Planning for Healthy, Equitable Communities

Most things that we experience every day in our communities are the result of planning decisions.

**Elements of Communities**

**Planning Practices & Policies That Harm Health**
- Discriminatory housing policies lead to residential segregation, insufficient affordable housing, and poorly maintained housing.
- Auto-oriented planning leads to over-reliance on cars for travel and neighborhoods that lack infrastructure for walking, biking, or public transit.
- Inequities in budgeting lead to neighborhoods with poor access to safe and well-maintained parks, playgrounds, and open spaces.
- Policies perpetuating residential segregation lead to under-resourced schools, and neighborhood designs (e.g., poor walkability) isolate school communities.

**Planning Practices & Policies That Improve Health**
- Plan mixed-income neighborhoods by preserving, protecting, and expanding affordable housing.
- Invest in multimodal transportation networks to serve neighborhoods that historically have lacked capital investment.
- Increase access and availability of high-quality parks, playgrounds, and open spaces, especially in underserved neighborhoods.
- Design school neighborhoods that include safe, walkable access to schools and connect to key community resources.

**Planning Practices & Policies That Harm Health**
- Land use decisions create poor access to affordable, nutritious foods.

**Planning Practices & Policies That Improve Health**
- Plan for and incentivize access to healthy and affordable foods in areas that have historically lacked access.

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