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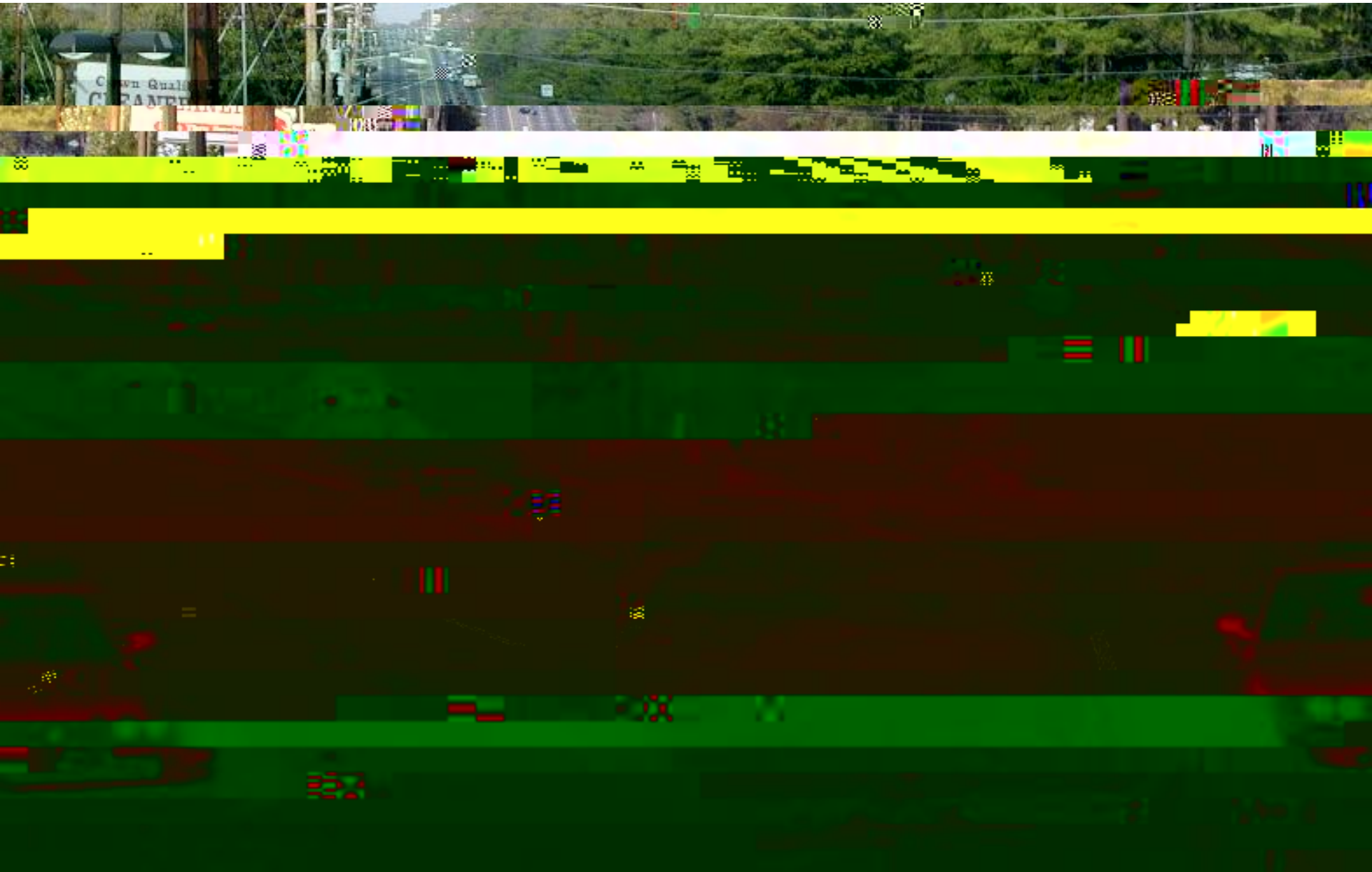

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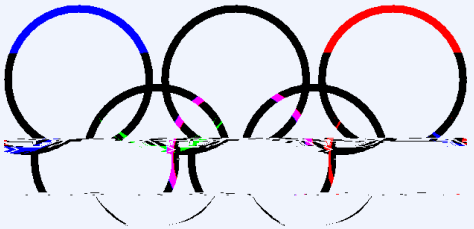
The Problem

So many daily policy decisions made outside of the health sector have significant health implications that go unrecognized because health is just not on the radar screens of decision makers .

