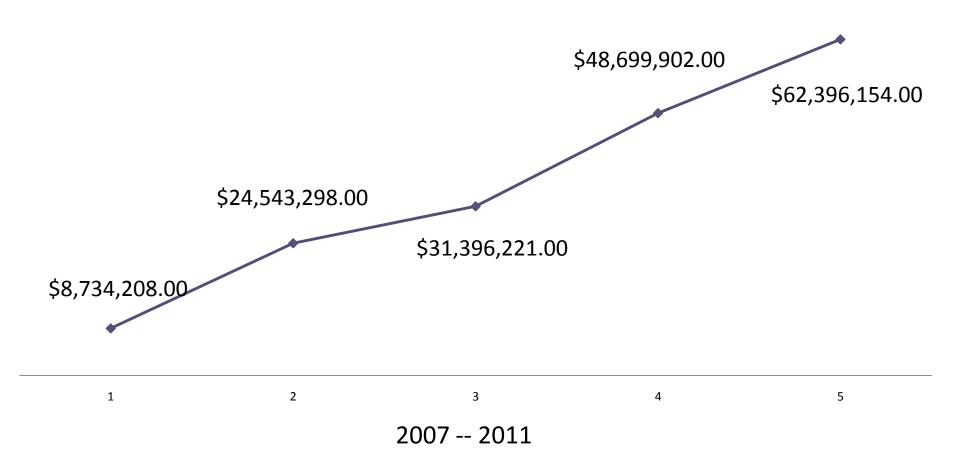
Let's Move

CDC: Communities
 Putting Prevention to
 Work (\$200M)

CDC: Community
 Transformation
 Grants (\$100M)

- Health Dept capacity
- Foundation projects

Cumulative amount for funds ALR helped grantees receive from other agencies. Based on \$27M in grants



Results of ALR Evaluations

Objective	2006 Progress	2011 Progress
Knowledge Base	Major	Major
Transdisciplinary Field	Major	Major
Contribution to Policy	Minor	Major
Financial Capital	Minor	Major
Niche	Unique	Unique

Our key goal from 2007-2011 was to improve translation of research to policy

Strategic Goals for a Redesigned ALR 2012-2015

- Contribute to rapid and sustainable change to meet the Foundation's built environment and school physical activity policy priorities and advocacy targets
- Contribute to reducing disparities in physical activity opportunities and childhood obesity
- In the redesign we will use existing research conducted by ALR and others to contribute to the new policy and advocacy strategies; to build capacity of researchers to be more effective translators of research; and to support commissioned analyses that are timely and directly relevant to the advocacy targets.
- ALR's focus will be on using the valuable research we have, not building new evidence

An Active Living Program supported by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and administered by San Diego State University.



www.activelivingresearch.org

Building the Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity and Support Active Communities

Additional Information Not Presented



The ALR Website Is Being Used (visits to home page 58, 415). Visits to Specific Pages under Tools and Resources. 2008-2010

Web site Page	Total
Tools and Measures	27,076
ALR Literature Database	12,338
Research Syntheses, Summaries and Briefs	11,764
Journal Special Issues	10,793
Resources for Policy Makers and Advocates	5,597
Resources for Media	1,358



Research Translation Grants - Topics Funded

Built Environment

- Active Transport to and from School for Urban Youth
- Community Use of Schools in Underserved Communities
- Reducing Disparities in Access to Parks and Recreational Programs
- Effect of Park Settings and Design on Park Usage by Children

School PA Opportunities

- Middle School Sport Policies;
 intramural vs extramural
- Adoption of Evidence-based
 Physical Education in
 Elementary Schools



Commissioned Analyses - Topics Invited

- Youth sports and afterschool policies with a simulation of different policy options focused on low-income children
- Case studies on the passing of complete street policies
- Cost analysis of bike boulevards and other bicycling facilities
- Documenting promotion of sedentary behavior in youth through the media
- Estimating extent to which transportation policies can promote active living
- Local regulatory incentives and barriers for development that encourage active living

What we know through ALR-funded research on built environment

Baltimore

- Interviews with African American high school students
- Key environmental barriers to PA
 - Lack of places for PA
 - Crime, violence, drugs
 - Unsafe places for PA



BALTIMORE CITY'S PARKS AND RECREATION CENTERS: AN UNDERUTILIZED RESOURCE FOR URBAN TEENS

Baltimore City's system of more than 300 city parks and 45 recreation centers offers urban youth 6,000 acres of green space and plentiful ways to exercise their bodies and minds.

The opportunities for physical activity found at parks and recreation centers are more important than ever for Baltimore's youth. Obesity rates in the city are rising, especially among adolescents. Eighteen percent are overweight, according to the 2007 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance Survey. Moreover, green spaces may help young people think more clearly and

cope more effectively with life's stresses.

Baltimore City youth are not using indoor and outdoor public spaces for physical activity as much as they could. Only 35 percent of adolescent girls in the BALTS study report they frequent recreation centers, as opposed to 52 percent of boys. Park usage is 54 percent for the girls and 66 percent for the boys surveyed.

