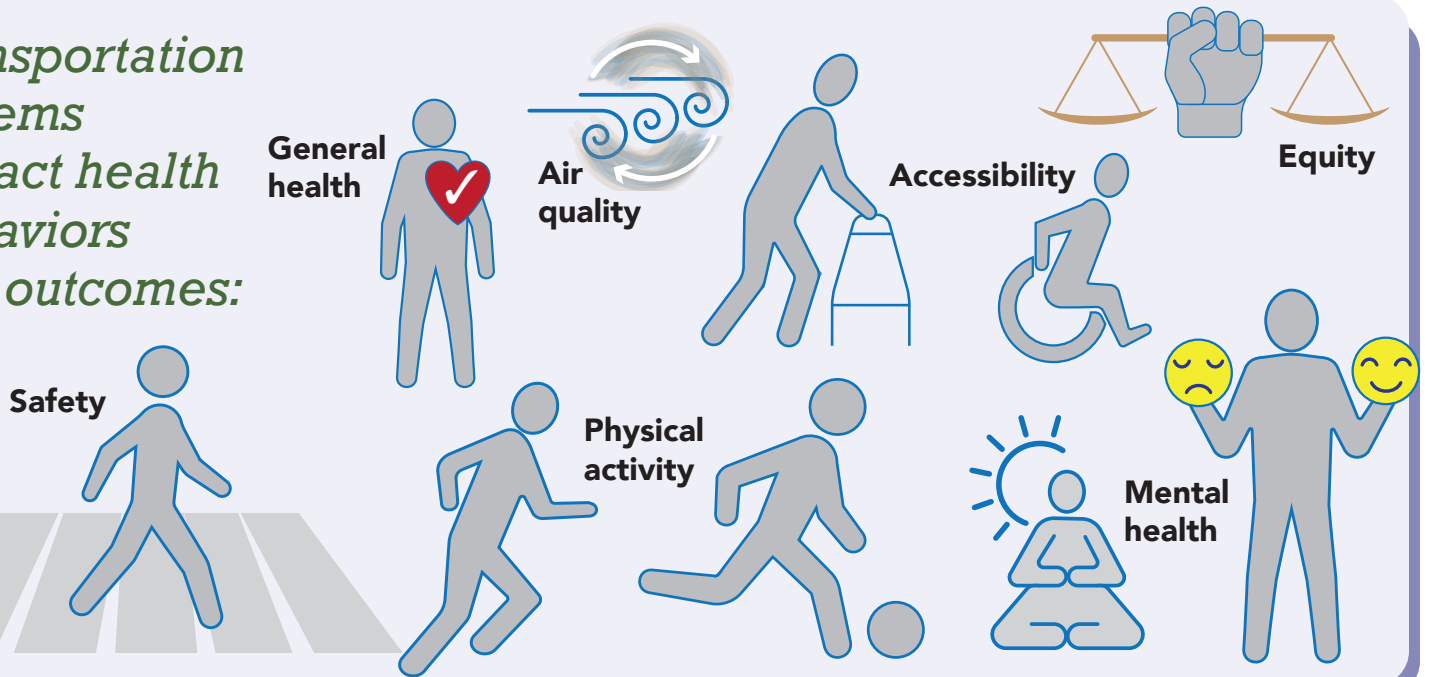


Transportation Planning and Community Wellbeing

Montana communities prioritize health and wellbeing in local transportation plans

Transportation systems impact health behaviors and outcomes:



Transportation plans from the ten most populous counties in Montana were audited for health related content:

Health-related performance measures inform decision makers and transportation agencies of how well the plan has been implemented and the impacts on public health (Williams et al, 2017). Ideally, guidance statements such as the vision, goals, objectives, and strategies identified in a transportation plan would tie to a performance measure.

Guidance Statements
100%
 of transportation plans audited included health related **guidance statements**.

Data
100%
 of transportation plans audited included health-related **data**.

Performance Measures
30%
 Only those transportation plans from a Metropolitan Planning Organization included health related **performance measures**.

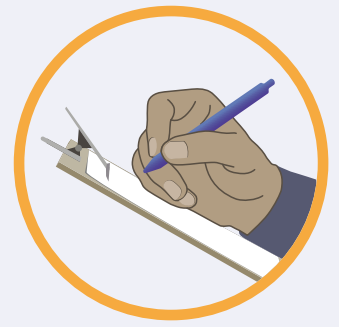
We are interested in the impact transportation planning has on our community's health.



Measuring plans against performance

Community benefits of including health related performance measures:

Holistic and collaborative efforts, better public health outcomes, additional transportation options, evidenced based decision making, public support for active transportation projects



Community barriers to including health related performance measures:

Limited resources, insufficient knowledge and skills, priorities, existing measures of success, limited coordination between transportation and public health, jurisdictional control of decision making, difficult to measure or foresee outcomes, skepticism of benefits.



What can practitioners do?

Support measurement of transportation plan implementation against community health priorities by:

Creating a clear nexus (Connection) between transportation planning and health outcomes.

Increasing public support for projects that enhance health-related outcomes through education. (Public Health Campaigns)

Developing systems that support data collection and measurement of transportation and health outcomes over time. (Community health needs assessment, Community Health Improvement Plan, Health Impact Assessment)

Considering the role of policy, (Health in **ALL** Policies, Health Impact Assessment)

