



11th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth:

Building Safe, Healthy and Livable Communities

February 2-4, 2012

San Diego, California

A national, multi-disciplinary conference that approaches community design from a public health and safety perspective.



The Public Health Track



“The New Partners conference is not “just another health meeting.” It’s a unique opportunity to share innovative ideas and new strategies with educators, urban planners, elected officials, architects and developers about how to create healthy, active and lively communities. These will not happen unless we work together for good solutions. A good solution like smart growth can solve many problems. New Partners is powerful, and life changing.”

— Richard J. Jackson, MD, MPH, Professor/Chair, Environmental Health Sciences, UCLA School of Public Health

www.newpartners.org

National Prevention Strategy: America's Plan for Building Safe and Healthy Communities

■ Thursday, 8:30-10:00 a.m.

This presentation from HHS, EPA, DOL and USDA highlights how the National Prevention Strategy provides a new, health-in-all policies approach to prevention. A key prevention challenge is tackling the current epidemic of obesity. Good community design, with sidewalks, adequate lighting and traffic slowing devices, improves the walkability of communities and promotes physical activity. Increasing access to healthy, affordable food options also provides people with the opportunity to make healthy choices.

Just How Smart Is Our Growth? Getting Ready for a Maturing America

■ Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

The startling new report, "The Maturing of America," concludes that many communities are unprepared for their quickly aging populations, with "nowhere near the level of progress that has to be made to ensure that communities are livable for people of all ages." This session provides practical, evidence-based strategies for integrated planning and implementation consistent with smart growth, but also specifically responsive to an aging population diverse in ethnicity, resources, health and functional status.

Seeds for Change: Creative Urban Gardens and Edible Parks

■ Thursday, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Finding new spaces for community gardens and parks is tough for densely built cities trying to create livable sustainable communities. Existing parks and public lands offer outstanding opportunities for access to fresh food at a minimal cost while encouraging sustainable practices and healthy lifestyles. This session highlights ways to develop partnerships, innovative community gardens, parks, creative urban agriculture initiatives and edible landscape projects.

Healthy Metropolitan Food Systems

■ Thursday, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Expanding food production, processing, distribution and retail within our metropolitan areas



can strengthen regional economies and encourage civic engagement that can transform how we think about our diets and our communities. Growing food can improve health and promote social justice. Local food systems can improve access to nutritious food in underserved areas and increase job prospects.

Advancing an Agenda for Healthy, Equitable and Sustainable Environments in California

■ Thursday, 2:00-5:15 p.m.

Explore promising approaches and activities at the local, regional and state level to advance healthy, equitable and sustainable environments across California. Speakers will include innovative leaders from government, philanthropy and community organizations who are achieving notable results at the nexus of health, equity and sustainability.

Transforming San Bernardino from Ground Zero to a Model Healthy City

■ Friday, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

This session explores the intersection of active living, healthy eating, environmental quality and violence in San Bernardino, the 100th-largest city in the U.S., where mortality rates and hospitalization rates from preventable diseases far exceed statewide averages. Learn about the successes and best practices of the county's Healthy Communities program and a



model 16-city collaborative that is transforming San Bernardino into a model healthy city.

Smart Water: Aligning Land Use and Infrastructure for Healthier Communities

■ Friday, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Sustainable water infrastructure is a critical component to any smart growth strategy or development. This session will explore how integrated land-use planning, green infrastructure and a range of policy incentives can support the development of healthy communities with an essential and reliable water supply and delivery system. You will be deftly guided through the complex and inter-related policies of the water industry and receive a valuable overview of successful planning strategies that facilitate smart growth.

The Role of Youth in Sustainable Brownfields Redevelopment

■ Friday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

A food desert in the midst of California's agriculturally abundant San Joaquin Valley, Fresno's Golden West Side neighborhood suffers from a lack of planning which led to suburban flight, fewer public services and industrial activities mixed into residential neighborhoods. Two EPA projects are gathering citizen input on possible brownfield sites and reuse ideas to turn one site into an urban garden.

Using Health as a Messaging Tool

■ Friday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

The health message can be particularly potent as a messaging tool for supporting everything from smart growth measures to state legislation related to global warming. The American Lung Association is widely credited for stopping the passage of an initiative to repeal California's global warming law. The California Medical Association encourages their physician members to advocate for smart growth, and it is beginning to bear fruit. This session, led by Dr. Richard Jackson, will highlight the messages that have worked and explore how the medical profession might go even further to encourage land use changes that create healthy communities.



SMART GROWTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The Walking Audit: A Tool for Organizing Strong Communities and Developing Complete Streets

Friday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Dan Burden, a livability and complete streets expert who Time Magazine called one of the top six civic innovators, explains how the walking audit process can be used to promote cooperation among the residents, governments, institutions and stakeholders and create more walkable, bikeable, safe, livable environments. Learn from community leaders in St. Louis about the positive “collective impact” that this type of program can have.

