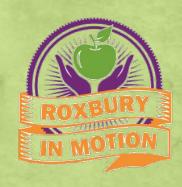
Madison Park Development Corporation



Walkable Communities & Public Health



Presentation by:

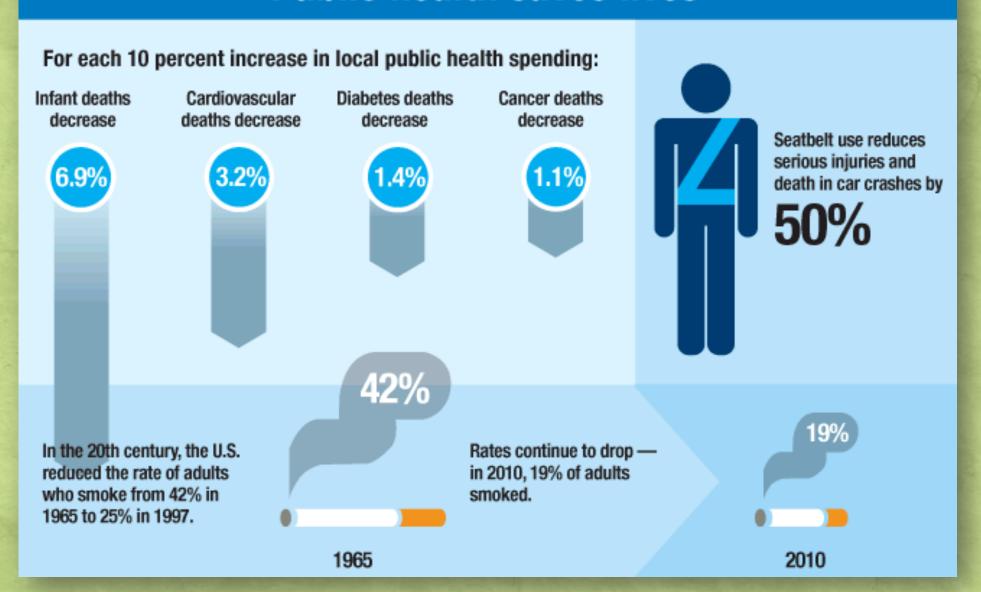
Marah Holland Health Equity & Wellness Coordinator

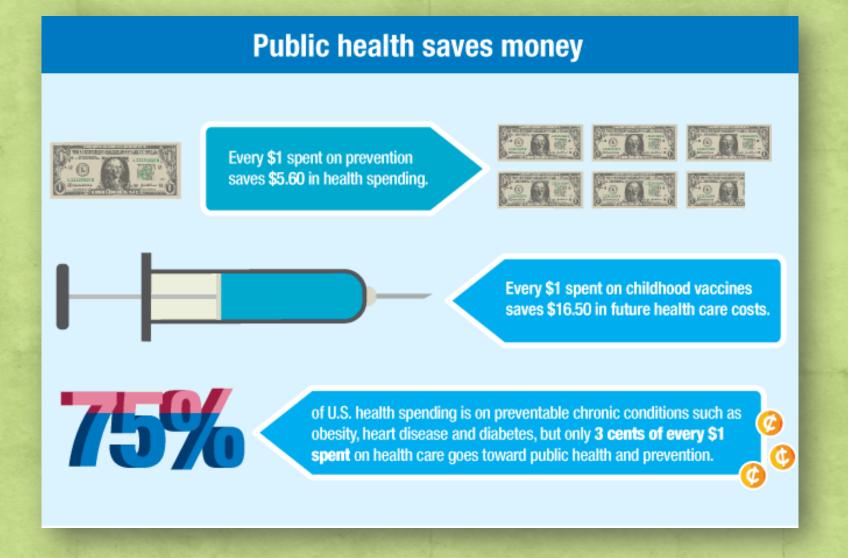
December 6th, 2016

What is Public Health?

• the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private, communities and individuals

Public health saves lives





"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

- Benjamin Franklin

THE ROLE OF

Communities

IN PROMOTING PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

WALKABLE COMMUNITIES

People who live in walkable neighborhoods are

2 times

as likely to get enough physical activity as those who don't.

JOINT USE

The number of children who are physically active outside is

84%

higher when schoolyards are kept open for public play.

TRAILS

People who live near trails are

50% more likely to

meet physical activity guidelines.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Teens who live in poor or mostly minority neighborhoods are

