



2016 Active Transportation Assessment Collaboration

SDSU Landscape Architecture Program, SD Department of Health, and Selected SD Community

Goal: The South Dakota Department of Health will provide one SD community (or two communities as an inter-community project) with technical assistance (provided by SDSU Landscape Architecture Program) by conducting various active transportation assessments and providing recommendations for improving the built environment to increase walkability and active transportation within that community or joint communities.

Who Should Apply: Community/Civic Leaders, Healthy Community Stakeholders, Public Works Department, Parks and Rec Department, Transit Authority Leaders, Planning/Engineering/Transportation Officials, Wellness Coalitions, Walking/Bicycling Advocacy Groups, School Administrators, or others *working closely with city officials* interested in improving active transportation.

Rationale for Active Transportation: Active transportation integrates physical activity into daily routines such as walking or biking to destinations such as work, school, grocery stores, or parks. Active transportation policies and practices in community design, land use, and facility access have been proven effective to increase physical activity. Improving the built environment conducive to active transportation also improves community aesthetics, enhances the economy of a community, and improves overall community connectedness and quality of life.

NOTE: The intent of this assessment opportunity is to increase *active travel* to destinations within the selected community to increase physical activity, and is *not meant* to solely assess and recommend the placement of walking paths or recreational trails.

Overview: SDSU Landscape Architecture students and professor(s) will make 2-3 onsite visits to the selected community early winter 2016 to meet with community leaders, gather information, and conduct assessments. Based on community assessments, students will develop recommendations (during spring semester) and return to community late spring to present findings.

Timeline: The successful community will be selected and notified by December 15, 2015. The assessment project period will occur January 2016-May 2016.

SDSU students' final presentation to the selected community will *most likely* occur early May 2016 but final date will be determined by professor(s).

Deliverables to Community: Assessment results, analysis, reports, maps, diagrams, sketches, detailed drawings, and other materials for community to use toward planning and improving the built environment. Completion of assessment also aligns the community in a better position to seek out other available funds to implement recommended plans.

Additional Benefits to Community: Access to a wealth of resources, expertise, and ongoing technical assistance. This assessment provides the catalyst for communities with an interest in implementing active transportation strategies but have lacked the expertise, staffing or information to initiate such assessments. The intent of this technical assistance is to provide the assessment phase of a longer-term community investment in improving active transportation.

Costs: There are no direct financial costs to the selected community, however the community is expected to arrange hosting facilities, provide refreshments and staff/indirect support dedicated to this project. SDSU project expenses will be supported by the SD Department of Health.

Community Specifications and Requirements:

- Submit application and attachments by 12/04/15
- An interest in improving active transportation and the built environment to increase physical activity and improve community viability and vitality
- An ability to pull together and sustain community leaders and stakeholders from several sectors to assist in this effort
- A commitment to complete this project
- An intent to thoughtfully consider the final recommendations as resources and community commitment allows
- Provide meeting facilities for SDSU students and professor(s)
- Ability to complete necessary forms in a timely manner
- Accommodate scheduling needs of students to conduct assessments and present final recommendations
- Assist in the development of a final project report, follow-up, and evaluation needs by communicating successes and overall experiences with SDSU and the SD Department of Health

Deadline: Interested communities should submit via email the **attached two page application plus optional attachments** to **Beth Davis** no later than **December 4, 2015** to be considered for selection. All communities will be notified of selection status by December 15, 2015. Thank you!





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Interested Community Request Application (Page 1 of 2)
Due December 4, 2015

Name of Community:

2010 Population of Community:

Distance from Brookings (all submissions welcome):

Joint community application – indicate YES or NO. If YES, list both communities:

Identify specific neighborhood(s) or area(s) of community to be addressed by this assessment:

Community Contact Name:

Your Role in Community per this Application:

Organization/Title:

Address:

Phone:

Alternate Phone:

Email:

City Website:

Potential Community Partners/Stakeholders: (may include as attachment)



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Interested Community Request Application (Page 2 of 2)
Due December 4, 2015

The following four questions should be answered in narrative format within a maximum of two pages. Additional attachments such as maps, photos, and stakeholder/partner rosters are encouraged. *Your entire application should be no more than 4 pages plus any optional attachments.*

- Briefly describe why your community is in need of and would benefit from this active transportation assessment project.
- Do you have a specific idea or problem in mind for this assessment to address? If so, please explain.
- Describe your existing capacity and potential future capacity to implement the proposed final recommendations from SDSU.
- List any other recent funding or technical assistance your community has received for similar assessment work or construction projects, and how those projects would enhance or be enhanced by this assessment opportunity.

For more information, please contact:

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