

HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENTS

Presentation to the OAHPP Roundtable
HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES

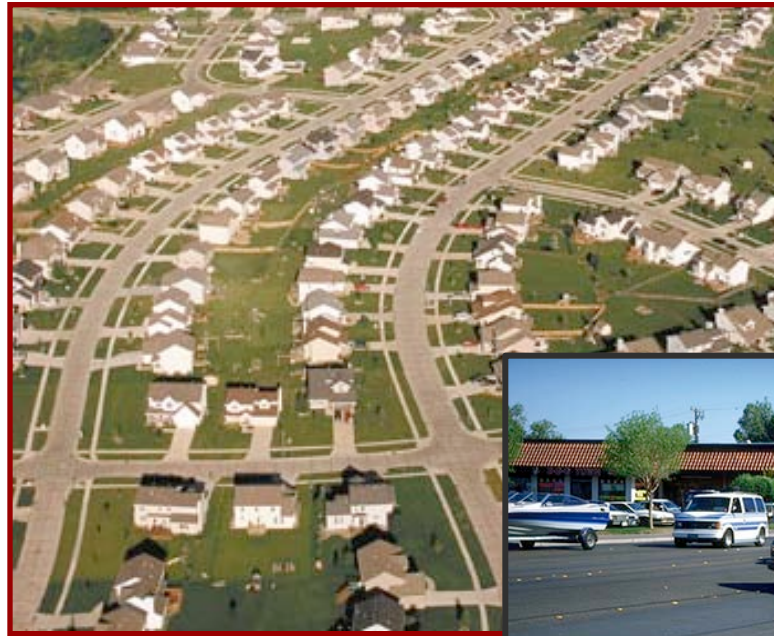


September 24, 2010
Region of Peel

Built Environment & Health: The issue

A growing body of evidence demonstrates that the way we design our communities influences key **risk factors** for **chronic disease**, such as:

- Physical activity
- Air quality
- Road safety
- Social capital
- Stress
- Food
- Heat and shade



Built Environment & Health: The issue

The medical, public health and planning worlds have independently realized the need to act.



Density

Mixed Land Use

Street Connectivity

Proximity

History of Built Environments at Peel

Council Direction:

2005

- Comment on development applications
- Develop planning policies for active living
- Advocate for provincial policy

2008

- Develop policy for Regional Official Plan
- Develop policy for Municipal Secondary Plans
- Advocate for provincial policy



The road to consistent, evidence-supported health comments

Narrative, mostly qualitative comments



Evidence-based, mostly quantitative standards (the Health Index)



Application of standards to sites → adjustments to Index based on feasibility



Ongoing refinement (based on evaluation, emerging evidence, etc.)



Peel Healthy Development Index

Purpose:

To evaluate development applications in a consistent manner and provide health-based rationale to inform planning decisions

Process:

1. Review of academic and grey literature
2. Strength of evidence analysis
3. Extensive stakeholder consultation
4. Policy gap analysis
5. Geographic Information Systems (GIS)-based validation analyses

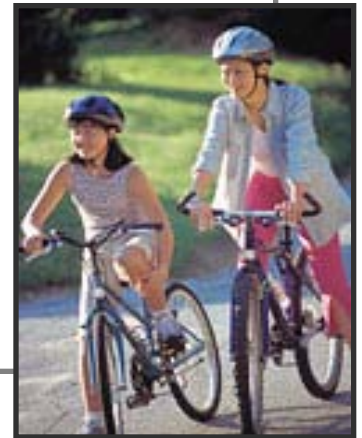


Peel Healthy Development Index

Output:

Index consisting of seven built environment *elements*:

- Density
- Proximity to services and transit
- Land use mix
- Street connectivity
- Road network and sidewalk characteristics
- Parking
- Aesthetics and human scale

