



**2021 Active Transportation Assessment Collaboration
SD Department of Health, SDSU-LA (Landscape Architect) Students,
and Selected SD Community**

Applications due February 5th, 2021 by 5:00pm (CST)

Goal: The South Dakota Department of Health (SDDOH) will provide one **SD** community (or two communities as an inter-community project) with technical assistance (provided by SDSU-LA Students) 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: Elected or Appointed Officials, Civic Leaders, Public Works, Parks and Rec, Transit Authority, Planning Professionals, Landscape Architect Professionals, Engineering and Transportation Professionals, Walking/Bicycling Advocacy Groups, School Administrators, Law Enforcement, Business/Commerce Professionals or others *working closely with city officials*.

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 are evidenced-based strategies 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: During the 2021 spring semester, SDSU-LA *City Planning* students and professor(s) will (1) collect initial data and information; (2) conduct onsite visit(s) to the selected community to meet with community leaders, gather additional information, and conduct assessments; and (3) based on community assessments, students will develop recommendations and present findings to all stakeholders.

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Timeline: The successful community will be selected and notified on or by February 26, 2021. The assessment project period will occur March-May 2021. SDSU students' final presentation to the selected community will *most likely* occur late April 2021 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. The community is expected to arrange hosting facilities, provide refreshments if possible, and staff/indirect support dedicated to this project. Hosting guidance will be provided. SDSU project expenses will be supported by the SDDOH.

Community Specifications and Requirements:

- Submit application and optional attachments by **5:00pm (CST), 2/5/21**
- An interest in improving active transportation and the built environment to increase physical activity and improve community viability and vitality
- Complete pre & post survey provided by SDDOH to establish baseline and performance data; also participate in any future program evaluation efforts
- An ability to pull together and sustain community leaders and stakeholders from several sectors to assist in this effort
- An intent to complete this project and 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 at beth2022@pie.midco.net no later than **5:00pm (CST), February 5th, 2021** 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 and other accommodations will be made. All communities will be notified of selection status on or by February 26, 2021.

Previously selected communities include **Huron, Mitchell, Salem, Volga, Ft. Pierre, Crooks, Burke, Tripp, Sioux Falls, Harrisburg and Sturgis.** To view the reports completed by SDSU, visit <http://goodandhealthysd.org/about/key-data/>. Under Key Data, select ODCPHP Community Reports. Each report is searchable by county.

For more information, please contact:

Beth Davis, Physical Activity Practitioner in Public Health
Physical Activity Consultant, 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)
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Name of Community:

2010 Census Population of Community:

Distance from Brookings (all submissions welcome):

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

Identify one or more specific neighborhoods, priority populations and areas 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: (This list should be extensive. You may include as an attachment.)

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Community Application (Page 2 of 2)

The following five sections 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 highly 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. Identify any priority populations, sub populations or high need populations that would benefit from improved walkability.
- Identify a specific problem, neighborhood or geographical area in mind for this assessment to address. Is this a community-wide concern? What challenges does your community have with regards to walkability that impedes health equity for all residents? What evidence is there of these challenges?
- 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) **If unknown, please indicate.**
- Describe your community's 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.

For more information, please contact:

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