

# Case Study: South Lincoln Housing Redevelopment

By: Karen Roof, February 2011, Smart Growth Conference

EnviroHealth Consulting



# Health Impact Assessment

- All 4 HIAs low income, high minority communities
- 3 focused on informing planning document; 1 related to housing redevelopment
- 1 to influence decision of location of recreation center for those most in need

# South Lincoln Redevelopment Case Study

- South Lincoln Homes owned and managed by Denver Housing Authority
- 270 Public Housing units on 15 acre; majority Hispanic
- Redevelop site: mix of housing products; range of income levels; triple population and 1:1 replacement ratio; TOD
- Identified indicators – Healthy Development Measurement Tool (HDMT)

# Phases: Scoping

## Health Impacts to Consider

1. Physical activity
2. Obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes
3. Air quality, asthma
4. Water quality
5. Nutrition, gardens, grocery stores
6. Traffic safety
7. Accessibility
8. Noise
9. Mental health
10. Social capital/  
cohesion
11. Social equity,  
environmental justice
12. Hazardous waste
13. Personal Safety
14. Relocation

# HIA Categories

Recommendations are broken into six categories:

1. Social and Mental Well-being
2. Natural Environment
3. Built Environment/  
Transportation
4. Access
5. Safety



# Recommendation – Social Cohesion

- Water fountains were requested by some residents - can be a wonderful place for naturally assembling people but must be designed and managed carefully
  - no stagnant water for mosquito breeding;
  - filtering of water, designs where water shoots up and kids can stand over it (spray pads), and
  - design considers water conservation measures.

# Implementation

- Senior green building - Photovoltaic's on roof; culinary academy on 1<sup>st</sup> floor; community garden use in cooking, smoke-free; 8 story art mural commissioned by someone who grew up in DHA housing
- Working on re-routing bus to neighborhood
- Working on bike share: 3 in neighborhood



# Outcomes

- City Councilwoman became advocate for use of HIAs. throughout city departments. Held meetings with Denver planners, state and city health staff, about incorporating HIAs into plans throughout Denver
- Public health considerations is now required and within request for proposals (RFP) for CPD
- Many recommendations incorporated into Master Plan



# Contact Information

Karen Roof  
Environmental Public Health Consultant

[Karen.Roof@ucdenver.edu](mailto:Karen.Roof@ucdenver.edu)

or

[Kroof@EnviroHealthconsulting.com](mailto:Kroof@EnviroHealthconsulting.com)

Phone: 202-285-6061