Achieving Healthy, Equitable, Walkable Schools

Friday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

By locating schools well, communities can strengthen public schools, reduce air pollution, preserve older neighborhoods, protect children's health, and encourage healthier communities. Learn how to use new tools that promote good school siting, what a healthy community-centered school is, and what state and local changes are needed to encourage more of these schools.

Strategies for Saving the Small-Town Grocery Store

Friday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Nearly 2.5 million rural Americans live more than 10 miles from the nearest grocery store. Poor food access is a major contributor to the declining health of rural Americans. What are the implications of rural food deserts for public health, business development and community sustainability? Learn about challenges facing rural grocers and best practices for rebuilding rural food retail, and how local, state and federal policies can support the viability of small grocers.

Health, Justice and Equity in Freight and Infrastructure Development

Friday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

The infrastructure that delivers goods to stores and doorsteps from anywhere in the world also delivers negative health, environmental and social impacts in low-income communities of color living near ports, railroads, freeways and distribution centers. This session will examine these impacts and successful organizing efforts that have influenced ports and freight transportation investments and development in low-income communities of color.

Smart Valley Places – Taking Advantage of the Great Reset

Friday, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Taking advantage of a \$4 million HUD Regional Planning Grant, Smart Valley Places is the San Joaquin Valley's smart growth response to the Great Reset opportunity to transform a region from one that has consistently led national indicators for unemployment, foreclosure rates, high school dropouts and poor air quality to a model for smart growth in rural, agricultural economies.

Housing and Freeways: How Close Is Too Close

Friday, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

While infill plays a role in building sustainable communities, scientific research continues to highlight significant health impacts for those who live near freeways. Impacted residents are often lower-income or minority populations,

creating environmental justice issues that need to be addressed. California advocates for affordable housing, environmental justice, improved air quality and sustainable communities will outline the relevant facts in their subject area.

Public Health, Transportation and Land Use: Institutionalizing Partnerships and Practices to Create Healthier Communities

Saturday, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

There is a powerful connection between community health and transportation/land use decisions, which impact many critical safety, physical activity, environmental quality, equity and accessibility issues. Professionals from all fields are now embracing strategic partnerships to ensure that health is fully integrated into transportation and land use policies. However, to guarantee the long-term sustainability of these partnerships, health agencies must institutionalize the ways in which they collaborate internally and with partner organizations.

Eat, Play, Live: Creative Investments towards Equitable Health Access

Saturday, 1:45-3:15 p.m.

Learn how access to healthy food, recreation and preventative and primary healthcare can improve community health and quality of life in under-invested urban communities. In one Florida city, residents have joined with local, state and federal leaders to pursue preventative health initiatives around community gardens, clean water and recreational opportunities for youth, and a new community health center.

More sessions of interest to health professionals

In addition to sessions designed specifically around health issues, you will find a number of related smart-growth topics useful to your work and community:

- ◆ Smart Growth 101
- ◆ The Economic and Environmental Benefit of Good Urbanism
- ◆ Incorporating Smart Growth into Disaster Recovery Planning
- ◆ Smart Growth for Clean Water
- ◆ Community Schools – The Case for Joint Use
- ◆ Smart Water: Aligning Land Use and Infrastructure for Healthier Communities and Cities
- ◆ Complete Streets Implementation Coast to Coast
- ◆ Smart Growth and Hazards Resilience: Helping Coastal Communities Stay Safe and Sustainable



THE 11TH ANNUAL **NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH** CONFERENCE

■ ABOUT THE EVENT

This conference will bring local elected officials, planners, transportation professionals and traffic engineers, health professionals and public health advocates, parks and recreation professionals, urban designers, social equity advocates, school officials and school board members, community leaders and many others together to explore new approaches to community design from a comprehensive public health and safety perspective.

This dynamic event has grown significantly since it began several years ago, and gets its strength from the variety of participants and speakers who cross disciplines to share experiences and insights, and valuable tools and strategies to encourage the building of healthier communities. Today, there are more reasons than ever to join hands with new partners and work toward our common goal of creating safe, healthy and livable communities.

■ PROGRAM AND AGENDA

The three-day program is loaded with a mix of plenaries, interactive breakouts, implementation workshops, trainings and networking opportunities. You will have access to the latest on cutting-edge smart growth issues, healthy eating and active living initiatives, implementation tools and strategies, best practices, case studies, interactive learning experiences, new partners, new projects and new policies.



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“There is strong and growing evidence that healthy community design leads to healthy, more active and more socially connected people. This conference is a place where we can learn together about what works to create healthy, thriving communities – and then put it into action.”

– Loel Solomon, Ph.D., National Director,
Community Health Initiatives and
Evaluation, Kaiser Permanente

Register Now!
www.newpartners.org

Visit the conference web site for registration information and more details about these and many other exciting sessions!

■ CONFERENCE LOCATION

The conference will be held at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina in San Diego. The hotel is offering a special group rate of \$133 single/double occupancy until January 11. Make your reservations by calling (800) 325-3535, and indicate you are attending the New Partners Conference.

■ FOR MORE INFORMATION

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