

Attachment 1

Selected Healthy Public Policy Initiatives in Toronto

Topic/Issue	Initiative	Description
Active Transportation	Road to Health: Improving Walking and Cycling in Toronto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced by TPH, with input from City Planning, Toronto Transit Commission, and Transportation Services. • A report that provides the health and economic evidence for active transportation and identifies strategies to encourage walking and cycling and to make them safer. • Involved extensive discussions with Planning, an advisory committee of internal and external experts. • Calls for increased involvement of community stakeholders in planning.
Active Transportation	The Walkable City	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced by TPH, with input from City Planning, Toronto Transit Commission, and Transportation Services. • A report that summarizes the findings of a Residential Preferences Survey that gauged public demand for walkable versus auto-oriented neighbourhoods. • Produced in collaboration with Transportation Services. • Provided insights on the desirability of different walkable neighbourhood characteristics.
Municipal Zoning	Toward Healthier Apartment Neighbourhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced by TPH, with input from the Centre for Urban Renewal, City Planning, Tower Renewal Office, and United Way. • A report that provides health evidence for high density/mixed land uses; indicates that residents want that type of development; and shows need to revitalize inner suburbs that are not walkable, particularly low income areas. • Identifies areas to collaborate with Tower Renewal Office and City Planning in identifying whether the City's current Official Plan and Zoning By-laws would have a supportive, limiting or neutral impact on each of the strategies.
Built Environment	Built Environment Decision-Making Support Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced by TPH, in collaboration with Heart and Stroke Foundation. • The tool uses Toronto data to establish the relationships between the built environment and health outcomes while accounting for socio-demographic factors. • Will help policy and decision-makers critically assess how different approaches to neighbourhood design and built environment patterns might impact health-related outcomes.
Official Plan Review	Creating a Healthier Toronto Through the Official Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced by TPH, providing recommendations for the Official Plan Review conducted by City Planning. • The plan sets out policies to improve transit, protect green spaces and the urban forest, manage air quality, reduce non-point-source water pollution, and foster sustainable construction of structures and facilities.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TPH developed a report, in consultation with City Planning and other City divisions, providing recommendations on the plan. To inform this process, TPH and City Planning co-hosted a roundtable with internal and external experts. • Recommendations focus on improving health promoting features in apartment tower neighbourhoods, incorporating elements of the Toronto Food Strategy, access to affordable housing in all areas of the city and enhancing policies related to health protection and promotion.
Community Gardening	Soil Assessment Guide for Urban Gardeners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced by TPH, in collaboration with Toronto Environment Office and Parks, Forestry and Recreation. • Step-by-step guidelines for people to grow a garden, addressing concerns about potential health risks of exposure to urban soil contaminants. • The TPH Food Strategy unit worked with Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and community partners to develop clear-language versions of guide, offer training and capacity building workshops for gardeners and food leaders across the city. • Guidelines encourage urban food production by providing easy and inexpensive way to check soil quality.
Urban Forest	Strategic Forest Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced by Parks, Forestry and Recreation, with input from TPH. • Plan offers environmental, aesthetic, economic and health benefits and promotes physical activity, protection from the sun's rays, and absorption of gases and other pollutants. • TPH reviewed and commented on the plan, while in development. • Input led to the incorporation of Shade Policy guidelines and ensured that health equity is a priority in deciding where trees are planted.
Sustainable Building and Site Design	Review of Toronto Green Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review conducted by City Planning, with input from TPH. • The standard provides a set of performance targets for design and construction of new developments in Toronto. • TPH is reviewing and commenting on the standard. • Input will help to shape how the standard will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce the urban heat island, conserve water, support active transportation, and enhance neighbourhood green space.
Parks Planning	Parks Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced by Parks, Forestry and Recreation, with input from TPH. • Plan guides decision-making regarding public parks and provides an opportunity to be strategic about parks as anchors of healthy communities and to contribute to reducing health inequities. • TPH reviewed and provided comments on the plan. • Input from TPH helped identify underserved, low income areas with poorer health and recommended these areas be given priority when City acquires or upgrades parks.

Economic Development	Economic Growth Plan, 2012 – 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produced by Economic Development and Culture, with input from TPH. The goal of the Plan is to advance the City's prosperity, opportunity and liveability. Economic Development conducted an internal consultation with TPH. TPH recommended integration of health more explicitly into the plan through the use of health and health equity language in the document, particularly within objectives of increasing employment and improving job quality.
Gambling Expansion	Health Impacts of Gambling Expansion in Toronto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produced by TPH, in collaboration with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's Problem Gambling Institute of Ontario. TPH examined health issues related to gambling, developed staff report on health considerations associated with gambling. The report provides information on the health impacts of gambling expansion for consideration by City Council.
Tobacco Use Policy	Toward a Smoke-Free Toronto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produced by TPH, with input from Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and Municipal Licensing and Standards. Responds to the 2011 BOH request to identify actions in the area of tobacco control. Accompanies two other information reports produced by TPH on tobacco policy: The Burden of Illness from Tobacco in Toronto, 2012 and Toronto Public Health Tobacco Control Plan Update. Recommends strengthening protection from second-hand smoke, suggests expansions to existing smoke-free by-laws for exploration by TPH.
Alcohol Policy	Update of Municipal Alcohol Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produced by TPH, in collaboration with Parks, Forestry and Recreation. The policy promotes health and safety of people at events on city property through a responsible, managed approach to the consumption of alcohol. BOH approved recommendations, in June 2011, to update the policy. TPH is now reviewing and updating the policy to reflect current evidence on reducing alcohol-related harm and liability.