Decisions Have Unintended Health Benefits Too

1996 Olympic Games, Atlanta

24 hour public transportation
Addition of public buses
Reduction of auto travel and congestion
Public announcements



Was shown to decrease acute childhood asthma events

Introduction of EZ Pass, Northeastern U.S.

Reduced traffic congestion
Reduced motor vehicle emissions
Reduce disparities

Resulted in reduction of low birth-weight infants in surrounding neighborhoods

Slide courtesy of Human Impact Partners

What is HIA?

- A framework or process that predicts anticipated health outcomes of a decision/project
- Translates that information into recommendations for well-informed policies
- Helps folks outside the heath field understand the direct health impacts of their work
- + , $ ¶ purpose is to improve health, track unintended consequences and mitigate risk

HIA Addresses Determinants of Health

How might the proposed project, plan, policy

affect

Housing
Air quality
Noise
Safety
Social networks
Nutrition
Parks and natural space
Private goods and services
Public services
Transportation
Livelihood
Water quality
Education
Inequities

And potentially lead to predicted health outcomes?

Slide courtesy of Human Impact Partners

HEALTH IMPACT PROJECT

The HIA Process

- Screening : Is HIA feasible and likely to add value?
- Scoping : What are the important health effects? Who are the affected populations? What is available evidence?
- Assessment : What are the baseline conditions and likely health impacts?
- Recommendations : Develop health-based recommendations and a feasible plan for implementing them
- Reporting : Disseminate the report to the public, stakeholders
- Monitoring and Evaluation : Monitors results of HIA, monitors health outcomes; evaluates the HIA process

What HIA is not . . . What HIA is

- , W ¶ V Q R W X V H G W R P D N H W K H F D V H project <u>should</u> be proposed.
- , W ¶ V Q R W D Q D V V H V V P H Q W W R X Q G H or policy once it has been implemented.
- The Sweet Spot ± , W <u>proactive</u> , W ¶ V P H D Q W W R proposed policy, program or project currently under active consideration by a decision-making body.
- , W ¶ V Q R W D F R P P X Q L W \ D V V H V V P H Q W those are used during assessment stage of HIA.
- HIA is the framework that translates that data into well-informed policies.

HIA Ex: Jack London Gateway Development

Authors : Human Impact Partners & SFDPH

HIA Ex: Oregon Farm -to-School Bill

Authors : Upstream Public Health, non-profit based in Portland, OR

Decision : To inform the debate around HB 2800: Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Legislation. Would reimburse 15 cents for lunch and 7 cents for breakfast to schools that purchased Oregon products; also includes $$ for school garden & nutrition education grants

Impacts : Looked at effects of proposed legislation on employment, diet and nutrition, cross-curriculum education opportunities, environmental health, social capital

HIA Ex: Oregon Farm -to-School Bill (Cont.)

Key Findings:

- School reimbursement funds would:
  - Create and maintain up to 800 jobs for Oregonians over 5-10 yrs
  - Increase student participation in school meals program
  - Improve household food security
- Food, garden and agricultural grants would:
  - Increase childhood food preferences for fruits and vegetables
  - Shape long- W H U P K H D O W K \ G L H W F K R L F H V W K D academic achievement while preventing obesity

Outcomes : HIA authors provided testimony to the legislature and two key HIA recommendations were implemented through a legislative amendment process. A pared-down version of the bill unanimously passed house/senate and was signed into law by governor in 2011.

HEALTH IMPACT PROJECT

Additional Examples of HIA

MA Rental Voucher Program: Child Health Impact Assessment

- Found that proposed changes in eligibility would result in dis-enrollment and increased housing instability
- Which, in turn, leads to higher education cost for vulnerable children ($6,700 ±special education; $6,800

Integrating HIA into EIA

The Categories of HIA

‡ HIAs are defined according to effort, complexity and duration. They typically fall into one of three categories:

¾Rapid ±weeks to months, focused on smaller/less complex decisions, literature review and some qualitative analysis

™Desktop HIA ±refers to a rapid HIA with little/to no stakeholder engagement

¾Intermediate ±more time (months ±one year) and resources, more stakeholder engagement; more detailed analysis, but little collection of new data

¾Comprehensive ±more time (many months ±a year or more),

The Categories of HIA (Continued)

‡ Categories are useful in describing the range of HIA practice

‡ BUT the categories are rarely used consistently

‡ HIA typically encompasses a combination of procedures, methods and tools

‡ By nature, HIA is flexible and meant to fit the scale and scope of any timeline and available resources

‡ Minimum elements : informs an active decision; stakeholder input, predicts impacts on health; makes recommendations to mitigate or maximize impacts; transparent, public process

