

Community Health

Background

Problems and Opportunities

For Omaha to be a community that nurtures health and promotes safety, a diversity of issues must be addressed together: neighborhood design; food systems; health care systems; transportation systems; natural hazards; pollution prevention; public safety and crime prevention; public recreation; and others.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that “Healthy places are those designed and built to improve the quality of life for all people who live, work, worship, learn, and play within their borders -- where every person is free to make choices amid a variety of healthy, available, accessible, and affordable options.”⁴⁹

A recent study concluded that city development patterns could result in significant reduction in the number of people with illnesses and death related to respiratory disease, and a high savings in health care costs.⁵⁰ The American Lung Association said that cities designed to promote the health of citizens would “...provide more healthy choices, more opportunities for walking and biking, better access to transit, less congestion, more housing close to workplaces and more parks for kids and families to enjoy.”

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)⁵¹ is a state-based system of health surveys that generate information about health risk behaviors, clinical preventive practices, and health care access and use primarily related to chronic diseases and injury. Recent data and trends can be seen for specific health issues in Nebraska:

- ❖ Nebraska adults reported to have consumed the recommended amount of fruits and vegetables five or more times per day is less than 30%.⁵²
- ❖ Nebraska adults stating that they have 30+ minutes of moderate physical activity five or more days per week, or vigorous physical activity for 20+ minutes three or more days per week is 51%.⁵³

Natural hazards that may affect Omaha and the surrounding area are identified in an All Hazards Mitigation Plan.⁵⁴ Hazards include flooding, severe weather, tornado, drought, and dam failure.

Nebraska’s Department of Health and Human Services has identified environmental risks for the state’s residents.⁵⁵ Radon, which has been shown to increase the risk of lung-cancer, is a significant area of concern for the eastern part of the state which includes Omaha.⁵⁶

Omaha provides public recreation opportunities through the Parks and Recreation Department, currently managing more than 210 city parks on 11,000 acres of land, 16 community centers, and various recreational leagues. There are over 90 miles of paved recreation trails; those trails connect into a regional trail system serving the larger metropolitan area <http://www.cityofomaha.org/parks/>.⁵⁶

Issues and Directions

Public comments and discussions within the Community Health Advisory Group identified the following issues and directions:

- ❖ Make healthy and safe neighborhoods for everyone--characteristics of neighborhoods influence the availability of health care, the ability to fulfill an active lifestyle, and the perception of safety.
- ❖ The concept of an active and healthy community should include the mental aspect as well as physical (e.g., education, lifelong learning, creative culture, active arts community and community art, spiritual nurturance and growth).
- ❖ Make a walkable city for all (e.g., children and elderly). Remove obstacles that infringe on making cities walkable. (e.g., make regulations that require snow removal from sidewalks; make sure snow plows are not covering sidewalks; reduce crime; etc.)
- ❖ Social connectedness and a sense of community involvement are critical to improving the health of neighborhoods and the health of the people living there.
- ❖ Investment in a neighborhood is often linked to the perception of safety.
- ❖ The community needs reduced disparities in many fundamental areas; the need is to increase hope and educational attainment.
- ❖ Healthy and locally- and sustainably-grown foods need to be available to all; food systems need to be considered, from community gardens and local growers to food banks and close-proximity corner stores with affordable fresh and healthy groceries.
- ❖ No child should be exposed to high levels of lead in our community; other air, water, or soil-born toxic substances also need to be minimized to safe levels.
- ❖ An objective should be based on having a baseline minimum amount of physical activity for all; factors may include: walkability in neighborhoods; adequate open space; recreation facilities and trails distributed throughout the community; and the support and infrastructure for active transportation and mass transit.
- ❖ Increase the connection of recreation with the natural environment; promote the psychological and healing benefits of exposure to nature.
- ❖ Identify and plan for active transportation in a systems approach; identify destinations, connections, and alternatives; set active transportation in the context of multi-modal transport systems (e.g., trail to transit stops).
- ❖ Health and safety issues connected to natural and related human-created hazards include flood prevention and reduction, mitigation of impacts from climate change, designing facilities to withstand extreme winds and tornadoes, and community/regional emergency responder mobilization.

Concepts

The Community Health Advisory Group used the following concepts to develop the overall statement, measurements, goals, objectives, and strategies contained in the following sections:

- ❖ An active, safe, and healthy living environment is needed for all people.
- ❖ Community engagement is critical; partnerships are needed for effectiveness.
- ❖ Community health must be a priority when decisions are made regarding resources in the community.

