

Active Living Partnership Projects

Healthy. Safe. Connected.

The Active Living program brings a multidisciplinary approach to **improving conditions** in the places where people live, work, learn, and play in order to **improve the accessibility, quality of life, and health outcomes** in Hennepin County. We do this by:

- Supporting and developing healthier communities, places, and infrastructure;
- Making changes in the built environment that support active living; and
- Increasing equitable access to activities, facilities, and community destinations.

2022 technical assistance program

Funding and technical assistance are available through the Active Living program to advance biking and walking; policy development, and equitable engagement by helping with the following.

Demonstrate active living

Test a future bicycle, pedestrian, or placemaking change with the Partnership Project program. Funding may support materials, consultants, and community engagement efforts to collect and assess resident feedback to build support for the project.

Engage with community

Are you looking for inspiration or tools to work with community or struggling to connect with harder to reach populations? Get assistance with engagement tools, creating engagement plans, or with collecting and assessing community feedback about planning for a healthy community.

Contacts

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Website

hennepin.us/activeliving

Develop policies, plans, or implementation strategies

Is your city considering a Complete Streets policy or a new bicycle or pedestrian plan -- or struggling to implement pieces of plans and policies already in place? Is there a development project in the works that would benefit from better biking or walking connections? Funding and technical assistance through the HCP program could help move things forward.

Healthy Community Assessment

Unsure what your community's most pressing needs are around active living? Hennepin County staff can work with jurisdictions to develop appropriate assessment tools and evaluate community needs around biking, walking, transit access, placemaking, and health equity in the built environment. In collaboration with Hennepin County's Public Health Promotion team, Healthy Community Assessments can also address ways that communities can increase access to healthy food for residents and reduce exposure to tobacco.

To be eligible for funding, the project area should address health equity by prioritizing the needs of residents most likely to experience health disparities. This includes, but is not limited to, low-income residents, communities of color and indigenous people, seniors, young people, and people with disabilities. The project area must be within Hennepin County's Public Health Department's jurisdiction. Please contact Hennepin County staff if you have questions about eligibility.

Examples of Past Partnerships

Hennepin County has partnered with communities to create bikeable, walkable places that support health for the past 12 years through the Active Living Hennepin County (ALHC) partnership. Examples of past partnerships include:

- Technical assistance to the cities of Osseo and St. Louis Park to develop policy language that supports health for inclusion in the cities' 2018 **comprehensive plan** updates.
- **Complete Streets** policies or resolutions in eight cities
- Funding and staff support for the **ARTery experiment** in the City of Hopkins.
- **Active Living Design Checklist** for new development projects, adopted by the City of Brooklyn Center
- **Travel Demand Management Policy**, adopted by the City of Brooklyn Center
- Funding and staff support for **demonstration projects** that tested placemaking and active transportation improvements in the cities of Brooklyn Center, Osseo, and St. Louis Park.
- **Bicycle Parking ordinance** adopted by the City of New Hope
- **Downtown development guidelines** adopted by the City of Corcoran that included active living and healthy community principles.

