



# Health and the Built Environment

~ An Introduction to Planning and Measuring the Impact of Development on Health ~

**When?**

**Where?**

**Who should attend?**

Thursday, May 17, 2007, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

[Red Rocks Visitors' Center](#)

Public Health; City, Transportation and Parks Planners; Developers; Community Members; Economic Developers; and University Researchers

***The world around us affects our health beyond the reach of personal lifestyle choices. But how can we determine what is healthiest for the community and the people in it?*** The Health and the Built Environment (Health Impact Assessment) process is one of the foremost tools used to *plan for healthy, sustainable communities*. Used around the world, it promotes and assesses environmental effects upon physical and mental health. With land use policies, designs and plans influencing individual and community health, it is more important than ever to strengthen the relationship between planning and public health.

We have the unique opportunity to learn about Health and the Built Environment through:

- √ Links between physical, mental and social health, economic development and the built environment
- √ How to *affect* these links
- √ How to *measure* these links

*“Virtually everything in our built environment is the way it is because someone designed it that way. We now realize that how we design the built environment may hold tremendous potential for addressing many of the nations’ greatest current public health concerns, including obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, asthma, injury, depression, violence, and social injustice.”*

*~ Richard Jackson, MD, MPH*

## About the Speakers

**Healthy Development, Inc.** works with American Planning Association, National Association of City and County Health Officials, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to hold training workshops about the relationship between development, environment and health. With over 25 years of experience in public health research, environmental land use, community development policy work and Health Impact Assessments, the speakers will provide science-based planning and decision making tools related to the health, social and economic impacts of energy, land and water development.

- \* **Ms. Kathy Baughman McLeod** built her career around the complex relationships of environment, community development, land use, and public finance and policy. She’s worked with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the Nature Conservancy, and the Trust for Public Land and is currently the Board President of the Florida Greenways and Trails Foundation.
- \* **Dr. Melanie Simmons** applies scientific methods to Health Impact Assessments. She has over 15 years of experience conducting research and program evaluation for the Florida Department of Health. Her methods use population statistics to predict health, social and economic impacts on specific populations for different types of development projects.

***No registration fee. Spaces are limited.***

**Please RSVP to Denver Healthy People at [Lydia.riegle@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:Lydia.riegle@ci.denver.co.us) or 720-865-5446.**

## Sponsors:

Denver Healthy People 2010, Denver Department of Environmental Health; Broomfield Department of Health and Human Services; Jefferson County Department of Health and Environment; Tri County Health Department; Kaiser Permanente; Live Well; Denver Mayor’s Office of HIV Resources; HRSA Office of Performance Review; Denver Department of Community Planning and Development; American Planning Association of Colorado; Livable Communities Support Center