The BALTS study of 350 high school students in Baltimore documented what draws teens to Baltimore's parks and recreation centers and what drives them away.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

Material for this Issues Focus comes from a survey of 350 youth ages 14 to 18 from two Battimore City public high schools, 48 in-depth interviews with these youth, and observations of recreational facilities. The study, conducted by Amy Vastine Ries, was part of the Baltimore Active Living Teens Study (BALTS), led by Carolyn Voorhees of the University of Maryland.

"There's a lot of glass. There's trash and needles and things. You have to have somebody clean up an

TEENS SAY PARKS ARE NOT SAFE, PRETTY, OR CLEAN

Parks are not safe.*	38
There are unsafe people at parks.	49
Parks are not pretty.*	38
Parks are not clean.*	50
Parks have the facilities that I like to use.	45
Parks are poorly maintained.	45
Parks get a lot of use*	44



ALMOST HALF OF TEENS HAVE USED PUBLIC RECREATION CENTERS

I use recreation centers for physical activity.	42
Recreation centers are open when I want to use them.	40
It is too expensive to use recreation centers.	15
Recreation centers have facilities I like to use.	60

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Center for Adolescent Health is a member of the Prevention Research Centers Program, supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cooperative agreement number 1-U48-DP-000040.
Additional funding for this project is provided by
The Charles Crane Family Foundation, The Sigmund
and Barbara K. Shapiro Fund, the Robert Wood

Johnson Foundation Active Living Research Program (Grant # 55761 and Grant # 52338).

Jayne Blanchard, Amy Vastine Ries, PhD

What we already know through ALR-funded research on PA/PE in schools around the country

Mississippi and Tennessee:

- Wellness policies are actively resisted because of schools' exclusive focus on academic achievement
- Physical Education (PE) is marginalized by all actors in education
- High school PE teachers are much more concerned about varsity sports than PE

What we already know through ALR-funded research on PA/PE in schools around the country

Texas

Evaluation of State Law on PA and Coordinated School Health Policy

- 97% of principals & district officials are aware of physical activity requirements
- 179 average minutes of structured student physical activity per week
 - Exceeding the 135 minutes required by the bill
- Strong implementation of policy was due to support from local community organizations

Building the Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity and Support Active Communities

What we already know through ALR-funded research on PA/PE in schools around the country

Denver

- Schoolyards at 47 low-income schools have been redesigned with community input and transformed into community parks.
- The volume of schoolyard use and activity levels were significantly higher at schools with renovated schoolyards.



Baltimore

- Interviews with African American high school students
- Key environmental barriers to PA
 - Lack of places for PA
 - Crime, violence, drugs
 - Unsafe places for PA



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"There's a lot of glass. There's trash and needles and things. You have to have somebody clean up and walk the entire field before you can do anything. It's really more trouble than it's worth." — Faute man. I

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Austin, TX

- Barriers to active transport to school
- Parents' perception of barriers, many about traffic, were significant for all settings
- Built environment & safety were stronger barriers for low-income communities



Nationwide

- Federal transportation funds for pedestrian and bicycling facilities
 - Counties with low education & persistent poverty less likely to receive pedestrian and bike funding
 - Between 1990 & 2004: 10,000 projects implemented in 62% of counties
 - Investment \$3.17B

- Rural Mississippi, Kentucky, South Carolina and California
- Input from children & parents
- Barriers to activity
 - no shoulders on roads
 - heavy truck traffic
 - no access to school grounds
 - lack of parks
 - lack of safety, crime and wild animals





Rapid-Response Grants - Key Findings

Around the Country

- Fitness Zones can be cost-effective in increasing physical activity in parks, especially for small parks
- Low-income children in a smart growth community likely to be more physically active near their home than children living in traditionally designed communities
- Emphasizing outdoor and social settings can lead to more enjoyable, lengthy, and intense physical activity experiences

Rapid-Response Grants - Key Findings

<u>Hawaii</u>

Top factors that would motivate parents to let their child walk or bike to school:

- improved condition of sidewalks or pathway
- improved safety of intersections and crossings
- crossing guards
- reduce speed of traffic and amount of traffic
- adults to walk or bike with



ALR Seminars to Policy & Practice Groups 2007-2011

- Indian Health Service
- American Educational Research
 Association
- State of Environmental Justice in America
- American Society of Criminology
- Urban Affairs Association
- Society for Research on Child Development
- Community Indicators Consortium
- New Partners for Smart Growth

- National Planning Conference
- National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality
- National Medical Association
- National Hispanic Medical Association
- ProWalk/ProBike
- National Council of La Raza
- Education Commission of the States
- National Society for Physical Activity
 Practitioners in Public Health

ALR Features Diverse Leaders (2007-2012)

4 of 5 ALR Conference Chairs

■21 of 43 ALR Conference Program Committee Members

■8 ALR Conference Keynotes and Featured Panels

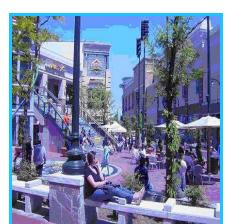
4 Authors of ALR Briefs & Syntheses



Urban Planning & Active Living Research

- > Urban planning: long rooted in health concerns...
 - Density & crowding
 - Incompatible uses & exclusionary zoning
 - Sanitation
 - Building codes & public safety
 - Clean air mandates
- ➤ Increasingly inclusive & trans-disciplinary
 - Bringing key stakeholders together developers, citizens, employers, environmental advocates, public health officials



