



FY 2011 Labor HHS Appropriations Bill

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Built Environment and Health Program

Agency	Center	Program	2010	2011 President	2011 TFAH
CDC	National Center for Environmental Health	Built Environment & Health	0	\$4,000,000	\$4,000,000

Background: Health does not occur only in the health care system, and health policy cannot be put into a silo, apart from other policies--like transportation and nutrition -- that have an undeniable effect on health choices and outcomes. The built environment can serve as a barrier to healthy choices, or it can help promote healthy behaviors. If we are serious about improving health in the U.S., we simply cannot ignore the fact that the built environment influences health behaviors. Designing and building healthy communities can improve the quality of life for all people and has the potential to increase physical activity, reduce injuries and improve environmental health.

Description of Built Environment and Health: CDC’s Built Environment and Health Program would support Healthy Community Design activities. An increase of \$4 million would enable CDC to support the training and implementation of Health Impact Assessments (HIAs). Up to eight state or local health departments would be funded to integrate prospective Health Impact Assessments into transportation and community design decision-making. CDC will also emphasize collaborative partnerships with the Safe Routes to Schools programs and will work to leverage these funds and more fully integrate built environment activities within existing Health Promotion activities.

Recommendation: Provide \$4 million for the Built Environment and Health initiative, as requested in the President’s FY 2011 budget proposal.