- ❖ Neighborhoods should have a mix of uses—varied housing types and densities, businesses and services, civic, recreation and cultural uses--and easy-to-make connections through walking, bicycling, and public transit.
- ❖ Parks, open spaces, recreation facilities and trails need to be distributed and accessible throughout the community.
- ❖ People need access to jobs, services, and opportunities that support their well-being.

Community Health Overall Statement

Omaha will have an active, safe, and healthy living environment that supports a high quality of life for all people. This vision will be realized by:

- ❖ Leadership
- ❖ Engaging and educating the community
- ❖ Implementing sustainability policies
- ❖ Establishing public and private partnerships
- ❖ Prioritizing resources to support and sustain community health.

The vision of an active, safe and healthy Omaha will require improving and increasing:

- ❖ Neighborhoods with mixed uses and connectivity to destinations
- ❖ Parks, open spaces and recreational facilities
- ❖ Access to and availability of healthy foods
- ❖ Access to health services and economic opportunities
- ❖ Walking, biking and public transit
- ❖ High quality, healthy and affordable housing
- ❖ Safe and healthy neighborhoods and public spaces
- ❖ Environmental quality.

Measurements (Douglas County)

1. Increase the percentage of adults and youths engaged in physical activity.
 - ❖ Adults - moderate physical activity for at least 30 minutes per day on 5 or more days per week; or in vigorous physical activity at least 20 minutes per day on 3 or more days per week.
 - ◆ Baseline - 51.9% (2007)
 - ◆ 2020 Target -70%
 [Source -Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (18 and over)]
 - ❖ Youth - physically active at least 60 minutes per day in the past 7 days
 - ◆ Baseline -41.7% (2008)
 - ◆ 2020 Target -70%
 [Source -Live Well Omaha Kids, Youth Physical Activity and Dietary Behavior Survey (ages 12-19)]
2. Increase in the number and diversity of city officials, employees or design consultants who are Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) certified at the basic and advanced levels.
 - ❖ Baseline -7 people from the Omaha Police Department are CPTED certified at the basic level (2010)

- ❖ 2020 Target -15 CPTED certified (including certification of representatives of the executive and legislative branches of city government and 2 OPD representatives trained at the highest level)
[Source -National Institute of Crime Prevention]

- 3. Decrease the percentage of adults with Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 30 and the percentage of youth with BMI in the 95th percentile BMI for age and sex.
 - ❖ Adults
 - ◆ Baseline -26.3% (2008)
 - ◆ 2020 Target -15%[Source - Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System]

 - ❖ Youth
 - ◆ Baseline -13.2% (2008)
 - ◆ 2020 Target -5%[Source - Live Well Omaha Kids and Youth Risk Behavior Survey]

- 4. Increase percentage of adult and youth who consume 5 or more servings of fruit and vegetable consumption per day.
 - ❖ Adults
 - ◆ Baseline -26% (2007)
 - ◆ 2020 Target - 40%[Source - Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System]

 - ❖ Youth
 - ◆ Baseline -3.4% (2008)
 - ◆ 2020 Target -25%[Source - Live Well Omaha Kid]

Community Health Goal Summary

ACTIVE OMAHA

Become an active community that supports healthy lifestyles with multiple and diverse environments to promote physical activity for all people in every season.

SAFE OMAHA

Become a safe community in which all people have community pride and opportunities to play, work, live and thrive.

HEALTHY OMAHA

Become a community that ensures all people have equitable access to foods, services, and opportunities that support their emotional, mental, social, spiritual, and physical well-being.

ACTIVE OMAHA

Become an active community that supports healthy lifestyles with multiple and diverse environments to promote physical activity for all people for every season.