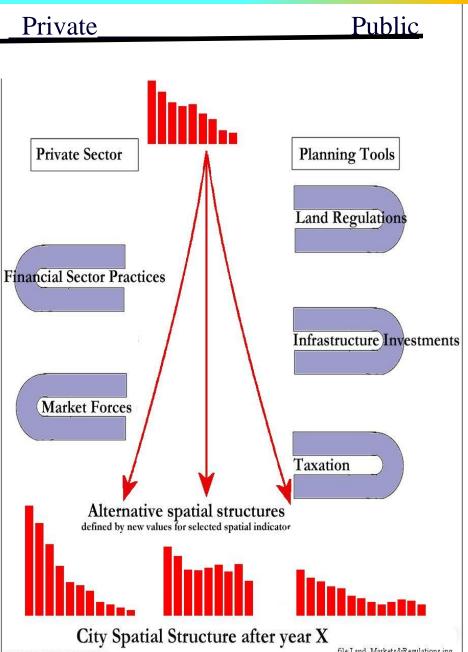




Diversity & Inclusion



Urban Planning: Spheres & Implementation Tools



- General Plans/Neighborhood Plans
- Zoning, Subdivision Regulations, Building Codes
- Design Guidelines
- Impact & Environmental Review (NEPA/EIS)
- Land Banking/UGB
- Targeted Infrastructure Investment
- Tax Increment Financing
- Enterprise Zones
- Tax Abatement

Urban Planning: Temporal & Spatial Contexts

▶ Planners Work at Multiple Scales Neighborhood

- ... & Across Variable Time Horizons
 - Managing & regulating existing growth
 - Forward-looking: anticipating & guiding future growth

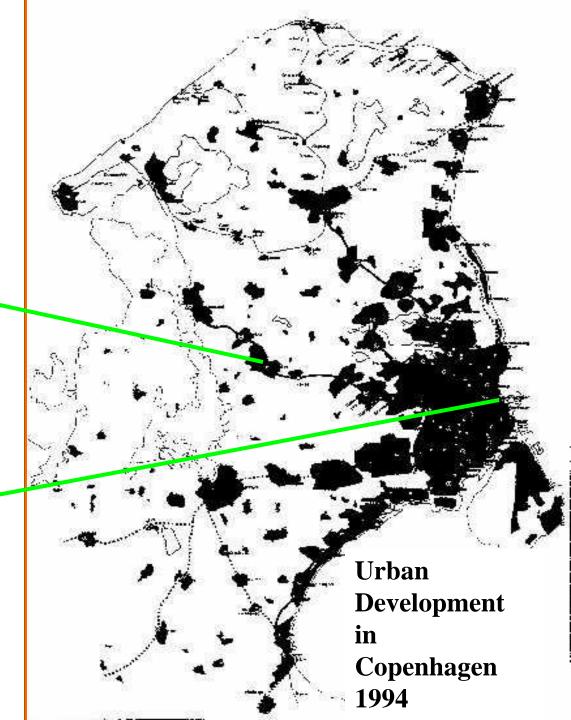
COPENHAGEN

From Vision to Plan ... to Execution





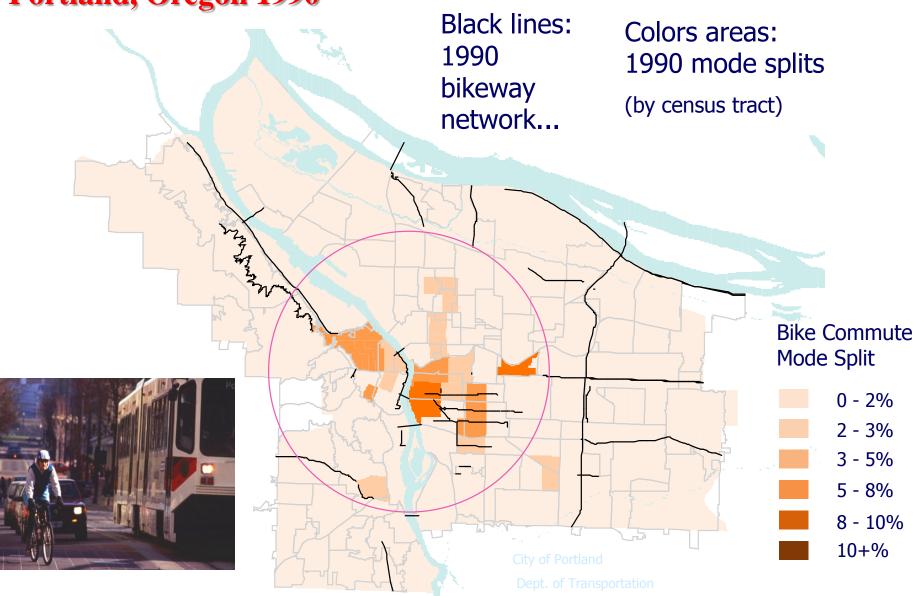
"Straget"



