

Public Health and the Comprehensive Planning Process

Board of Health Madison and Dane County

Thursday, May 14



Source: Flickr user Richard Hurd

Comprehensive Plan

- Guides future growth and development
- Offers broad recommendations
- Primary tool for decision makers
- Guiding document of neighborhood, small area, special area plans

“A city is not an accident but the result of coherent visions and aims”
– Leon Krier

City of Madison Comprehensive Plan

- Adopted in 2006, amended in 2012
 - Land Use
 - Transportation
 - Housing
 - Economic Development
 - Natural & Agricultural Resources
 - Parks & Open Space
 - Historical & Cultural Resources
 - Community Facilities
 - Utilities
 - Intergovernmental Cooperation



“All this happened, more or less” – Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

City of Madison Comprehensive Plan Update

- Comp plan review process
 - Quick re-adoption of existing plan (2015-2016)
 - Align with neighborhood plans, special area plans, technical amendments, update data
 - Meet statutory requirements for maintaining currency (update plan every 10 years)
 - Longer process to make more substantive changes
 - Still in scoping phase

“All great achievements require time.” – Maya Angelou

City of Madison Comprehensive Plan Update Opportunity

- Leadership buy-in
- Areas of focus for Comprehensive Plan update
 - Health
 - will be included in every section
 - Distinct connection between planning elements and public health
 - Food System
 - Equity

“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work” – Thomas Edison

Health Review Framework

- Design for Health Checklists for Comprehensive Plan Elements
 - University of Minnesota, Cornell University, University of Colorado

TRANSPORTATION

Essential for Health

Is residential and commercial density discussed in this chapter to encourage walking, bicycling and transit?

Is regular transit service planned for all residential and employment areas (preferably within 1200m of all residential areas).

Does the transportation plan incorporate neighborhood commercial and/or mixed used development to encourage transportation related walking?

For pedestrian/bicyclist safety, are speed limits set at or below 35 mph (optimally 20 mph) for 70-90% of streets?

Are there plans or policies to provide adequate street lighting along all major streets?

Are complete street, shared street and traffic calming concepts incorporated into the future transportation plan?

Is the off-street trail system planned to serve all residential areas, preferably within 400-600m of all residential areas?

Is there a multimodal transportation plan that connects all residential areas to services (i.e. employment centers, grocery stores, hospitals, etc)?

City of Madison Zoning Ordinance and Public Health Priority Areas

Active Living

- No minimum parking requirements
- Design requirements for buildings to improve orientation to the public street/ sidewalk, which can improve the pedestrian experience.
- In many districts, any surface parking is required to be placed behind or beside buildings in order to minimize the visual impact of automobiles and to improve the pedestrian experience.
- Significant bicycle parking requirements in all districts,

Public Health and Health Equity Benefit

- Health be considered in all decision making
- Equity from a health perspective
- Leveraging resources with interdepartmental collaboration
- Further impact through
 - Zoning ordinances
 - Design guidelines
 - Capital improvements

Questions?

Justin Svingen

Data Analyst

Public Health Madison and Dane County

jsvingen@publichealthmdc.com

(608) 243-0166

City of Madison Comprehensive Plan

www.cityofmadison.com/planning/ComprehensivePlan/