Objectives:

1. Promote a distinctive community culture of physical activity, purposeful and recreational, based on the guiding belief that accessibility to physical activity is a core element of Omaha's built and natural environment.
 - 1.1. Gather and disseminate local data about community assets and how Omaha ranks in active living indicators.
 - 1.2. Create and support the implementation of an "active living action plan" that includes assessments of community assets, public input and funding for active living in a variety of weather conditions.
 - 1.3. Promote social marketing and educational campaigns that educate about the health benefits of physical activity and motivate all people to live active lifestyles.
 - 1.4. Develop maps, directories, and information about community active living venues, assets and resources.
 - 1.5. Participate in and support school and business wellness events and activities for active living.
 - 1.6. Promote free family events, such as walking and bicycling on or off trails and organize walking clubs.
 - 1.7. Promote and expand existing recreational programs and the hours of operation of facilities to respond to community demand.
 - 1.8. Work with groups and agencies to establish and support active living opportunities that are appropriate for all ages and abilities, including youth, seniors and people with special needs.
 - 1.9. Establish and promote "get back to nature" programs.
 - 1.10. Create public and community art that promotes active living.
 - 1.11. Explore the creation of incentives that will encourage people to use "green" shopping bags and, if revenue is generated, use it to fund "active living" uses such as bike trails, parks, and Sun Dawgs.
 - 1.12. Place signage at elevators to encourage use of stairs and make stairways safe and attractive.
 - 1.13. Provide for adequate bicycle parking and storage at public places and in workplaces.
 - 1.14. Assure that safe walking and biking routes are considered in site selection and design of public spaces, including schools.

2. Promote development with a mix of uses, including residences, workplaces, stores and cultural and community places that promote active living.
 - 2.1. Continue efforts to increase population density, control urban sprawl, and promote infill development/redevelopment.
 - 2.2. Provide for pedestrian and bicycle access to facilities (parks, trails, sidewalks, green spaces) as a primary consideration in neighborhood planning.
 - 2.3. Support transportation investments that accommodate and connect mixed used developments.
3. Locate and design parks, open spaces, public spaces, trails, streets, sidewalks, and recreational facilities to promote everyday physical activity in all seasons.
 - 3.1. Support and maintain an adequate parks and recreational master plan for all areas of the city.
 - 3.2. Identify funding sources for public places that promote active living, with funding priority focused on underserved areas.
 - 3.3. Locate recreation facilities that are accessible by multi-modal transportation that includes biking, walking and mass transit.
 - 3.4. Pursue adequate funding alternatives to improve park maintenance.
 - 3.5. Develop citywide culturally appropriate programs and facilities that promote physical activity for all ages and abilities.
 - 3.6. Partner with businesses to promote the installation of recreation and wellness facilities and programs, as well as showers and locker rooms for those who walk and/or ride bicycles to work.
 - 3.7. Partner with the school districts to construct additional joint library, school, garden and community center facilities.
 - 3.8. Design open spaces in large scale developments or locate building near planned open space to promote physical activity.
 - 3.9. Design and maintain parks, open spaces and community gardens that complement the cultural preferences of neighborhood populations.
 - 3.10. Include amenities in public spaces such as paths, trails, bike racks, playgrounds, benches, restrooms and drinking fountains.
 - 3.11. Create partnerships with businesses and neighborhoods to sponsor and maintain community spaces.

- 3.12. Establish and maintain spaces that are appropriate for children's play, both indoors and outdoors.
 - 3.13. Use appropriate design guidelines to create spaces with natural environments that promote nature appreciation, gardening and play and that can be accessed via recreational and active transportation routes.
 - 3.14. Change city codes to increase density, require less surface parking by establishing parking maximums, and to require more functionally active people-space.
 - 3.15. Ensure that play/activity areas for children are available for those who live in multi-family residential developments.
 - 3.16. Promote shared access, use and extended hours for municipal and non-city facilities.
4. Create a "Complete Streets" implementation program to sustain an integrated, multi-modal transportation network for motorists, transit users, bicyclists, pedestrians, and personal transportation vehicles that promotes health through physical activity and active transportation.
 - 4.1. Create a Transportation Master Plan establishing a "Complete Streets" policy that integrates the needs of all users, creating a multi-modal network for all transportation projects.
 - 4.2. Work towards institutionalizing a multi-modal policy within public agencies responsible for transportation investments.
 - ❖ Audit existing organizational structures to establish procedures, staff commitment, comprehension and experience with multi-modal policy implementation.
 - ❖ Offer workshops and educational opportunities for planners and engineers as required.
 - 4.3. Distribute transportation investments appropriately for all modes of transportation based on degree of need and/or the Transportation Master Plan.
 - ❖ Ensure that "street bond" investments support these three categories:
 - ◆ maintenance of existing streets;
 - ◆ creation of new multi-modal facilities;
 - ◆ multi-modal rehabilitation of existing facilities.
 - ❖ Establish a program of accountability for support of active living by City agencies responsible for transportation investments funded by local, state or federal sources.
 - 4.4. Create and utilize an appropriate Health Impact Assessment (HIA) to identify strengths and weaknesses in terms of public health. Where appropriate, health impact assessments should be included in the review and approval of transportation and large project developments.