BUILDING A NETWORK

Bike lanes encourage bike commuting:

Portland, Oregon 1990

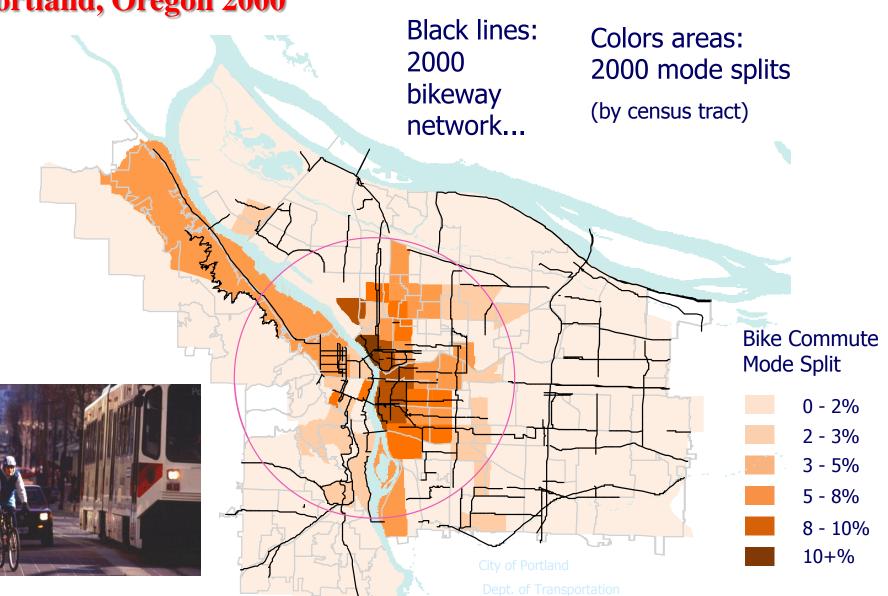


BUILDING A NETWORK

Bike lanes encourage bike commuting:

Build It & They Will Come

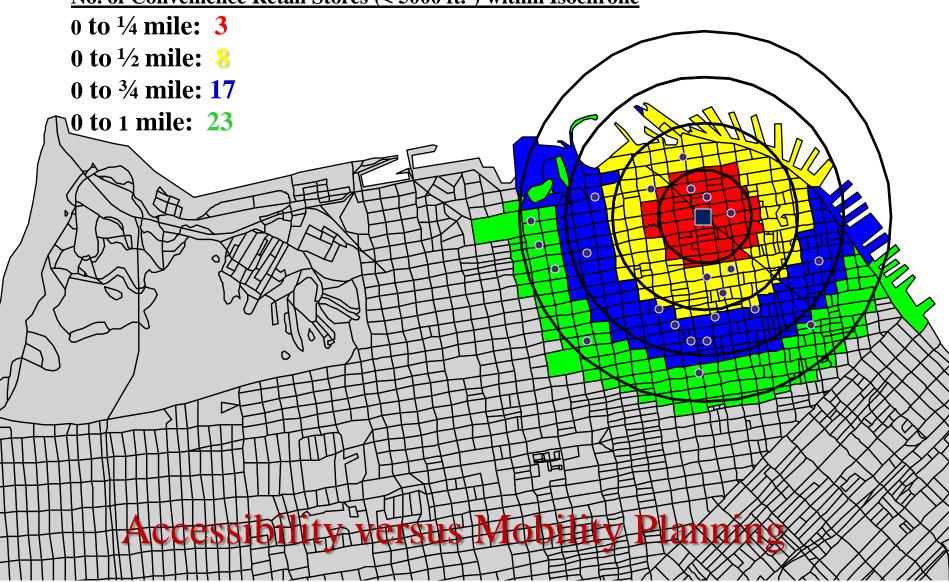
Portland, Oregon 2000

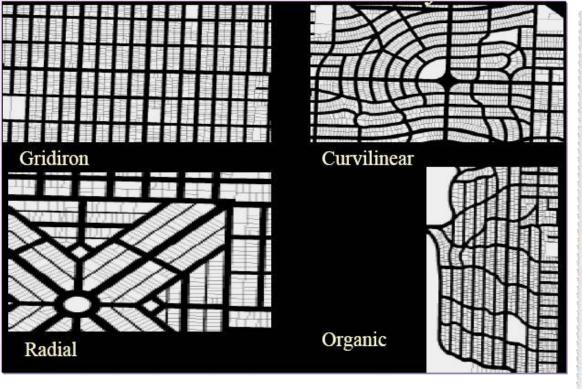


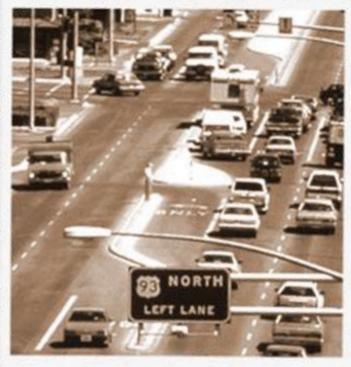
Neighborhood Grocery Store Access

1/4 Mile Isochrones, Imputed from City Block Data

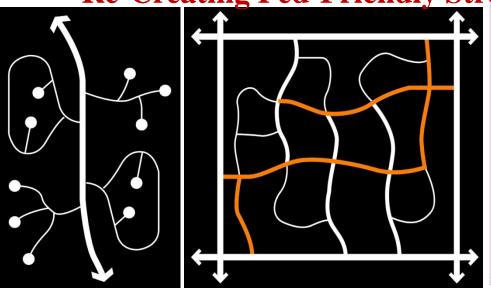
No. of Convenience Retail Stores (< 5000 ft.²) within Isochrone

