

Health in All Policies Fact Sheet

WHAT IS HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES (HiAP)?

- HiAP is a collaborative approach to improve health by incorporating health considerations into decision making in all sectors and policy areas.
- A HiAP approach convenes diverse partners to consider how their work influences health and how collaborative efforts can improve health while advancing other goals.
- California is the first state to convene a governmental HiAP panel, but HiAP has been implemented internationally in the European Union, its member countries, and South Australia.

WHY DO WE NEED HiAP?

- Environments in which people live, work, study, and play impact health by influencing available opportunities. For example, residents of neighborhoods with few grocery stores and many fast-food outlets have limited healthy food choices.
- Policy decisions made by “non-health” agencies play a major role in shaping environments. For example, decisions made by transportation agencies influence how easy and safe it is to walk to neighborhood destinations.
- HiAP leverages co-benefits to create win-win solutions to challenges. Healthy communities share attributes of sustainable and equitable communities. Many strategies to improve health are the same as those to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

HiAP TASK FORCE

- California’s Health in All Policies Task Force was established by Executive Order S-04-10 in February 2010.
- The Executive Order placed the HiAP Task Force under the auspices of the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and charged it with identifying priority programs, policies, and strategies to improve the health of Californians while advancing the SGC’s goals.
- The SGC designated 19 State Agencies, Departments, and Offices to participate on the Task Force.
- The California Department of Public Health facilitates and staffs the Task Force.

SGC Goals

- Improve air and water quality
- Protect natural resources and agriculture lands
- Increase the availability of affordable housing
- Improve infrastructure systems
- Promote public health
- Plan sustainable communities
- Meet climate change goals

HiAP Task Force

- Air Resources Board
- Office of the Attorney General
- Business, Transportation, and Housing Agency
- Dept of Community Services and Development
- Dept of Education
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Dept of Finance
- Dept of Food and Agriculture
- Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection
- Health and Human Services Agency
- Dept of Housing and Community Development
- Labor and Workforce Development Agency
- Natural Resources Agency
- Dept of Parks and Recreation
- Office of Planning and Research
- Dept of Social Services
- Dept of Transportation
- Office of Traffic Safety

ASPIRATIONAL GOALS

The Task Force established six aspirational goals to guide its work:

- All California residents have the option to safely walk, bicycle, or take public transit to school, work, and essential destinations.
- All California residents live in safe, healthy, affordable housing.
- All California residents have access to places to be active, including parks, green space, and healthy tree canopy.
- All California residents are able to live and be active in their communities without fear of violence or crime.
- All California residents have access to healthy, affordable foods at school, at work, and in their neighborhoods.
- California's decision makers are informed about the health consequences of various policy options during the policy development process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Executive Order S-04-10 directed the Task Force and SGC staff to develop a report outlining recommended programs, policies, and strategies for consideration.

Over 1,200 recommendations were collected through a process that involved:

- Task Force meetings and meetings with individual Task Force members
- Public workshops and written public comments
- Key informant interviews and stakeholder advisory group input

Using criteria that included health impacts and linkages to SGC goals, the Task Force reached consensus on 34 recommendations that address two strategic directions:

1. Building healthy and safe communities with opportunities for active transportation; safe, healthy, affordable housing; places to be active, including parks, green space, and healthy tree canopy; the ability to be active without fear of violence or crime; and access to healthy, affordable foods.
2. Finding opportunities to apply a health lens during public policy and program development; promote healthy public policy; state guidance; embedding health in decision-making; data & research; collaboration & community engagement; continue the Task Force.

- The recommendations range from one-time actions by a single agency to ongoing opportunities for all agencies to consider health when making decisions. Many of the recommendations can be implemented through administrative action, while others will require legislation.
- Recommendations include removing barriers to institutional acquisition of locally grown produce, adding a health lens to transportation and planning guidance documents, and assessing tools that might be used to project long-term costs and benefits to health of proposed legislation.
- The Task Force submitted a report to the SGC outlining its recommendations, links to SGC goals, supporting evidence, and the potential health, equity, and economic impacts if implemented. The report is available on the Task Force's website.

CONTACT

To learn more about the Health in All Policies Task Force, visit www.sgc.ca.gov/workgroups/hiap.html or e-mail HiAP@cdph.ca.gov.