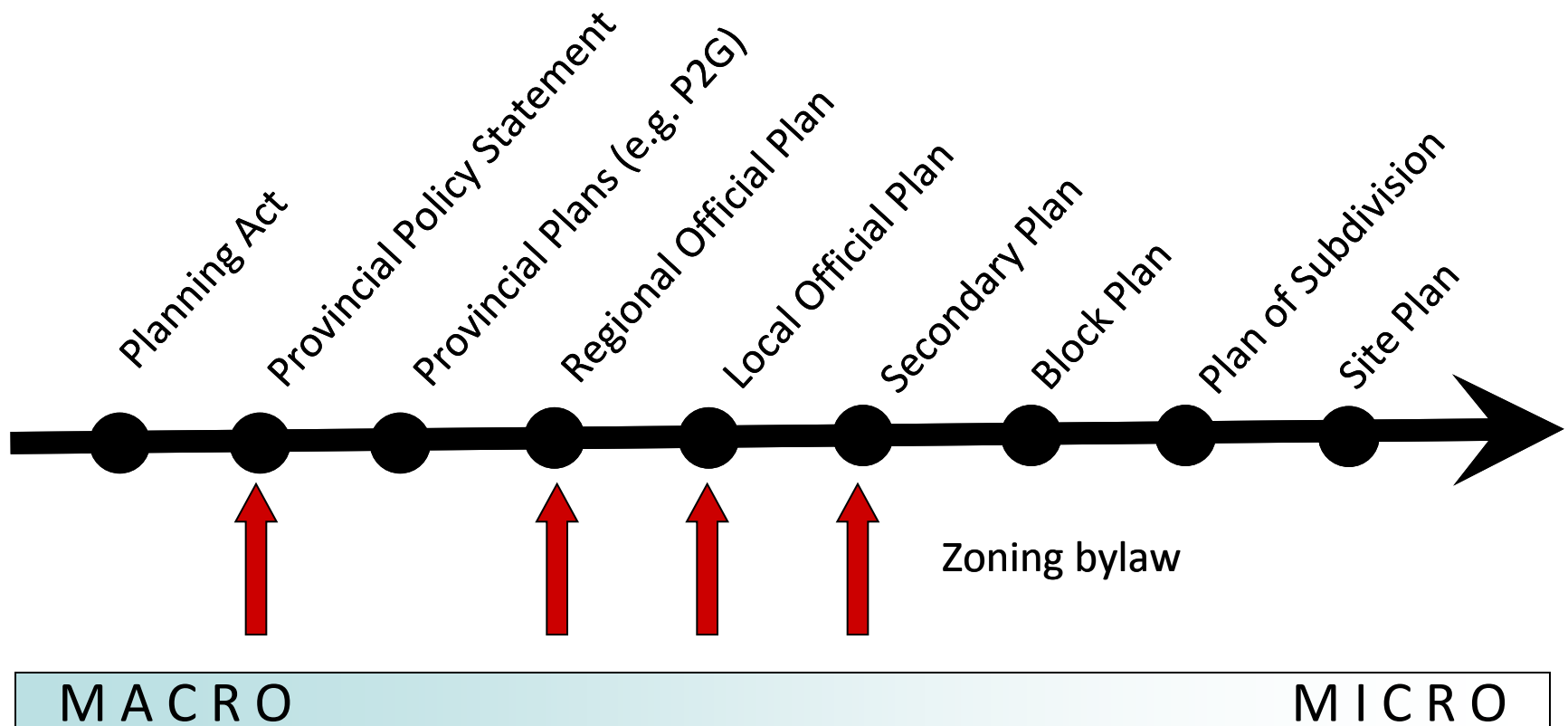


Elements are further broken down into *measures*, many of which are quantitative



Health-Promoting Policy Development

Creating supportive policies at each level of the planning policy hierarchy



Health-Promoting Policy Development

OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENTS

Document	Policy #	Intent
Peel Regional Official Plan Amendment 24	7.9.2.9	The Region will prepare an assessment tool to evaluate the public health impacts of development , jointly with the area municipalities
	7.9.2.10	The Region will work jointly with the area municipalities to raise public awareness of the health impacts related to planning through public and private partnerships
Peel Regional Official Plan Amendment 25	7.3.6.2.2	The Region may require health impact studies as part of a complete development application to amend the Regional Official Plan
	7.9.2.3	The Region may develop public health indicators to analyze the effectiveness of Official Plan policies and serve as a basis for policy adjustments