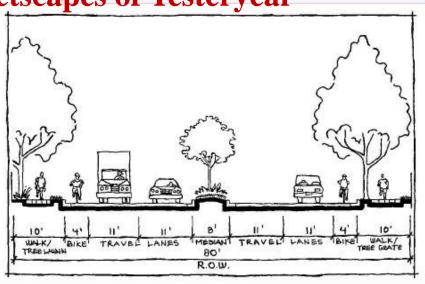






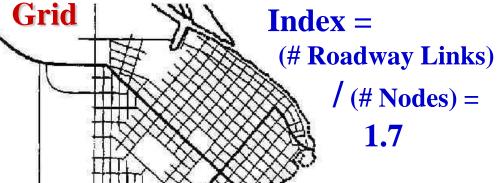
Re-Creating Ped-Friendly Streetscapes of Yesteryear



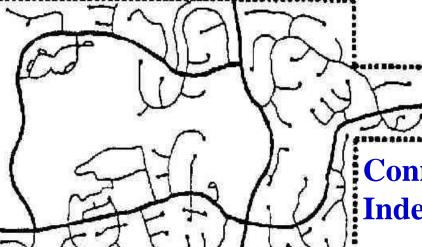


Measuring Connectivity

Connectivity



Curvilinear: Loops & Lollipops



Traditional Urbanism

New Urbanism

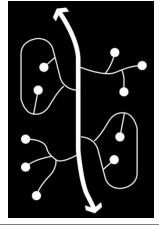
	ELMWOOD (1905)	KENTLANDS (1989)	LAGUNA WEST (1990s)
Street Patterns			
Intersections	+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++	# * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	X
Lineal Feet of Streets	18,000	24,000 (alleys 7, 000)	19,000
Number of Blocks	23	24 (w.o. alleys 14)	16
Number of Intersections	20	41 (with alleys)	20
Number of Access Points	17	22	14
Number of Loops & Cul-de-sacs	1	10	15

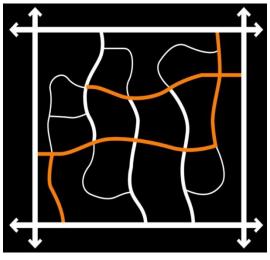
Connectivity

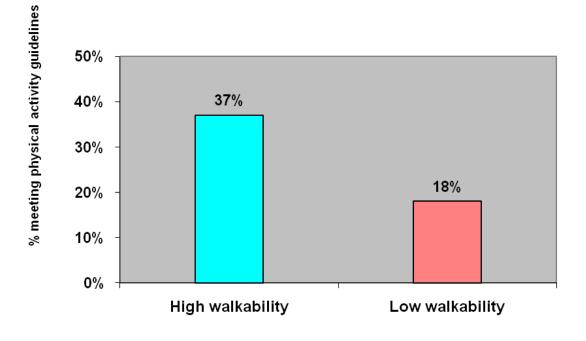
Index = 1.2

BUILDING THE EVIDENCE

Atlanta adults: accelerometer showed people who live in walkable neighborhoods are more likely to meet recommended daily levels of physical activity.







Frank, Schmid, et al., Am J Prev Med, 2005

Complete Streets



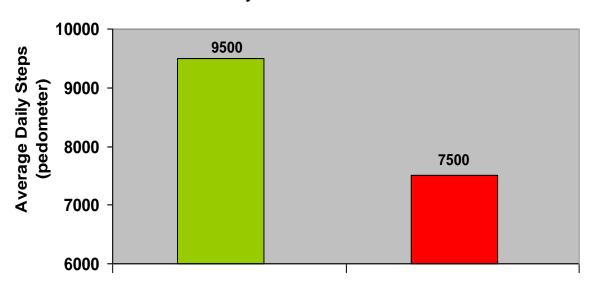






Walking & Public Transit

Daily steps are higher among adults who commute by train instead of car



Pedometer data collected from over 100 New Jersey train and car commuters revealed that those who commuted by train walked 30% more steps a day and were 4 times more likely to meet recommended 10,000 steps daily than car commuters.

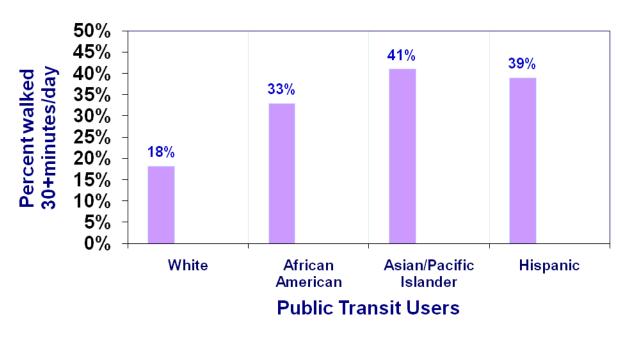
Train (Commuting Mode

Wener & Evans, Environment and Behavior, 2007



Walking & Public Transit: Pro-Inclusiveness

2001 National Household Travel Survey (N=3,312): 29% of public transit users achieve the Surgeon General's recommendation of 30 minutes or more of physical activity a day while walking to and from transit. Racial/ethnic minorities reported even greater percentages of achieving the recommended level of activity.

