

Testing the Health in Transportation Corridor Planning Framework in Camden, New Jersey

The Haddon Avenue corridor in New Jersey serves residential and business clusters, and connects two large hospitals with a transit station located on the eastern end of the 2-mile study area. Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) is the designated MPO for the greater Philadelphia region, which also serves Camden and other parts of New Jersey. DVRPC first developed a strong interest in Camden while working with a group of stakeholders on Cultivating Camden: The City's Food Economy Strategy. DVRPC is using its regional Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHSTP)



Street view of City of Camden.

update to explore broader mobility and equity issues, such as access to healthcare and age-friendly communities. Testing the Health in Transportation Corridor Planning Framework¹ (Framework) was a way to enhance the agency's capacity to integrate health into the CHSTP and other planning studies.

DVRPC completed Steps 1 through 4 during the beta test period. Limited staff resources and competing priorities were the greatest challenges for agency staff. Without designated funding for any identified improvements, managing stakeholder expectations was a primary concern. Using the

Framework helped manage stakeholder expectations throughout the process. Some highlights include:

- Staff worked concurrently across multiple Steps: combining Steps 1 and 2 to develop a strong baseline, followed by drafting the vision, goals, and evaluation criteria. (pages 6-8)
- The Framework helped engage 'tried and true' partners as well as those not typically engaged. (page 6)
- Focus areas became the "Alternatives" in Step 5. (page 9)
- Using the Framework required staff to specifically articulate the goals and criteria for this project. (page 9)

For specific information on how the Framework was used, see the full case study report².

The Framework was used to enhance development of the CHSTP by providing data and resources to identify health issues, needs, and priorities along the corridor. Staff focused on the combined effectiveness of projects initiated by the agency as well as the efforts of partners and stakeholders.

For More Information

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¹ Health in Transportation Corridor Planning Framework: FHWA 2016

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/health_in_transportation/planning_framework/the_framework/index.cfm

² Testing the Framework in Camden, New Jersey: FHWA 2016

http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/health_in_transportation/planning_framework/framework_beta_test/camden/case_study/