



Local Planning for Sustainability and Health

by Susan Cohn, AICP, LEED AP
City of Jacksonville, Florida



Overview

1. Link between the built environment and public health.
2. Local Planning Efforts.
3. Positive First Steps.
 - ⇒ Office of Sustainability Initiatives
 - ⇒ Coordinating with the DCHD; Healthy Jacksonville



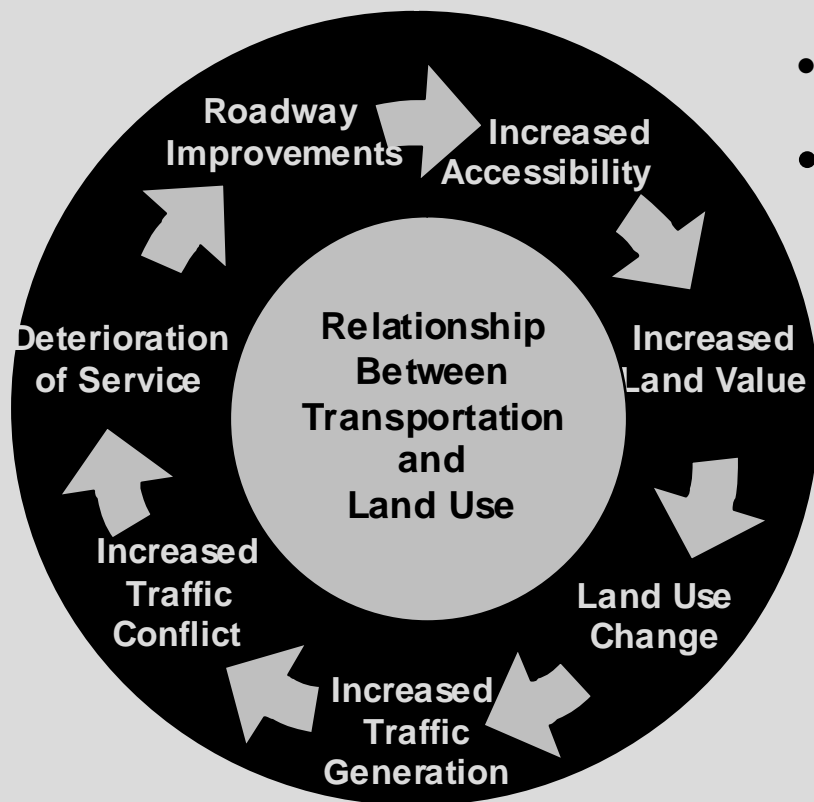
Built Environment and Public Health





Built Environment and Public Health

Land Use – Transportation Interactions



- Example: Shopping Mall

- Impacts:

⇒ Increased Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions

⇒ Sprawl development pattern

⇒ Decrease in opportunities for active living

⇒ Reduced access to healthy foods

⇒ Reduced or degraded agricultural land

⇒ Etc...



Built Environment and Public Health





Local Planning Efforts

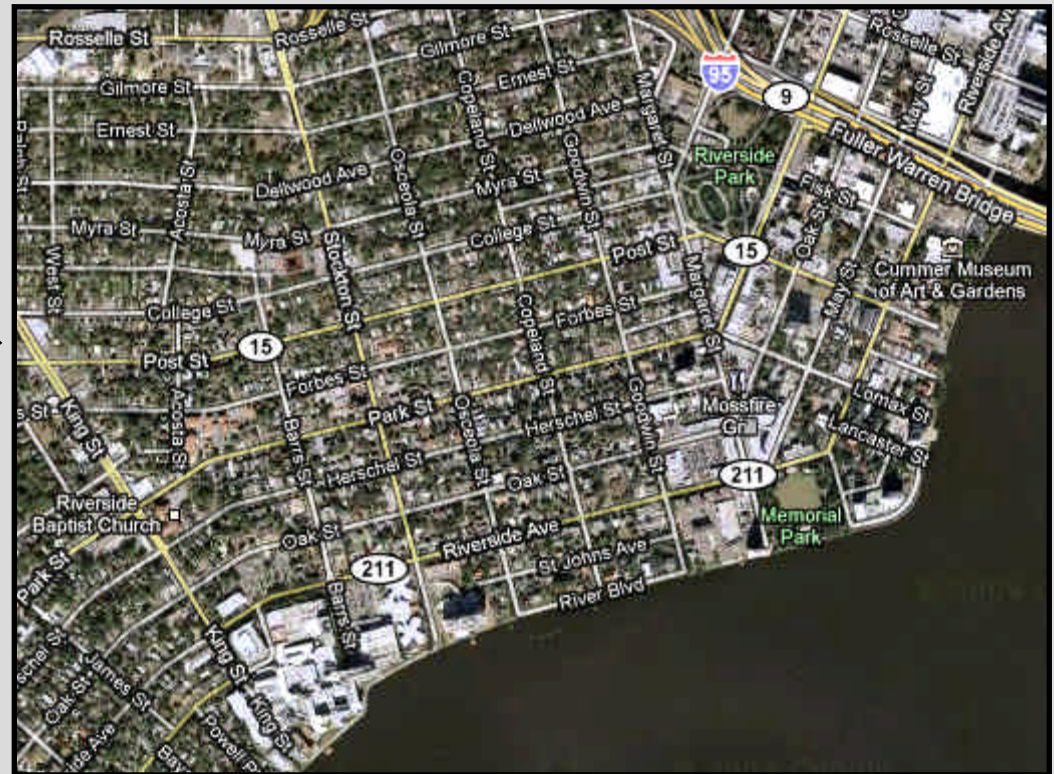
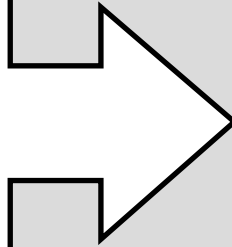
- Compliance with State Legislature
 - House Bill 697 (HB 687): Establishes new local planning requirements relating to energy-efficient land use patterns and greenhouse gas reduction strategies (2008).
 - Senate Bill 360 (SB 360): Land use and transportation strategies to support and fund mobility, including alternative modes of transportation (2009).
- *2030 Comprehensive Plan* Goals, Objectives, and Policies
 - General concepts that promote active living and accessibility:
 - Compact mix of land uses;
 - Increased connectivity and walkability within and among neighborhoods;
 - Preservation of open space;
 - Diverse housing stock;
 - Variety of transportation modes.



