

TOD Citizens Academy  
Action Plan  
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The Built Environment Can  
Promote or Discourage Public  
Health

- Environmental hazards
  - Water/air quality, nuisance odors & noise
- Healthy behaviors
  - Physical activity, access to healthy food
- Mobility, access to services & others
  - Mental and physical health

## Action Plan Objectives

- Identify & promote TOD design features to maximize public health benefits
- Work with Commerce City to incorporate these into TOD around North Metro rail station
- Apply info and strategies from this project to TODs throughout Tri-County Health Department's service area

## Deliverables

1. Develop checklist of characteristics of a health-promoting TOD

**Checklist**  
NACCHO  
NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
COUNTY & CITY  
HEALTH OFFICIALS

*Public Health  
in Land Use Planning  
& Community Design*

NACCHO and the Tri-County Health Department in Colorado developed this checklist to assist local public health agencies (LPHAs) in their review of applications for new development or redevelopment plans in their communities. The checklist provides a method to ensure long term protection of public health and consistency in comments submitted for development plans, and broadens the health issues commented on by LPHAs during the planning process. It can also be used to identify potential health impacts and provide a screening process for improving the quality of decision-making. The checklist addresses not only those issues that LPHAs have regulatory authority over, but also the many public health issues that may arise during development and require policy change or other interventions. LPHAs can also incorporate issues that are specific to their jurisdictions. LPHAs should share the checklist with their local planning departments, elected officials, and the public, both to increase awareness of public health issues associated with land use planning and community design, and to encourage appropriate referral of applications to LPHAs for review and comment.

**Water Quality**

What is the source of water for the project?  
A public system or individual well(s)?

If public, does the agency have any regulatory responsibility for quality assurance?

If private, are wellhead protection procedures proposed? Are the well(s) completed in an area of the aquifer that is free from identified or potential sources of contamination?

In rural areas where gas or oil exploration is groundwater? (e.g., AST/USTs; chemicals, including agricultural chemicals such as pesticides and herbicides; asbestos)

**For more information, visit:**

[www.epa.gov/water/yearofcleanwater/docs/growthwater.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/water/yearofcleanwater/docs/growthwater.pdf)  
<http://shilohline.asu.edu/svs/fact/0003.html>  
[www.tre.sabc.ca/ecoresearch/publica3.html](http://www.tre.sabc.ca/ecoresearch/publica3.html)  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/wtrshd96.htm](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/wtrshd96.htm)

## Deliverables

2. Write article on health benefits of TOD for “City Lights”



City Lights: newsletter mailed to all households

## Deliverables

3. Interview TOD developers who included affordable housing in their projects. Share written summary with Commerce City staff and management.



Address health disparities

- Seniors - 9%
- Disabled rate - 24%
- Median hh income - \$33,700

## Timeline

- 1/08 - Checklist complete
- 3/08 - Finish developer interviews; summary to staff and elected officials.
- 4/08 - Prepare article on TOD health benefits; submit to staff, management
- Ongoing - Participate in Station Area Plan, Corridor Study and other TOD-related planning activities. Promote TOD as a way to favorably impact health.

## Evidence of Completion



- Station Area Plan and Corridor Study include checklist items
- Article published in “City Lights”
- TOD design reflects health-promoting features (2010 ?)
- City/developer incorporate affordable housing in TOD (2013+)