50%

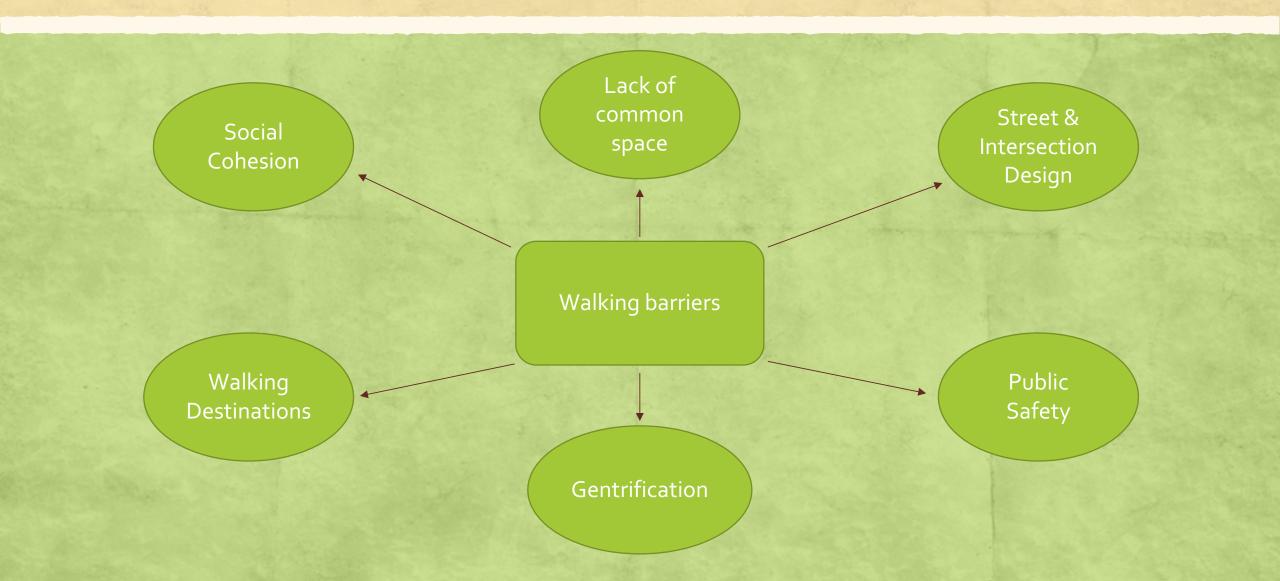
less likely to have a recreational facility near home.

Active Living Research

www.activelivingresearch.org

Sources: TRAILS: Huston S, Evenson K, Bors P, et al. "Neighborhood Environment, Access to Places for Activity, and Leisure-Time Physical Activity in a Diverse North Carolina Population." American Journal of Health Promotion, 18(1): 58–69, September/October, 2003. WALKABLE COMMUNITIES: Frank LD, Schmid TL, Sallis JF, Chapman J, Saelens BE. Linking objectively measured physical activity with objectively measured urban form. Findings from MARTRAQ. American Journal of Preventive Medicine 2005; 28(2S2):117-125. JOINT USE: Forley T, Meriwether R, Baker E, Watkins L, Johnson C, Webber L. Safe play spaces to promote physical activity in inner-city children: Results from a pilot study of an environmental intervention. Am J Pub Health. 2007;97:1625–1631. RECREATIONAL FACILITIES: Gordon-Larsen P, Nelson MC, Page P, Popkin BM. "Inequality in the Built Environment Underlies Key Health Disparities in Physical Activity and Obesity." Pediatrics, 117(2): 417–424, 2006.

Current Challenges to Walkability in Roxbury



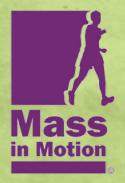
Roxbury in Motion

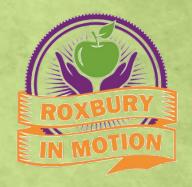
Mass in Motion

- Mass in Motion is a statewide movement that promotes opportunities for healthy eating and active living in the places people live, learn, work, and play.
- We work with communities, schools, childcare centers, and businesses to create changes that make it easy for people to eat healthier and move more. We also help residents think differently about what they eat and how much they move so they can make better choices to feel healthy and live well.

Roxbury in Motion

- The neighborhood of Roxbury was awarded the grant in July 2014
- Partnership between Boston Public Health Commission and Madison Park Development Corporation
- Three focus areas:
 - Complete Streets
 - Active Transportation
 - Urban Growing





What can we do?





Melnea Cass widening project raises resident questions, concerns

Boston Transportation Department (BTD) last week, Roxbury residents, planning began in an 2011. Fathers (BTD) services and director of this project, activists and local elected officials has been moderating the meetings. raised sharp questions about a plan to widen Melnea Cass Boulevard in ect's team of transportation engiorder to add new center median bus neering, bicycle planning and land-

the increased distance for pe- "I don't see ing the busy how this is

street. going to make how this is going to make the road safer. road safer," said Yvonne Lalyre, Who wants Lower Rox- a widened oury resident the road in their nd of the string.
Who wants a backyard?"

fifth public meeting since project At a public meeting hosted by the planning began in fall 2011. Patrick

hnes and stations.
A group called Friends of Melnes
Cas Bouleval stretched a 40-foot
arring across the meeting room to
carring across the meeting room to illustrate how much extra width the breakout sessions, there was wide new bus lanes will demand. The agreement that Melnea Cass Box group's members decried the ex- levard is now inhospitable to pedes

in some part the street a l rier separ ing the Du Square from Lo Roxbury







Using the Built Environment as a Tool

The built environment is one of the most powerful tools we have to combat community violence and eliminate health disparities.

Comprehensive design = Positive social outcomes

Walkability = Liveability

Thank you!

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