



# Program on Health, Equity, and Sustainability

In the City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health

<http://www.sfdph.org/phes>



## Mission Statement

The Program on Health, Equity, and Sustainability (PHES) supports San Franciscans working together to advance urban health and social and environmental justice through ongoing integration of local government and community efforts and through valuing the needs, experiences, and knowledge of diverse San Francisco residents. We accomplish this by:

- Initiating and facilitating dialogue and collaboration among public agencies and community organizations;
- Expanding public understanding of the relationships between the natural, built, and social environments and human health;
- Supporting local participation in public policy-making;
- Conducting and supporting local and regional research;
- Developing and evaluating new methods for interdisciplinary, inclusive involvement in public policy;
- Documenting and communicating our strategies.

In our vision of San Francisco, communities are engaged in democracy and committed to equality and diversity. We believe this will create and maintain sustainable and healthy places for all San Franciscans to live, work, learn, and play.

Current PHES efforts and activities include:

- Providing technical support to community planning efforts like the Western SoMa Citizens Planning Task Force
- Conducting Health Impact Assessments of policies, projects, and plans including San Francisco's minimum wage ordinance
- Developing practical research tools to forecast the impact of traffic on air quality, noise and pedestrian injury collisions
- Creating and applying the Healthy Development Measurement Tool to evaluate land use plans and projects
- Supporting health and safety knowledge and policy for high hazard occupations, including day labor and domestic work
- Implementing innovative environmental laws such as the ban on Phthalates in children's toys
- Working with the San Francisco Unified School District to increase institutional purchasing of California produce
- Collaborating with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to ensure a safe drinking water supply and provide resources for sustainable and equitable planning and decision-making

For more information, please visit our website: [www.sfdph.org/phes](http://www.sfdph.org/phes)

### Guiding Principles & Core Values

#### INTER-CONNECTEDNESS

The natural and built environments, human activities, and human relationships are connected.

#### MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION

Ensuring meaningful public participation in policy-making requires sincere actions to support involvement, and value of local knowledge and experiences.

#### PUBLIC ACCESS & ACCOUNTABILITY

The process for making public choices must be open and involve the people most affected. Good public policy decisions ensure that all participants are included and have access to relevant information.

#### HEALTHFUL ENVIRONMENTS

Healthy people reflect healthful environments. Following the 1986 World Health Organization Charter on Health Promotion, we define the basic resources for health to be peace, shelter, education, food, income, stable ecosystems, sustainable resources, social justice, and equity.

#### EQUITY

A fair distribution of and access to economic, political, social and natural resources and opportunities improves the overall health of society.

#### SUSTAINABILITY

We believe in conserving and improving economic, social, and environmental systems so that present and future community members can lead healthy and productive lives.



# Health Impact Assessment Tools and Models

Created by the San Francisco Department of Public Health

<http://www.sfdph.org/phes>



The San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH) is currently developing several tools and models aimed at understanding how land use, transportation, and urban design factors influence health concerns including pedestrian activity, pedestrian injury, air quality and noise. Most of the tools/models listed below have preliminary products but are still being refined.

Name	Description	SFDPH Staff Contact
Healthy Development Measurement Tool (HDMT)	A health impact assessment tool developed by numerous stakeholders involved in San Francisco's Eastern Neighborhoods to support more accountable, evidence-based, and health-oriented planning and policy-making. In its current form, components of the Tool include: 27 Community Health Objectives, 100+ Measurable Indicators, Established Standards, Baseline Data, Development Targets, and Evidence-based Health Justifications. The latest version is available at: <a href="http://www.theHDMT.org">www.theHDMT.org</a>	Lili Farhang (415) 252-3988 <a href="mailto:lili.farhang@sfdph.org">lili.farhang@sfdph.org</a>
Air Quality Modeling	A model to assess and monitor traffic-related air pollution, developed by SFDPH in a partnership with UC Berkeley School of Public Health. The research team is currently collecting data on traffic flows from a variety of sources as well as assessing residents', pedestrians' and bicyclists' exposure to traffic exhaust pollutants. Air quality is measured and modeled using CALINE4 for carbon monoxide, PM10, and nitrogen dioxide. URBEMIS modeling is conducted and mitigation measures evaluated with special attention to local sensitive receivers and development project-related vehicle miles traveled.	Tom Rivard (415) 554-8930 <a href="mailto:tom.rivard@sfdph.org">tom.rivard@sfdph.org</a>
Noise Modeling	A series of tools including noise field measurement, evaluation and "Soundplan" modeling to define the current noise level in San Francisco with special emphasis on understanding the effects of traffic volumes on the acoustical environment. SFDPH, in collaboration with the Building and Planning Department, is creating an updated Noise Element and Noise Map for the City's General Plan. This noise map will enable project review with respect to potential annoyances and other health impacts, as well as make recommendations for reducing noise exposures, especially to sensitive receivers.	Tom Rivard (415) 554-8930 <a href="mailto:tom.rivard@sfdph.org">tom.rivard@sfdph.org</a>
Pedestrian Environmental Quality Index (PEQI)	A quantitative observational instrument to describe and summarize street and intersection environmental factors known to affect people's travel behaviors at the street-level. Environmental factors are grouped into five main categories: traffic, sidewalks, land use, intersections and safety. The model has been piloted in several areas, including the Eastern Neighborhoods and Executive Park in San Francisco.	Cyndy Comerford Scully (415) 252-3989 <a href="mailto:cyndy.comerford@sfdph.org">cyndy.comerford@sfdph.org</a>
Pedestrian Flow Model	A forecasting model of pedestrian activity for San Francisco that relates environmental characteristics to pedestrian flow in mixed-use neighborhoods. The demand model uses linear regression techniques, existing and original environmental-spatial data and observed street segment pedestrian counts. The model has been piloted on a section of San Francisco's Mission Street and is currently being validated.	Cyndy Comerford Scully (415) 252-3989 <a href="mailto:cyndy.comerford@sfdph.org">cyndy.comerford@sfdph.org</a>
Pedestrian Injury Forecasting Model	A practical tool to predict changes in pedestrian injury collisions in San Francisco census tracts associated with traffic volume and environmental and demographic factors impacted by land use development. The model has been piloted in Oakland and San Francisco, and is being refined and validated for use in San Francisco. A primary aim of the San Francisco Pedestrian Injury Forecasting Model is to inform the need for pedestrian safety mitigations in the course of land use and transportation planning.	Megan Wier (415) 252-3972 <a href="mailto:megan.wier@sfdph.org">megan.wier@sfdph.org</a>