

# Endeavors in Transportation Health Impact Assessment

**CDR Arthur Wendel, MD, MPH**

Team Lead

Healthy Community Design Initiative

TRB/ACSM April 2015

# The 10 Essential Public Health Services



## Healthy Community Design Initiative (HCDI):

- Prevent disease and injury by creating environments that provide the opportunity to safely walk, bicycle, or use public transit.
  - Public health surveillance and translation
  - Education
  - Strategic partnerships
  - HIA practice support
  - Targeted research and evaluation

# Transportation and Health Opportunities

- ❑ Increase physical activity
- ❑ Reduce injuries
- ❑ Reduce air pollution exposure
- ❑ Improve access
- ❑ Reduce health disparities

# Opportunities for Including Health in Transportation

## □ Projects

- Checklist
- Modeling
- Health Impact Assessment (HIA) – rapid to comprehensive

## □ Long range planning

- Health sector participation
- Surveys
- HIA
- Health goal setting

## □ Implementation

- Project selection criteria
- Performance measures or evaluation criteria

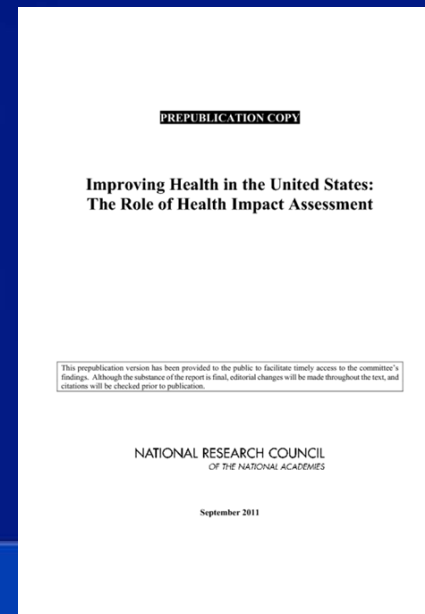
# Health Impact Assessments

## □ Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

- HIA is a systematic process that uses an array of data sources and analytic methods and considers input from stakeholders to determine the potential effects of a proposed policy, plan, program, or project on the health of a population and the distribution of those effects within the population. HIA provides recommendations on monitoring and managing those effects.
  - National Research Council, 2011

## □ Steps

- Screening
- Scoping
- Risk Assessment
- Recommendations
- Reporting
- Evaluation