SECONDARY PLANS

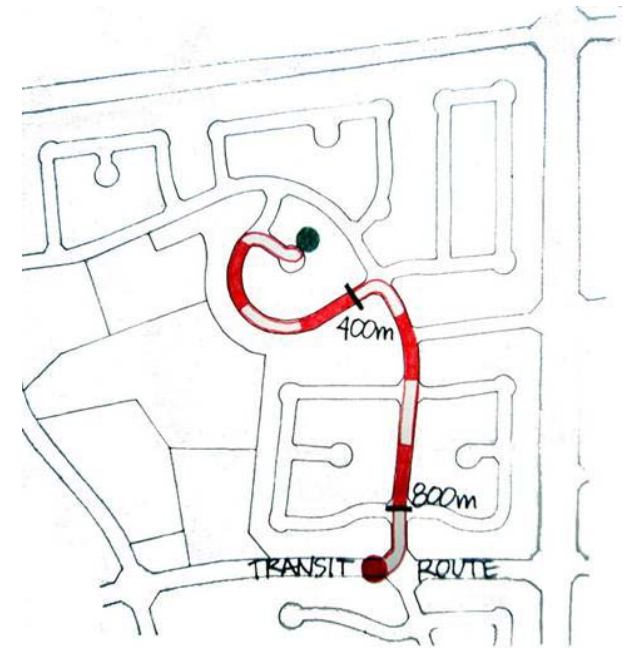
Currently developing a framework for **Health Background Studies** to be conducted by developers as part of the development proposal approval process.

Peel Health Background Study

Developing the content and criteria for a **health background study** to be implemented at the municipal and/or regional levels:

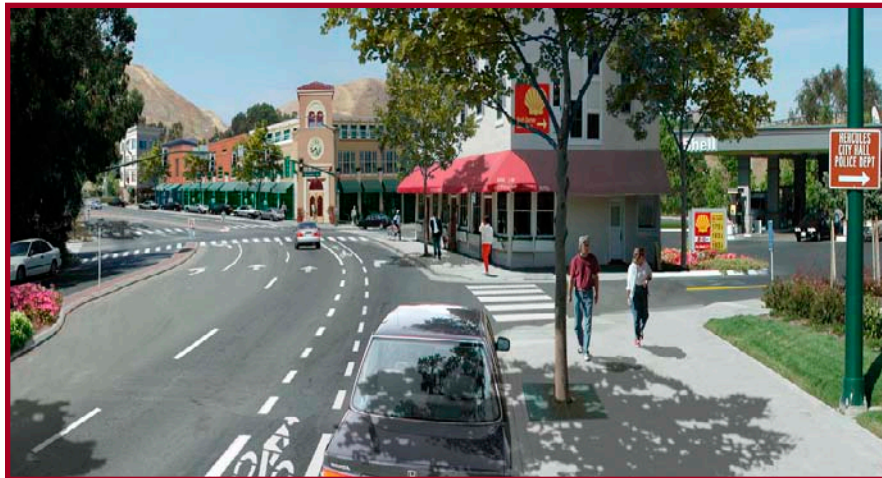
Purpose:

- To develop a framework for municipally-mandated Health Background Studies
- To design the framework to be applicable across a range of different contexts and allow developers to identify and pre-emptively mitigate any potential health hazards associated with their development proposals.



Peel Health Background Study

The Health Background Study framework and user guides will be developed through extensive consultation with key stakeholders.