- 4.5. Perform an audit of existing network conditions for all modes of transportation to identify gaps in the network, obstacles for safe routes to school, poor quality or substandard conditions. Institute better ways to measure performance and collect data on how well the streets are serving all users.
- 4.6. Develop measurement techniques to monitor use and outcome of multi-modal facility investment such as “mode share” and vehicle miles traveled (VMT).
- 4.7. Adopt street design standards to incorporate design and engineering practices that produce safe, functional, livable and cost effective multi-modal/complete streets and networks. Street design standards should be compatible with the adjacent land use context and provide exceptions for certain situations such as:
 - 1) Accommodation is not necessary on corridors where non-motorized use is prohibited, such as interstate freeways;
 - 2) Cost of accommodation is excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use;
 - 3) A documented absence of current or future need;
 - 4) Severe topographical constraints.
- 4.8. Adopt site design standards that require multi-modal facilities for large development projects including access to transit and network connectivity. Utilize the existing zoning review and approval process to assure developments provide these facilities.
- 4.9. Pursue modifications to state and local design standards or laws that conflict with or limit design flexibility for unique or special circumstances when implementing a multi-modal/complete street design.
- 4.10. Provide outreach and educational programs to inform citizens how transportation decisions affect community health, the ability to live active lifestyle and the quality of life.
- 4.11. Promote research and funding into opportunities for improved forms of mass transit such as bus rapid transit (BRT), streetcar, regional light-rail and national high-speed rail. Also work towards improving and coordinating existing forms of mass transit through interagency collaboration.
- 4.12. Prioritize and fund pilot projects to demonstrate multi-modal transportation facilities.

SAFE OMAHA

Become a safe community in which people have community pride and opportunities to play, work, live and thrive.

Objectives:

1. Ensure quality, safe, healthy, and affordable homes for all residents.
 - 1.1. Work with the Fire Department to identify necessary changes in design guidelines to incorporate fire-safe strategies.

- 1.2. Evaluate the building codes for changes necessary for the Green and Healthy Homes guidelines, and provide information about how to implement these recommendations.
- 1.3. Provide information about air quality, lead and other potential toxic substances and environmental hazards in homes and how to correct them.
- 1.4. Prepare and provide information about gun safety, particularly how to properly store and handle firearms and ammunition in the home.
- 1.5. Reduce chemical hazards in the home by educating about proper storage and disposal.
- 1.6. Develop and follow green and healthy homes guidelines for all City-built housing units.
- 1.7. Provide an integrated system of care for people experiencing homelessness.
- 1.8. Develop support programs and funding to assist homeowners to maintain and rehabilitate their homes.
- 1.9. Continuously update and enforce codes that require landowners to maintain their property.
2. Educate the community in the use of “Crime Prevention through Environmental Design” (CPTED) techniques to make neighborhoods safer.
 - 2.1. Use appropriate lighting to illuminate private property and public spaces.
 - 2.2. Use doors, gates, fences, and/or other methods to control access to private property.
 - 2.3. Design and utilize windows, lighting and landscaping to improve safety in and around private property.
 - 2.4. Increase the use of the built environment for safe activities with the intent of increasing “eyes on the street,” community pride and social cohesion to deter criminal and undesirable activities.
 - 2.5. Design and utilize sidewalks, landscaping and porches to establish a border between private and public property to create a feeling of territoriality.
 - 2.6. Include a CPTED certified person in the development review process.
 - 2.7. Promote CPTED education and certification of city officials, employees and design consultants.
3. Support community and neighborhood-based efforts to keep communities safe.
 - 3.1. Work to improve the safety of neighborhoods by encouraging social cohesion and active lifestyles through walking, biking or using transit.
 - 3.2. Review lighting standards for both public and private uses to improve safety and effectiveness.

