



2017 Active Transportation Assessment Collaboration SD Department of Health, SDSU Landscape Architecture Program, and Selected SD Community

Applications Due December 2, 2016

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 the SDSU Landscape Architecture Program) in 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: Civic Leaders, Elected Officials, 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 provide recommendations on increasing *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 that do not connect to other community facilities and services.

Overview: SDSU Landscape Architecture students and professor(s) will make a 2-3 day onsite visit(s) to the selected community early winter 2017 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 to all stakeholders.

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Timeline: The successful community will be selected and notified by December 16, 2016. The assessment project period will occur January 2017-May 2017. SDSU students' final presentation to the selected community will *most likely* occur late April 2017 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 optional attachments by 12/02/16
- 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 all necessary forms, compile requested community information, and review report drafts 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

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Deadline: Interested communities should submit via email the **attached two page application, of no more than 4 pages in total length when completed (plus optional attachments)** to **Beth Davis via email** no later than EOB **December 2, 2016** to be considered for selection.

Upon email receipt of your application you will receive a confirmation of email delivery. Please call prior to the deadline if you are unable to email your application. All communities will be notified of selection status by December 16, 2016.

For more information, please contact:

Beth A. Davis, Physical Activity Practitioner in Public Health
Physical Activity Coordinator, Nutrition and Physical Activity Program
South Dakota Department of Health
Email: Beth2022@pie.midco.net
Phone: (605) 280-2429



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**Community Application (Page 1 of 2)
Due December 2, 2016**

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:

Zip Code:

Phone:

Alternate Phone:

Email:

City Website:

Name of Supportive Elected Official(s):

Community Partners/Stakeholders Designated by Sector: (may include as attachment)

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Community Application (Page 2 of 2)

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

- Describe the demographics of your community and why your community is in need of and would benefit from this active transportation assessment project.
- Do you have a specific idea, problem, or area in mind for this assessment to address? If so, please explain.
- Describe any known *sources* of local data or existing policy and programs that would help establish any pedestrian activity/walkability baseline measures. (i.e. existence of complete streets policy, local mode share data, local traffic count data, ordinances that support walkability, existence of walking programs, etc.) **If unknown, please indicate.**
- Describe your existing capacity and potential future capacity and commitment to implement the proposed final recommendations from SDSU.
- Describe 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.

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