April 2021



Community Highlights



Engaging the Public to Support Active Transportation

The Chippewa Valley is known for its abundance of biking and walking trails. Over the past couple years the West Central Regional Planning Commission has worked with citizens and city planners from Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls, Altoona and Lake Hallie to rebrand the 20 individual routes as one large system of biking and walking routes to help people bike safely within and between communities. The route promotes healthy lifestyles, reduces street traffic, and is good for the environment. Now that the bike routes are completed, they are working to install signage along the routes.

The **City of Eau Claire** undertook a major reconstruction of State Street in 2019 with completion in 2020, which included pedestrian scale lighting, roundabouts, improved pathway on the hill portion of the street, and walk audits prior to the design. The process they used was an excellent example of engaging the public in the planning of a major city project. Many public meetings were held in addition to the walk audits. This complete streets pilot was a result of a team of 5 individuals including public health, engineering, planning, MPO and city council that attended a Walkability Action Institute conference. At this training, the group worked with national leaders in engineering and walkability to (in part) plan for the redevelopment project. The walk audits that occurred before the state street reconstruction were part of the goals of this team from the Institute. The project has created a safer, more walkable and bikeable neighborhood and is helping to outline a complete streets policy for the City.

Resources

<u>Transform Transportation:</u> <u>Strategies for a Healthier</u> <u>Future</u> A new report from Frontier Group and U.S. PIRG Education Fund discusses how expanding access to active transportation like walking and biking, along with zero-emission and buses. makes cars our transportation safer, healthier. cleaner and more efficient.



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Community Development & Anti-Displacement Toolkit

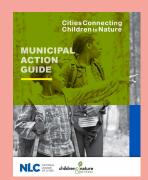
As we prepare for a post-COVID world, many local leaders wonder - how can they invest in building strong communities without negatively impacting long-term residents and spurring displacement? This new toolkit, created by two graduate students from the University of Colorado-Denver, offers 17

SUSTAINABILITY

strategies to infuse equity in the procurement and development process.

Municipal Action Guide: Cities Connecting **Children to Nature**

This action guide, developed by Cities Connecting Children to Nature (CCCN), outlines steps that local leaders can take in building programs that connect children to nature and strategies that create lasting impact in their communities.

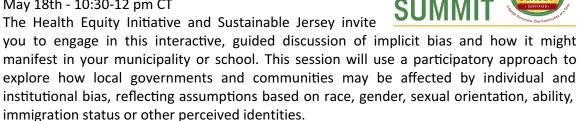


Learning Opportunities

Register Today: Challenging Implicit Bias

May 18th - 10:30-12 pm CT

The Health Equity Initiative and Sustainable Jersey invite



Register Today: Training opportunity: Health Equity for Municipal GoVt.

May 21st at 1 pm CT

From sidewalks to zoning, municipal governments have a huge impact on health and wellbeing. This virtual, 90-minute training will discuss how municipalities can center health in decision making and highlight strategies to support healthy, sustainable, and economically resilient communities. The training will discuss building support for systems change, with a particular focus on Health in All Policies approaches, and offer examples of what is currently working in communities throughout Wisconsin with clear, actionable lessons learned. This training was developed and is being offered by the UW-Population Health Institute and COWS, and is co-sponsored by the League of Wisconsin Municipalities.

"Take 2" from Moving Healthcare Upstream Creating and strengthening cross-sector partnerships for population health

This is a 4-part series that explores the ways integrative activities strengthen and sustain

the efforts of cross-sector population health networks. This unique and informative series presents examples and experiences from eight city partnerships working to improve health through cross-sector partnerships, with topics ranging from creating partnerships to deepening community engagement.

Funding Opportunities

Mayors Innovation Project & Healthy Babies Bright Futures Small Grant Program

COVID-19 dramatically altered the ways we live, work, and play, in part by laying bare the racism and inequality inherent in all of our communities. In response, many cities created rapid response pilots and programs to meet immediate and emerging needs. HBBF & MIP will provide \$10,000 grants to five cities that identify and



implement strategies to scale and sustain projects that have demonstrated potential for improving children's health and reducing health disparities. More information, including examples of project ideas and application guidelines. **Applications due May 3rd.**

Older Adult Home Modification Program (OAHMP)

The Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes is providing grants to local governments, nonprofits, and public housing authorities to undertake comprehensive programs that make safety and functional home modifications and limited repairs to meet the needs of low-income elderly homeowners. The goal of the home modification program is to enable low-income elderly persons to remain in their homes through low-cost, low barrier, high impact home modifications to reduce older adults' risk of falling, improve general safety, increase accessibility, and to improve their functional abilities in their home. This will enable older adults to remain in their homes, that is, to "age in place," rather than move to nursing homes or other assisted care facilities. **Applications due May 4th.**

NSF Civic Innovation Challenge

The Civic Innovation Challenge (CIVIC) is a research and action competition designed to build a more cohesive research-to-innovation pipeline and foster a collaborative spirit. CIVIC flips the community-university dynamic, asking *communities* to identify civic priorities ripe for innovation and then to partner with researchers to address those priorities. CIVIC will fund projects that can produce significant community impact within 12 months. CIVIC is organized as a two-stage competition with two tracks centered around the following topic areas:

Track A. Communities and Mobility: *Offering Better Mobility Options to Solve the Spatial Mismatch Between Housing Affordability and Jobs*; and

Track B. Resilience to Natural Disasters: *Equipping Communities for Greater Preparedness* and *Resilience to Natural Disasters*.

Cities, counties, villages and towns are eligible applicants for this challenge. **Applications due May 5th.**



LCAH Community Engagement Grants

These are small (\$500-1,000) grants available to LCAH-participating communities looking to try new or different ways to engage their community. Grant funds can be used to reach under-engaged populations, augment existing efforts, or try new outreach techniques. To apply, <u>email Katya Spear</u> indicating your interest.

Applications rolling until June 30th.

The Wisconsin Health and Equity in All Policies Alliance newsletter is published by 1000 Friends of Wisconsin and brought to you by COWS and MATCH at UW-Madison, with special thanks to our partners and collaborators at the Wisconsin League of Municipalities and the Wisconsin Counties Association.



If you have questions or would like more information, contact Katya Spear atknspear@cows.org