The Benefits of HIA

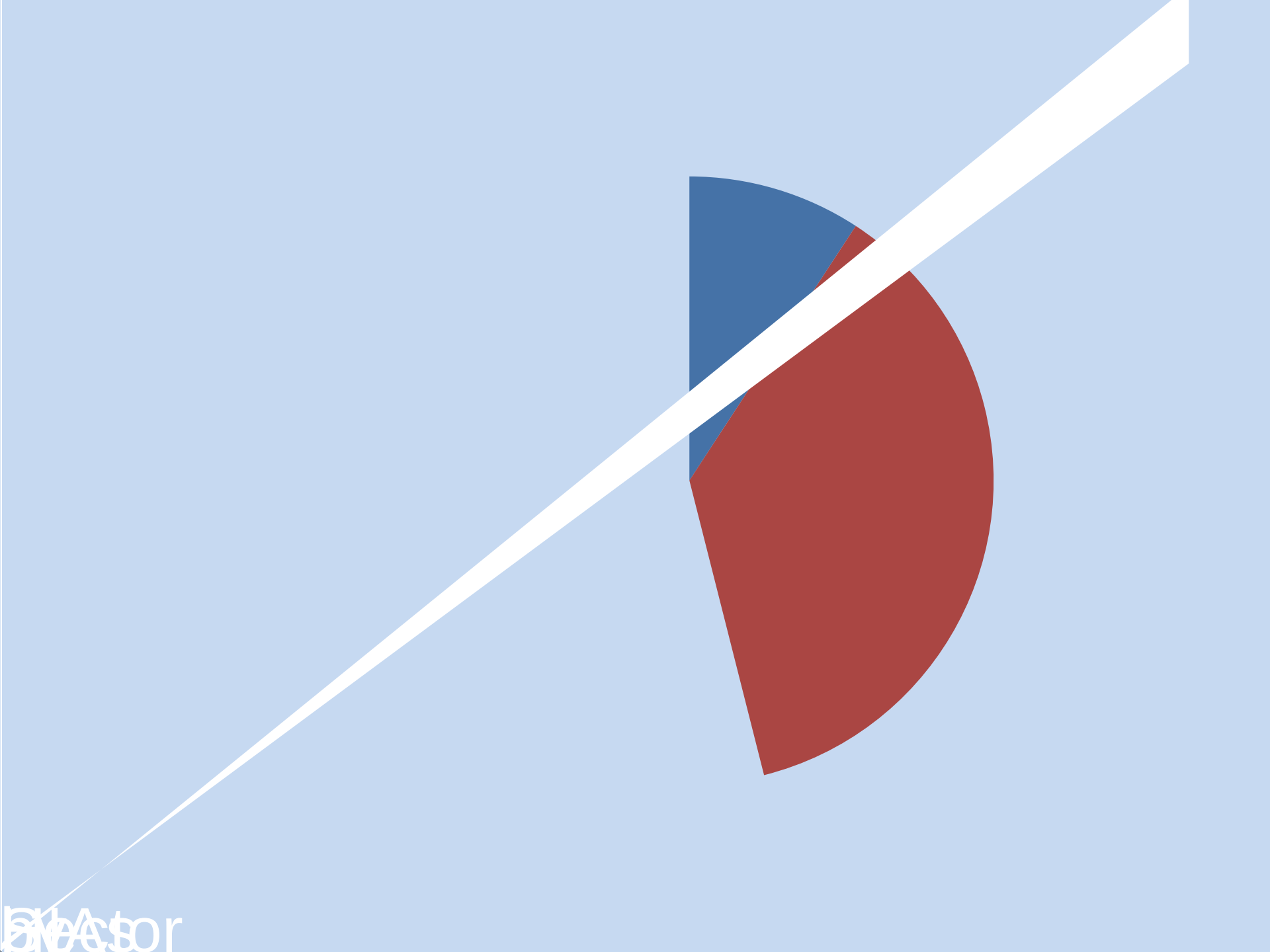
1. Involves a broad -range of impacted people
   - ‡ Community capacity building/empowerment
2. , W ¶ V D Q H I I H F W L Y H P H D Q L Q J I X O Z R U N L Q J U H O D W L R Q V K L S V
   collaboration
   - ‡ Relationships/trust is built among partners through HIA process
   - ‡ Increases likelihood of routine consideration of health
3. There is a strong business case for HIA
   - ‡ Corporate social responsibility ±address community concerns early in the planning process
   - ‡ Lower business costs ±can actually help speed approval of a project/decision
   - ‡ . Q R Z \ R X U 3 + H D O W K a s a 5 2 0 ´ of risk management