- 3.3. Work with community residents, “neighborhood watch” groups and citizen patrols to establish a patrol and reporting system to ensure that abandoned and deteriorated properties, including vacant lots, are properly cared for and maintained.
- 3.4. Encourage the mounting of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in all significant existing, new and renovated buildings and include proper training/instruction for use.
- 3.5. Enhance public safety by strengthening community policing programs.
- 3.6. Invest in and promote youth programs that instill community pride and assure safe opportunities for active living and enrichment activities for youth in their community.
- 3.7. Explore opportunities to enhance safety along public trails and educate the public about how to use emergency notification and response procedures.
- 3.8. Encourage the use of protective helmets while bicycling and promote community programs that provide helmets.
- 3.9. Enact safe bicycling practices that enable safe operation of all vehicles on shared rights-of-way. A provision of these laws should provide a minimum safe passing distance for automobiles passing bicyclists. Additionally, establish laws that recognize the differing operational characteristics of motor and human-powered vehicles.
- 3.10. Develop design guidelines that deter criminal activity in neighborhoods, streets and public areas, including guidelines to prevent vandalism and graffiti.
- 3.11. Work with local police to assure crime prevention strategies in development and redevelopment projects.
- 3.12. Support community efforts to prevent and curb violence.
- 3.13. Proactively work with the Police Department and neighborhood groups to establish “Neighborhood Watch” groups and citizen patrols.
- 3.14. Create ownership within neighborhoods by establishing neighborhood organizations that disseminate important neighborhood information and continually develop programs and strategies that strengthen the neighborhood.
- 3.15. Create a web site that allows citizens to identify blighted conditions for city follow-up action.
- 3.16. Consider initiating state legislation that gives neighbors standing to seek civil damages against owners of deteriorated property that demonstrably affects the value of their properties.
- 3.17. Maintain aggressive code enforcement and property maintenance programs.

- 3.18. Provide community-wide volunteer assistance to people who have difficulty maintaining or repairing their own properties.
- 3.19. Support the National Safety Council of Greater Omaha in its effort to maintain Omaha's designation as a Safe Community by the World Health Organization. These efforts are focused in the following five categories:
 - a. An infrastructure based on partnership and collaborations, governed by a cross-sectional group that is responsible for safety promotion in their community;
 - b. Long-term sustainable programs covering both genders and all ages, environments and situations;
 - c. Programs that target high-risk groups and environments and programs that promote safe to vulnerable groups;
 - d. Evaluation measures to assess their programs, processes and the effects of change; and
 - e. Ongoing participation in national and international Safe Communities networks.
4. Ensure a long-term safe community by being prepared for potential hazards.
 - 4.1 Strengthen the emergency response warning system to reach all residents and address language barriers.
 - 4.2 Support the Citizens Corps in efforts to plan and prepare for emergencies.
 - 4.3 Work with public safety and emergency management officials to actively plan for community safety, including climate change and emergency prevention and adaptability.

HEALTHY OMAHA

Become a community that ensures its people have equitable access to foods, services, and opportunities that support their emotional, mental, social, spiritual and physical well-being.

Objectives:

1. Make neighborhoods places that promote the physical and mental health and healthy lifestyles of its residents.
 - 1.1. Encourage businesses and institutions to provide free Wi-Fi systems to enhance social cohesion.
 - 1.2. Provide communities resources and education on enhancing skills for building healthy communities.
 - 1.3. Establish and support public/private partnerships to fund healthy community promotions.
 - 1.4. Encourage neighborhood groups to establish neighborhood-based health committees.

- 1.5. Continue to work with the State of Nebraska Historical Society and the Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission to limit restrictions that prevent the healthy renovation of historic sites, structures and districts.
- 1.6. Work with groups to promote a smoke free-environment.
- 1.7. Work with the Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Public Property Departments to encourage the use of integrated pest management techniques that minimize the use of pesticides.
- 1.8. Develop an alcohol accessibility policy to decrease accessibility in neighborhoods.
- 1.9. Continue to educate about the health problems and social costs related to using alcohol, smoking and obesity.
2. Develop and implement food policies and systems—grocery stores, convenience shops, restaurants, community gardens, etc.--that make healthy, affordable and quality food choices available and accessible in all neighborhoods.
 - 2.1. Create community food councils that evaluate the community's food systems, encourage community input and recommend best practices to promote access to healthy and affordable foods for all residents.
 - 2.2. Inventory and map the availability of healthy food outlets in neighborhoods.
 - 2.3. Develop policies and strategies to attract full service grocery stores within walking distance from places of work and residences to promote healthy eating.
 - 2.4. Provide incentives to attract healthy food establishments to food deserts.
 - 2.5. Establish incentives for grocers who focus on buying and selling local goods.
 - 2.6. Explore the feasibility of removing barriers to allowing the distribution of produce from community gardens to improve access to underserved areas.
 - 2.7. Explore and implement opportunities such as the healthy corner store to assure the availability of healthy foods in existing retail outlets.
 - 2.8. Expand farmers markets, community gardens and local buying of fruits and vegetables to assure affordable access for all residents.
 - 2.9. Support urban agriculture and encourage local farmers to produce fresh fruits and vegetables for local distribution.
 - 2.10. Promote safety and awareness about lead contamination in soil and follow approved standards for all gardens.