The framework will be developed with **input** from:

- Municipal planners
- Regional planners
- Local developers
- Planning consultants
- Public health staff



Healthy Canada by Design: CLASP Initiative

With funding support from Canadian Partnership Against Cancer's CLASP initiative, which in turn is funded by Health Canada, we launched the Healthy Canada by Design initiative.



CLASP reaches beyond the cancer community by supporting coalitions of organizations that cross provincial and territorial boundaries to **integrate** cancer prevention with other **chronic disease prevention** strategies.



An initiative of:

CANADIAN PARTNERSHIP
AGAINST CANCER



PARTENARIAT CANADIEN
CONTRE LE CANCER

Healthy Canada by Design: CLASP Initiative

Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada

Canadian Institute of Planners

Urban Public Health Network

National Collaborating Centres for Healthy Public Policy



Six public health units:

Montreal

Peel

Surrey

Toronto

Vancouver

Victoria

All Peel Initiatives: Stakeholders Involved

All initiatives to create active healthy neighbourhoods in Peel involved extensive consultation with diverse stakeholders

Regional Planning (Transportation, Development & Policy Planning) – partners

Municipal Planning Departments – key stakeholders for consultation

Developers – key stakeholders for consultation

Planning consulting firms – consultants for toolkit & policy development
(TPP & GPA)

Health Researchers (CRICH) – developed evidence-based HDI



Multi-sectoral Collaboration: Health & Planning

1. Extremely iterative process – communication at all levels
2. Directions may need to change based on opportunity windows
3. Continuously revisit rationale and overall goals
4. Build national capacity/interest to generate local change
5. Balance multiple divergent mandates



Health and Built Environment: Next Steps

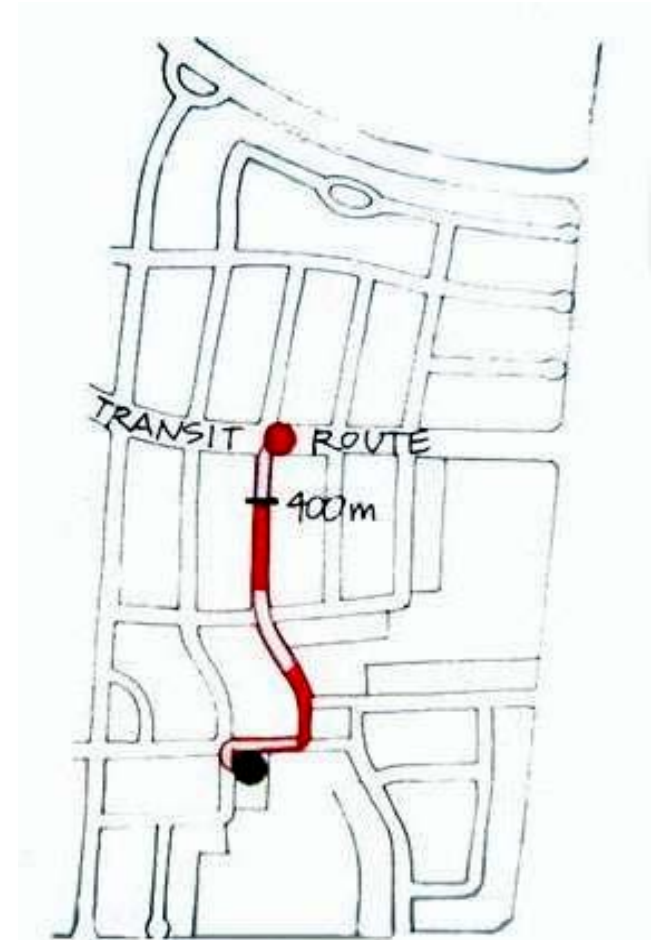
Implementation and evaluation of the Health Background Studies framework and the Healthy Development Index

Market research on neighbourhood preferences of Peel residents

Knowledge Translation activities tied to the national CLASP initiative

Ongoing **policy development** and creation of policy supports

Evaluation of overall initiative to improve health-promoting neighbourhood planning



THANK YOU!

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“Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.” – Jane Jacobs