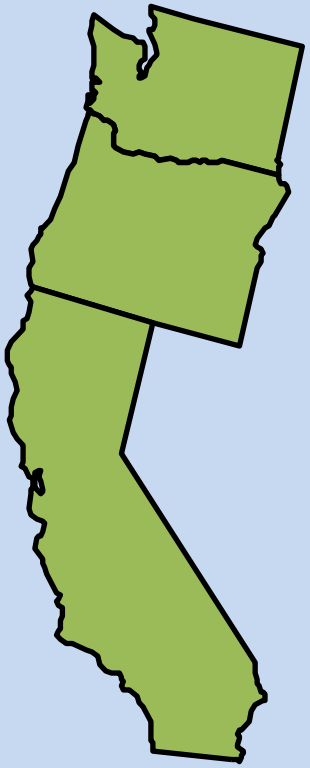
How You Define Success

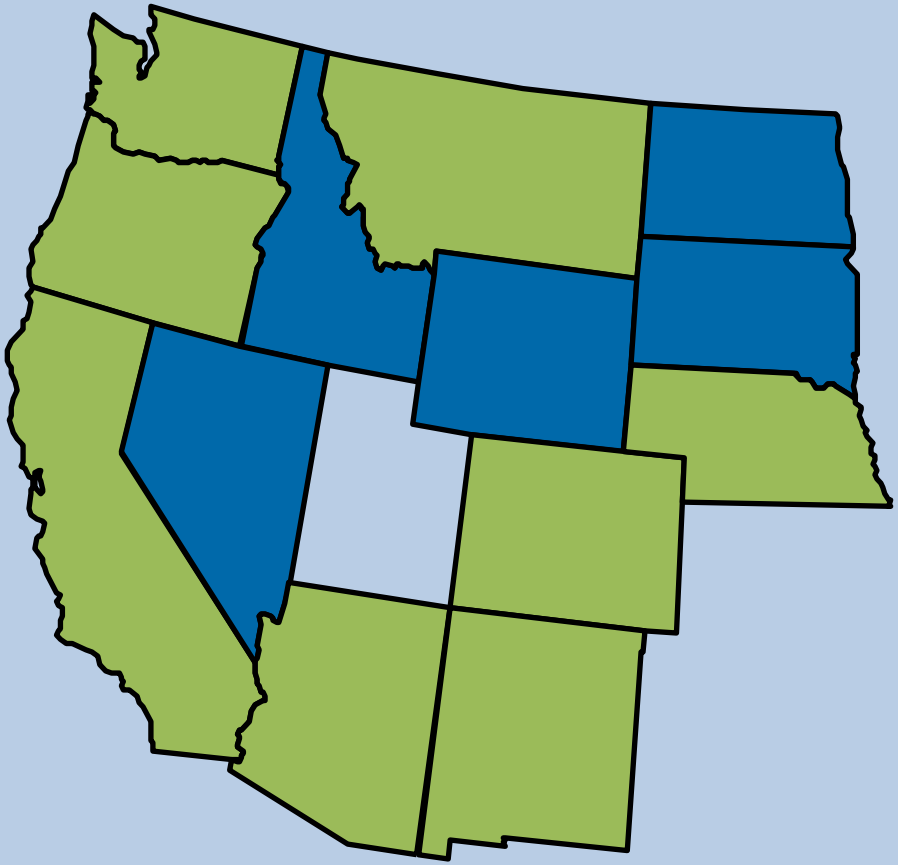
- A culture change – We routinely discuss; decision-makers/planning department now routinely think about
- Addressed community concerns
- Influenced the decision – Data/recommendations adopted into the plan
-

Who Does HIA?

- Non-profit organizations
- Community groups affected by a decision
- Local and State government agencies
  - Public Health, Environmental Health, Planning Departments
- Universities & research institutions
- Industry/business community







How do you Make HIA Stick?

The field is exploring G L I I H U H Q W D Y H Q X H V I R U V for HIA capacity in states and communities

‡CDC-

Key Points About HIA

1. The best way to learn HIA is just to do one!
   Legacy of HIA:
   - ‡Relationships/trust is built among partners
   - ‡Increased stakeholder understanding of value of HIA
   - ‡Increases likelihood of doing another HIA in future or routine consideration of health in decision making
2. 0 R V W + , $ V D U H Q ¶ W D 3 ULPDU\ WKDW WLPH [S H Q
3. Takes a champion willing to spearhead effort

Key Points About HIA (Continued)

- There may be HIAs that are not worthwhile
  - Can't say that HIA is right for every policy decision
- HIA is meant to be just one of many tools in

Questions?

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