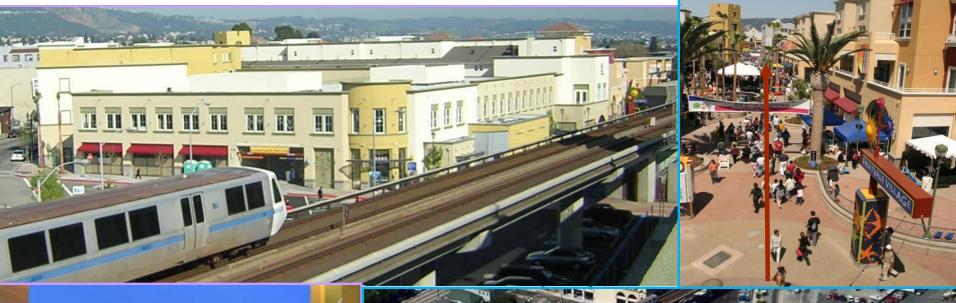






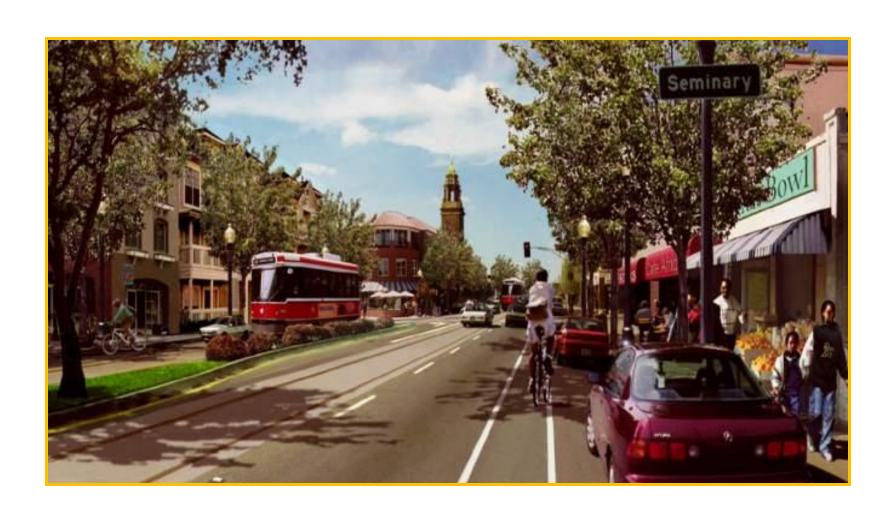
Portland Oregon's Pearl District

Ped-Friendly TOD: Fruitvale BART





Smart Growth Street Design

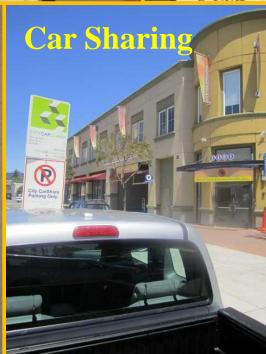


Smart Growth Street Design











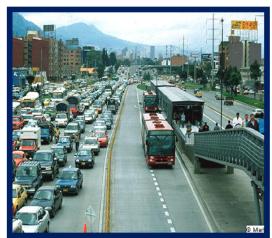
Urban Planner's Role in Transdisciplinary Research

Influences of Built Environments on Walking and Cycling: Lessons from Bogotá

Robert Cervero, Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley
Olga L. Sarmiento, M.D., Los Andes University, Bogotá
Enrique Jacoby, M.D., PanAmerican Health Organization, Washington
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Research Design

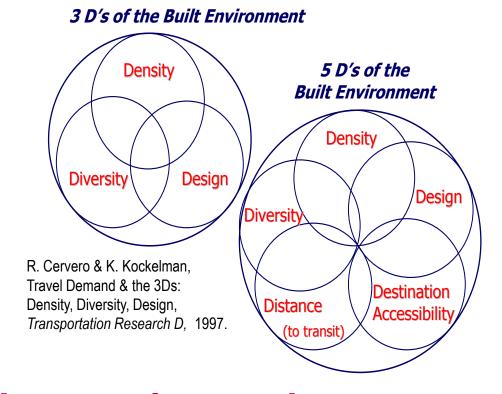
1. Physical Activity & Travel Data: weekly diaries compiled from International Physical Activity Survey (IPAQ) of 1335 HHs; validated by accelerometers

2. Built Environment Data: 5 D's compiled using cadastral

data & GIS

3. **Modeling:** *Ecological Approach –*

- * Socio-economic factors
- * Attitudinal factors
- * Policy variables
- * Environmental factors
 - -- Built Environment
 - -- Natural Environment