Where do we want to go?

Big Picture:

Energy-efficient land development patterns (compact, connected, multi-use, and multi-modal communities)

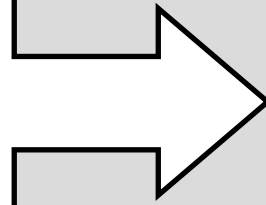




Where do we want to go?

Site Details:

Building orientation and scale; pedestrian features; bike lanes; improve accessibility.





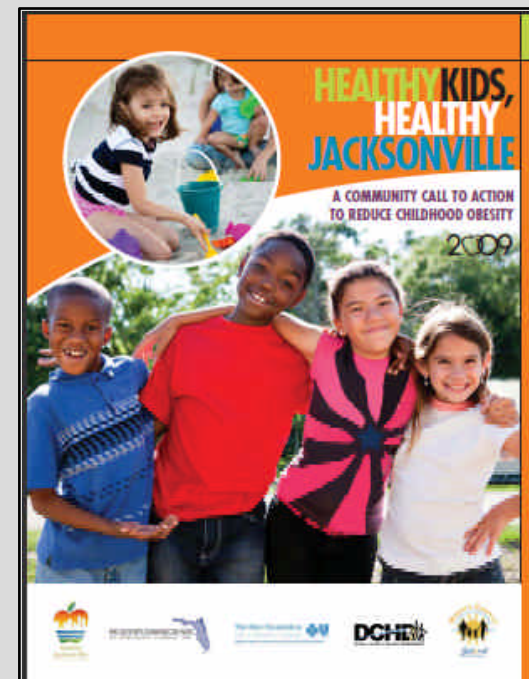
Challenges





Positive First Steps on a long journey...

- City of Jacksonville's Office of Sustainability Initiatives
- Collaboration with Duval County Health Department's Healthy Jacksonville





Local Sustainability Initiatives

- Office of Sustainability Initiatives - created by Executive Order 2008-003 (September 2008).
- Areas of Focus:
 - Green Building and Energy Conservation;
 - Vehicle Replacement and Operation;
 - Materials and Waste Management;
 - Water Conservation; and
 - Sustainable Maintenance Practices
- Several accomplishments to date (“greening” local government).
- Sustainable Building Program, Ordinance 2009-211-E
 - Requires all new City buildings to meet nationally-recognized certification standards.
 - Provides incentives to developers and builders, such as a fast track development review and refund for the cost of obtaining a nationally-recognized certification.



Collaboration and Partnership

- Partnership for a Healthier Duval
 - Implement the strategic health planning model MAPP, Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships.
 - Improve community health and increase collaboration among providers in Duval.
- Childhood Obesity Prevention Coalition
 - Prioritizes actions and steps to reduce and ultimately reverse childhood obesity in Jacksonville.
 - Includes built environment component.
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant for Healthy Kids, Healthy Jacksonville.
 - Improve active living and healthy eating opportunities for all living in Duval County with a special emphasis on children.



Thank You