- 2.11. Work with the Chamber of Commerce to seek corporate sponsorship of community gardens and school gardens.
- 2.12. Promote and educate about opportunities to buy healthy food from local vendors.
- 2.13. Promote farm to school/business initiatives.
- 2.14. Support urban farming requests, including orchards for children (this could involve land use waivers or rezoning requests) If compatible with their surroundings.
- 2.15. Establish a program that allows city-owned property to be used by neighborhood groups for community gardens.
- 2.16. Educate the public and raise awareness of the benefits of residential gardening.
- 2.17. Expand opportunities for distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables in underserved areas and in government programs. Support programs that result in free access to surplus fruits and vegetables.
- 2.18. Encourage restaurants to serve healthy foods and provide nutritional information to customers.
- 2.19. Work with city and other officials to make healthy foods available in concessions during events.
- 2.20. Increase the number of outdoor cafes to enhance street activity.
- 2.21. Consider limitations regarding the addition of fast food restaurants in food deserts.
- 2.22. Support the expansion and promotion of food co-ops and consumer supported agriculture (CSA) projects.
- 2.23. Support efforts to reduce sugar, fat and sodium in our diets.
- 2.24. Ensure that everyone has access to safe drinking water.
- 2.25. Encourage the use of edible plants in residential landscaping.
3. Provide for equitable access to health services and economic opportunities.
 - 3.1. Develop an access plan that addresses transit service to major medical facilities.
 - 3.2. Work with Douglas County to provide vaccinations and testing for communicable diseases in the public places.
 - 3.3. Expand the delivery of health services in neighborhoods, churches and schools.
 - 3.4. Expand and diversify the employment opportunities in places accessible by mass transit.

- 3.5. Recruit employment opportunities in underserved areas.
 - 3.6. Support and expand jobs-skills training programs and services.
 - 3.7. Promote and support small, local business owners.
 - 3.8. Promote employment practices that provide health benefits and a living wage.
4. Monitor and improve the environmental quality of our City's air, water, and land to promote the health of its residents.
 - 4.1. Improve air quality to protect human and environmental health and minimize impacts on sensitive populations.
 - 4.2. Promote the use of sustainable and green infrastructure to protect natural resources.
 - 4.3. Preserve, enhance and restore open spaces and urban creeks to protect natural habitat and promote biodiversity.
 - 4.4. Work with source generators to maintain acceptable noise levels in communities.
 - 4.5. Work with stakeholders to mitigate noise impact from roadways and railroads to residential areas.
 - 4.6. Work with the community to develop policies and programs that reduce smoking and exposure to second hand smoke.
 - 4.7. Engage air quality monitoring and enact an air pollution reduction plan.
 - 4.8. Develop and enforce indoor air quality standards.
 - 4.9. Implement landscaping practices that reduce heat and air pollutants.
 - 4.10. Strengthen programs to accelerate the cleanup and redevelopment of brown-field sites, lead removal, and other types of soil cleanup.
 - 4.11. Strengthen the enforcement of existing laws, particularly noise loudness violations.
 - 4.12. Enforce local and State of Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) codes to ensure good sanitation.
 - 4.13. Maintain and enforce the current ban on fireworks to reduce air pollution and trash that result from private use.

5. Engage community leaders to create policies and educate residents about how to build and sustain a healthy community.
 - 5.1. Promote public/private partnerships that engage the public to support public health initiatives.
 - 5.2. Strengthen the City's internal capacity to support and implement health related policies and programs.
 - 5.3. Support ongoing monitoring and public reporting of health outcomes and prevention strategies.
 - 5.4. Encourage preventative strategies in health and benefit plans offered to city and county employees.