Used Multi-Level Modeling: People nested within Neighborhoods

Scales of Analysis for Built Environment Variables

BLOCK

500 meter buffer around the block centroid (immediate neighborhood environment)

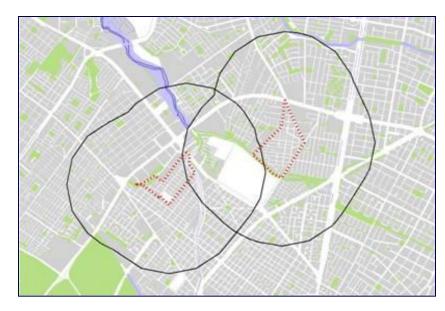




DISTRICT

1000 meter buffer from the neighborhood boundaries (expanded neighborhood environment)





Dimension	Candidate Variables
(1) DENSITY	Persons per hectare; dwelling units per hectare; % of land area occupied by buildings; average building floor height; plot ratio (building m²/land m²)
(2) DIVERSITY	Entropy index of land-use mix (0-1 scale); proportion of buildings vertically mixed; proportion of total floorspace in buildings with 2+ uses
(3) DESIGN Amenities	Public park area as % of total land area; average park size (hectares); % of road links with median strips; traffic light density (traffic lights/street length); tree density (trees/street length);
(3) DESIGN Site & Street Design	Average lot size (m²); quadrilateral lots as % of total; percent of blocks with contained housing and access control; street density (street area/land area); proportion of intersections with: 1 point (cul de sac), 3 points, 4 points, 5+ points; bike lane density (lineal m of bikelane/lineal m of streets); route directness (0-1 scale measuring shortest street distance/straightline distance between neighborhood centroid and 8 compass points); connectivity index (intersection nodes/street links); number of bridges; ciclovia twoway length (lineal m)
(3) DESIGN Safety	Number of pedestrian bridges; pedestrian accidents per year; average automobile speeds on main streets; deaths (all types) in traffic accidents per year; number of reported crimes per year
(4) DESTINATION ACCESSIBILITY	Number of: public schools; hospitals; public libraries; shopping centers (> 500m²); churches; banks
(5) DISTANCE TO TRANSIT	Number of TransMilenio (BRT) stations; shortest network distance to closest TransMilenio station; number of feeder TransMilenio stations.



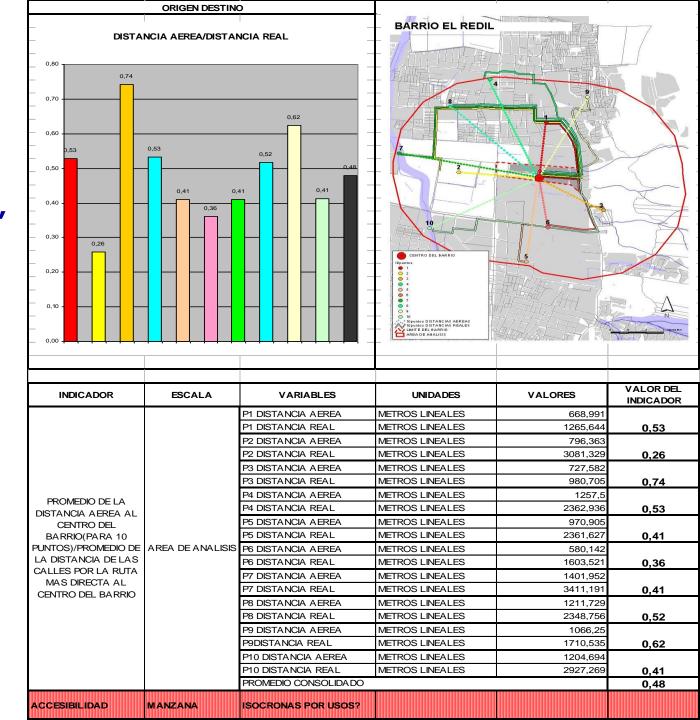
Measure: DESIGN Walking/Biking Quality



- Network Connectivity Indicator = (# links)/(# nodes)
- Sidewalk completeness = Length of sidewalks/Length of public street (centerline distances)
- **Bikelane completeness** = Length of bikelanes/Length of public streets (centerline distances)
- Route directness = Avg. straight-line distance to neighborhood center / Avg. shortest road distance to neighborhood center
- Proportion of blocks (or block faces) with:
 - sidewalks; street trees; overhead street lights; quadrilateral shape; bicycle lanes; mid-block crossings

"Route Directness"

(avg. straight-line distance to neighborhood center) / (avg. shortest road distance to neighborhood center)



