

HBEP FORTNIGHTLY LITERATURE REVIEW

REFERENCE	DESCRIPTION	ALERT SOURCE	KEYWORDS
GENERAL POLICY AND RESEARCH			
<p>Lowe, M., Whitzman, C., Badland, H., Davern, M., Aye, L., Hes, D. et al. 2015. 'Planning healthy, liveable and sustainable cities: How can indicators inform policy?' <i>Urban Policy and Research</i> 33(2): 131-144. http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/08111146.2014.1002606#abstract</p>	<p>This article reports the outcomes of a literature review and consultation workshops about liveability indicators in Melbourne. A table identifies social and environmental indicators which impact 11 policy areas including public open space; leisure and culture; social cohesion and local democracy; and, food and other local goods. Such indicators may help policymakers describe healthy planning problems and understand why such problems exist. This article complements the work occurring here at the Healthy Built Environments Program and further encourages changes to promote healthy, liveable and sustainable environments.</p>	APAN	Indicators; urban planning; policy
<p>Hooper, P., Knuiman, M., Bull, F., Jones, E., Giles-Corti, B. 2015. 'Are we developing walkable suburbs through urban planning policy? Identifying the mix of design requirements to optimise walking outcomes from the 'Liveable Neighbourhoods' planning policy in Perth, Western Australia.' <i>International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity</i> 12 (1): art. no. 63. http://www.ijbnpa.org/content/12/1/63</p>	<p>This article identifies the design configurations supportive of walking within Perth's Liveable Neighbourhoods. Neighbourhoods were assessed on their community design, movement network, lot layout and public parkland elements and divided into four clusters: disconnected developments, connected and compacted developments, green developments and liveable developments. A group of 664 participants residing in the neighbourhoods reported the frequency and duration of recreational and transport walking. Statistical analyses of the data reveal that continuity of pedestrian infrastructure and public open spaces encourage leisure walking. Community design that provides for residents' daily needs support local and daily transport walking. These findings distinguish</p>	APAN	Walking; leisure; transport; neighbourhoods; design; planning; policy

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	elements of Australian planning and design requirements that best support walking in neighbourhoods.		
<p>Naylor, P.J., Olstad, D.L. & Therrien, S. 2015. 'An intervention to enhance the food environment in public recreation and sport settings: A natural experiment in British Columbia, Canada.' <i>Childhood Obesity Epub ahead of print</i>. doi:10.1089/chi.2014.0148. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25988265*</p>	<p>This article assesses an experiment to introduce healthier foods in vending machines and the establishment of a food policy. Twenty-one Canadian communities representing 71 recreation and sport facilities received training and resources to create and implement a strategy to provide healthier items in vending machines, concessions and children's programs. Twenty-three communities representing 35 recreation and sports facilities did not receive training and served as the control group. The intervention communities were assessed for their organization capacity, vending products for sale and policy development. Statistical analyses of the data show that healthy vending products increased by 4% and unhealthy products declined by 10% in intervention communities. At baseline, 10% of the intervention communities had healthy food policies. At follow-up, 48% of intervention communities reported the formation of such policies. These findings show that recreation and sport settings have the capacity to offer healthier foods and develop policies to accommodate healthier patterns of eating.</p>	APAN	<p>Recreation facilities; healthy food offering; natural experiment; policy; Canada</p>
GETTING PEOPLE ACTIVE			
<p>Sanders, T., Feng, X., Fahey, P.P., Lonsdale, C. & Astell-Burt, T. 2015. 'Greener neighbourhoods, slimmer children? Evidence from 4423 participants aged 6 to 13 years in the Longitudinal Study of Australian children.' <i>International Journal of Obesity advance online publication</i>.</p>	<p>This article assesses residential proximity to green space and weight status among children over a period of 6 years. Body mass index data was taken from 4423 children participating in the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children. Objective measures of green space availability were calculated for each participant using Australian Bureau of Statistics land use block data.</p>	APAN	<p>Green space; body mass index; children; longitudinal data</p>

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http://www.nature.com/ijo/journal/vaop/ncurrent/abs/ijo201569a.html	<p>Multilevel linear regression modelling of the data shows that as children grow older, there is a beneficial effect of green space on weight status. Children living in areas with higher percentages of green space had slower increases in body mass indices. These findings provide further evidence on how green space may be beneficial to health.</p>		
<p>Thielman, J., Rosella, L., Copes, R., Lebenbaum, M. & Manson, H. 2015. 'Neighborhood walkability: Differential associations with self-reported transport walking and leisure-time physical activity in Canadian towns and cities of all sizes.' <i>Preventive Medicine</i> 77(August 2015): 174-180. http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S009174351500170X</p>	<p>This article examines associations between neighbourhood walkability and physical activity. Total physical activity, leisure and transport activity data were taken from a group of 151,318 participants of the Canadian Community Health Survey. Neighbourhood walkability was measured using WalkScore. Statistical modelling of the data shows that leisure physical activity levels were lower in large cities and higher in small towns that were defined as most walkable when compared to least walkable. Transport walking was higher in all areas deemed to be most walkable. While these findings suggest the different ways that people are active in their neighbourhoods, neighbourhoods designed for walkability generally contribute to higher net gains in energy expenditure across these Canadian towns and cities.</p>	<p>APAN</p>	<p>Physical activity; leisure; transport; WalkScore; Canada</p>
<p>Kesten, J., Guell, C., Cohn, S. & Ogilvie, D. 2015. 'From the concrete to the intangible: understanding the diverse experiences and impacts of new transport infrastructure.' <i>International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity</i> 12: 75. http://www.ijbnpa.org/content/12/1/72</p>	<p>This article explores the impact of traffic-free infrastructure for walking, cycling and public transport on active transport. The Cambridgeshire Guided Busway was introduced in the UK to promote active and public transport. Interview transcripts from 38 adults participating in the Commuting and Health in Cambridge study were analysed. Interviews explored participants' transport experiences and perceived impacts of the new busway. Three themes manifested:</p>	<p>GPAN</p>	<p>Active transport; public transport; infrastructure; natural experiment; UK</p>