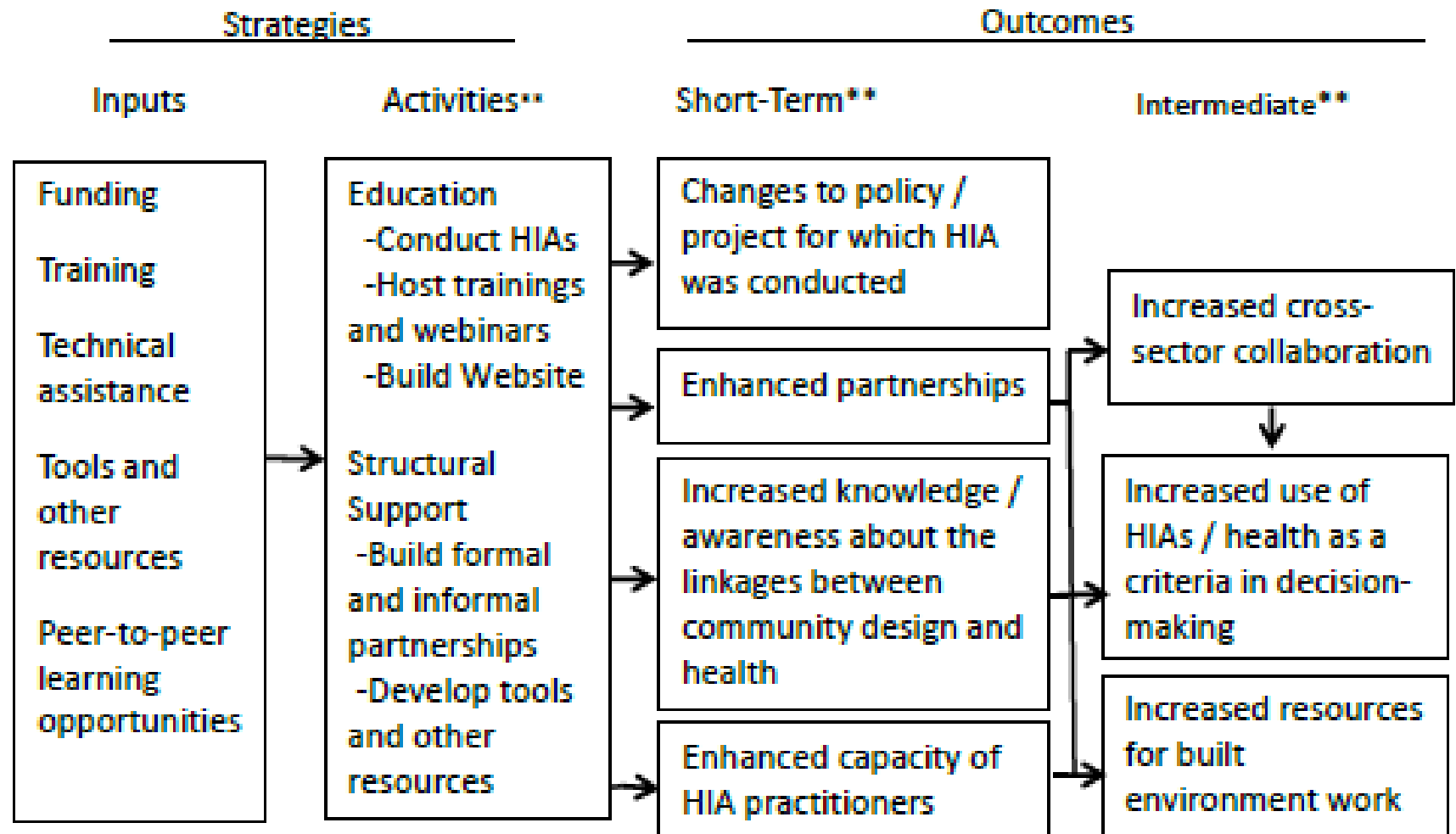
# Grantee Locations



- Baltimore City Health Department
- Boston: Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Town of Davidson

- Omaha: Douglas County Health Department
- Portland: Oregon Health Authority
- San Francisco Department of Public Health

# Logic Model



\*\*Measured



# Impacts

- ❑ 54 completed HIAs impacted an estimated 4.4 million people.
- ❑ Completed 56 trainings that impacted 32 states and for over 1796 professionals
- ❑ Created over 120 strategic partnerships
- ❑ Developed key tools and resources including:
  - New methodology for examining the impact of changes on urban corridor speed
  - Geo-database of Social Determinants of Health indicators
  - Healthy Community Design Toolkit

# Transportation HIAs

- ❑ Completed 22 HIAs on transportation decisions including:
  - Specific facilities
  - Corridor plans
  - Street design
  - Transit oriented development (TOD)

## Example Individual HIA Success Stories

- ❑ **Faster implementation of project**
  - Road diet, Douglas County, NE
- ❑ **HIA used to obtain implementation funding**
  - Bicycle and pedestrian plan, Crook County, OR
- ❑ **Prioritization of projects include health consideration**
  - Active transportation plan, Davidson, NC

## Common Practices

- ❑ Trainings targeting specific HIAs
- ❑ Continued monitoring of initial HIAs
- ❑ Exploration of quantitative assessment methods
- ❑ Links to other public health programs