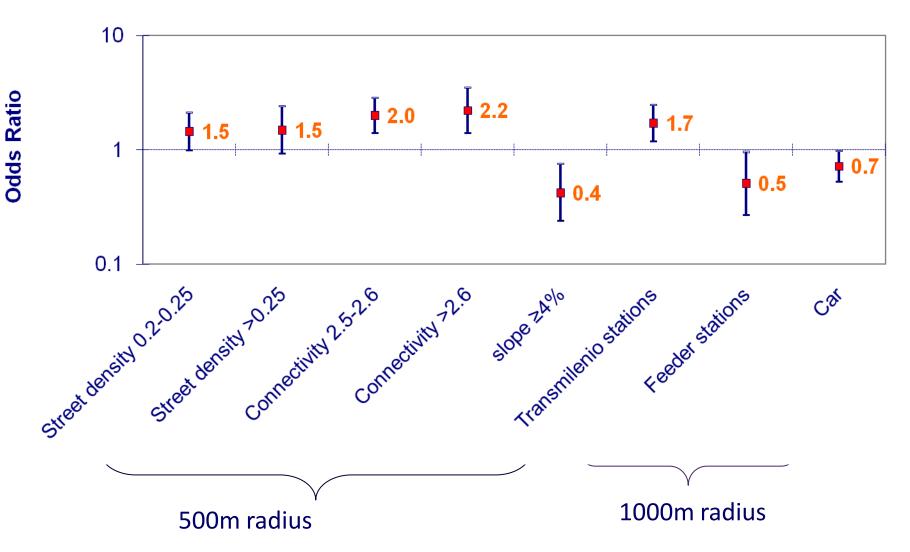
Distance to Transit and Destination accessibility

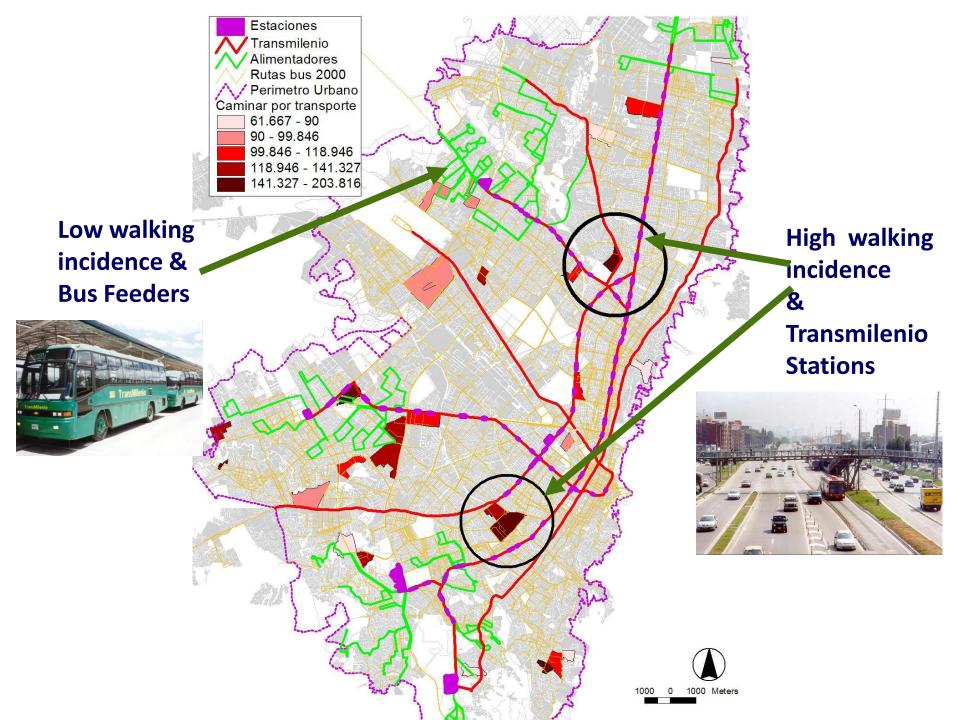




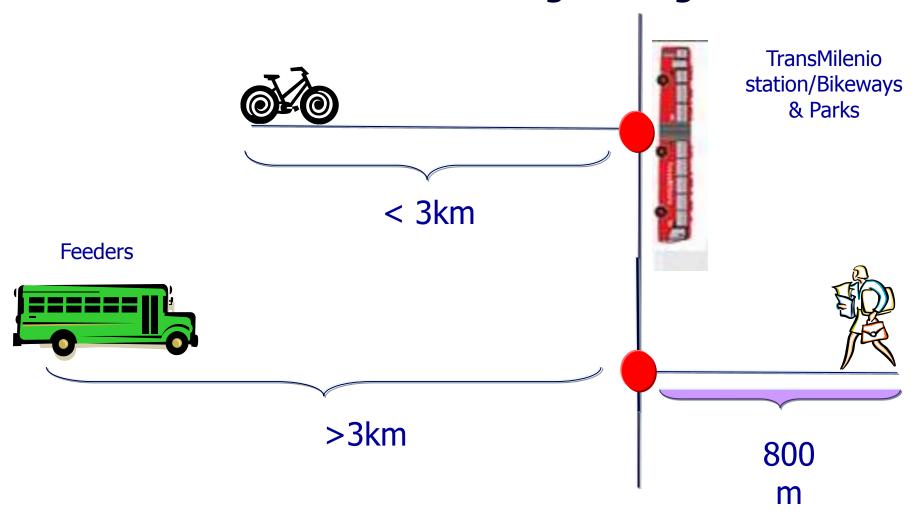








TransMilenio Offers Physical Activity OpportunitiesMulti-Modal Planning & Design



Policy Choices:
Invest in Feeder Buses or "Green Connectors"?