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	places created by the infrastructure change; ambiguous spaces created by the infrastructure and adapting to the busway. Appeal of place, accessibility, convenience, and bus riding experience (e.g. safety, pleasant views) were important for the acceptance of the busway. These findings provide insight into how the introduction of active and public transport infrastructure can encourage active transport behaviours.		
<p>Ameli, S.H., Hamidi, S., Garfinkel-Castro, A. & Ewing, R. 2015. 'Do better urban design qualities lead to more walking in Salt Lake City, Utah?' <i>Journal of Urban Design</i> 20 (3): 393-410.</p> <p>http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13574809.2015.1041894#abstract</p>	<p>This article assesses urban design qualities on walkability. The numbers of pedestrians present within a group of 179 block faces in downtown Salt Lake City, Utah were counted. Also in this area, five urban design measures were assessed (imageability, enclosure, human scale, transparency and complexity). Statistical analyses show that imageability and transparency were found to be significant for walkability. Imageability included public gathering places; vistas; historic buildings; distinct architecture and outdoor dining. Transparency involved window facades; active uses at street level and proportion of street walls. These findings suggest that intimate pedestrian scaled places and enjoyable walking experiences may promote walking. Future studies should objectively measure energy expenditures to assess wholly the effects of such designs on walking.</p>	SS	Urban design; walkable cities; walking
CONNECTING AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES			
<p>Holtan, M.T., Dieterlen, S.L. & Sullivan, W.C. 2015. 'Social life under cover: Tree canopy and social capital in Baltimore, Maryland.' <i>Environment and Behaviour</i> 47 (5): 502-525.</p> <p>http://eab.sagepub.com/content/47/5/50</p>	<p>This article investigates the effect of green space on social capital. Social capital data (neighbourhood social connection and association) was drawn from 361 participants of the Baltimore Ecosystem Study. For this study, green space included green yards, parks and tree canopy. Green yards and tree canopy across the study</p>	SS	Social capital; tree canopy; green spaces

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2	area were assessed using high-resolution aerial imagery (LiDAR technology). Park access was geocoded. A positive relationship was found between the density of tree canopy and amount of social capital. The relationship mirrored similar strength and significance as socioeconomic indicators of income and education on social capital. It is suggested that a tree canopy provides stress reduction as well as increased use of footpaths and spaces with trees. These findings contribute to the research showing how green space affect social connections by introducing tree canopy as a variable worthy of policy investment.		
Harvey, C., Aultman-Hall, L., Hurley, S.E. & Troy, A. 2015. 'Effects of skeletal streetscape design on perceived safety.' <i>Landscape and Urban Planning</i> 142 (October 2015): 18-28. http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0169204615001139	This article investigates the effects of buildings and trees on perceptions of safety. Building footprint, street network and tree canopy were geocoded for the city of New York. A group of 7872 participants were asked to choose the 'safest place' from a pair of images. These images provided perceptions of safety and each image site was geocoded. Statistical analyses of the data reveal that street canopy; the number of buildings along a block and the ratio of building height to width had a positive effect on perceived safety. Tree canopies positively affected safety perceptions more than building-related variables. Narrow, rather than wide streetscapes were perceived as being safer. Such findings move the focus from neighbourhood scale attributes to the street scale and may assist planners and designers in creating safe and comfortable spaces.	SS	Safety; comfort; urban design; tree canopy
PROVIDING HEALTHY FOOD OPTIONS			
Naylor, P.J., Olstad, D.L. & Therrien, S. 2015. 'An intervention to enhance the food environment in public recreation and sport	This article assesses an experiment to introduce healthier foods in vending machines and the establishment of a food policy. Twenty-one Canadian	APAN	Recreation facilities; healthy food offering;

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<p>settings: A natural experiment in British Columbia, Canada.' <i>Childhood Obesity Epub ahead of print</i>. doi:10.1089/chi.2014.0148. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25988265*</p>	<p>communities representing 71 recreation and sport facilities received training and resources to create and implement a strategy to provide healthier items in vending machines, concessions and children's programs. Twenty-three communities representing 35 recreation and sports facilities did not receive training and served as the control group. The intervention communities were assessed for their organization capacity, vending products for sale and policy development. Statistical analyses of the data show that healthy vending products increased by 4% and unhealthy products declined by 10% in intervention communities. At baseline, 10% of the intervention communities had healthy food policies. At follow-up, 48% of intervention communities reported the formation of such policies. These findings show that recreation and sport settings have the capacity to offer healthier foods and develop policies to accommodate healthier patterns of eating.</p>		<p>policy; natural experiment; Canada</p>

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