# Smaller Scale

Improve access to data and research findings

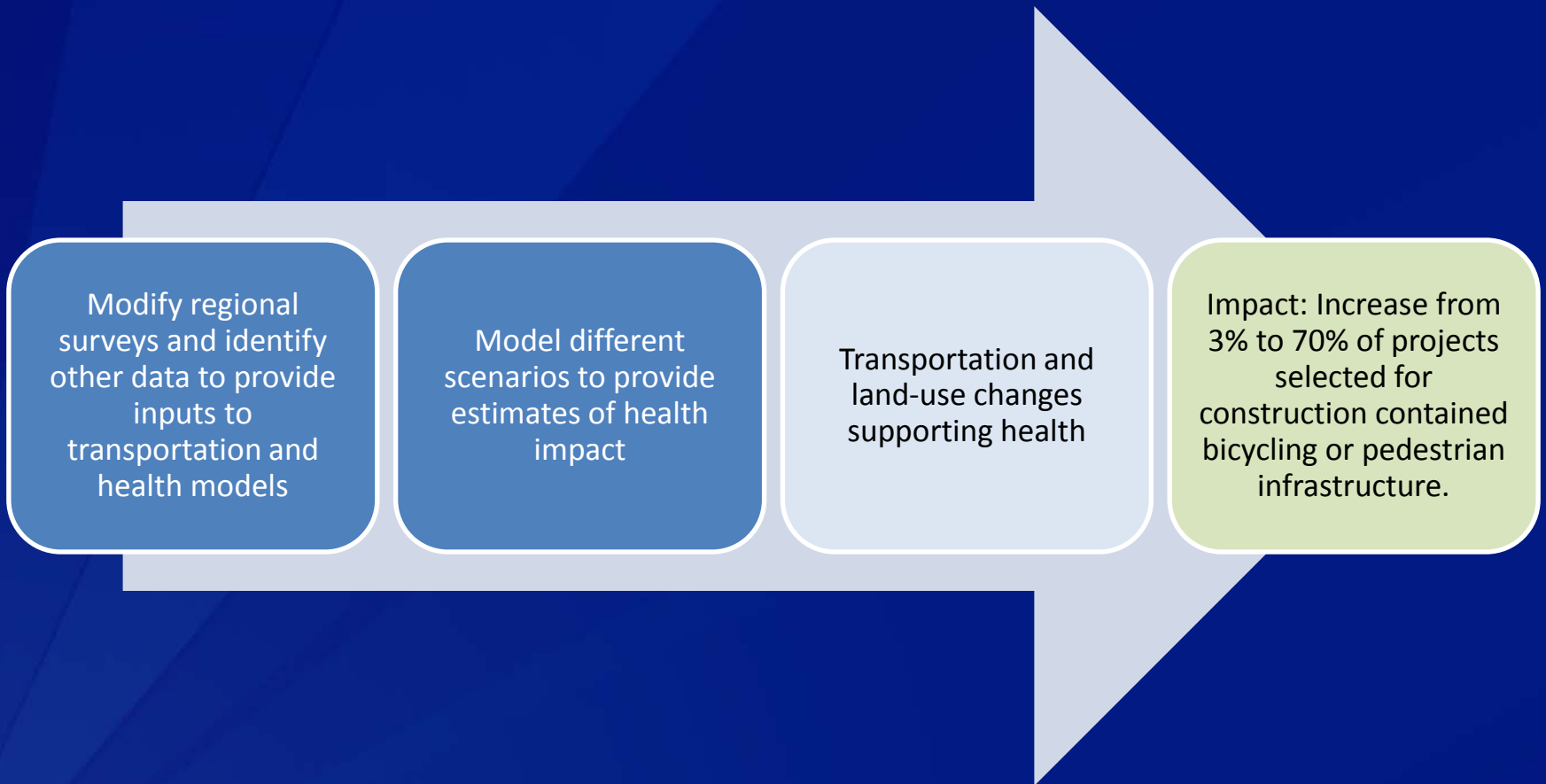
Examine project impacts using HIA and provide recommendations

Transportation and land-use changes supporting health

Impact: 54 HIAs completed through cooperative agreement impacting 4.4M people

Legend: Dark blue = completed in at least one place. Light blue = in progress. Grey = not yet started. Green = outcome

# Medium Scale



Legend: Dark blue = completed in at least one place. Light blue = in progress. Grey = not yet started. Green = outcome

# Larger Scale

Help national data align with health and transportation decision-making

Use experience with models and HIAs to develop options for analysis supported by new national data

Transportation and land-use changes supporting health

Impact: Over 25 million people live in places with new transportation policies informed by *Bicycling and Walking in the United States Benchmarking Report*.

Legend: Dark blue = completed. Light blue = in progress. Grey = not yet started. Green = outcome

# Thank You

**CDR Arthur M. Wendel, MD, MPH**  
**dvq6@cdc.gov**

**For more information please contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333  
Telephone, 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/TTY: 1-888-232-6348  
E-mail: [cdcinfo@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcinfo@cdc.gov) Web: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

National Center for Environmental Health  
Division of Emergency and Environmental Health Services

