

CASE STUDY

Local Government and Health District Partner in Henderson, Nevada



The city of Henderson and its local health district share a vision to make Henderson a healthier, more livable community. This shared vision and commitment to regional priorities has made collaborating a natural match. Partnering with the local health district has vastly expanded Henderson's capacity for improving health equity.

The local health district has contributed their unique skillsets, experience with federal funding, and access to data, as well as connected Henderson to other partners.

Initially, the city and health district collaborated on functions where they had shared responsibility, such as inspecting childcare facilities. Over time, their relationship has expanded into a strategic partnership where both entities have accomplished much more than either is required to do. For example, the city and health district partner on increasing access to fruits and vegetables, education, neighborhood redevelopment in areas with disparate health outcomes, and more.

The partnership is successful because of open communication and idea sharing. Mindy Meacham, a Health Educator at Southern Nevada Health District, appreciates that Henderson has been willing to take risks and try new things. "There is support at the city of Henderson to look for opportunities that haven't been done before and to be willing to be the leader in the region and set an example for how things should be done." From the health district's perspective, that has made working together impactful and engaging.

OF THE 9 CENSUS TRACTS NEAR THE MAJOR ROADWAYS, MANY HAVE A HIGHER THAN NORMAL INCIDENCE OF THESE NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES:



9/9

**POOR MENTAL
HEALTH**



8/9

ASTHMA



8/9

**POOR PHYSICAL
HEALTH**



5/9

DIABETES



Debra March

Mayor, Henderson, Nevada

HENDERSON

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Mindy Meacham, Health Educator at Southern Nevada Health District



Impact on Health Equity

The health district identified that residents who live close to Boulder Highway and Lake Mead Parkway have a higher incidence of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), asthma, and other respiratory issues than the rest of Henderson.

The city and health district have since taken steps to mitigate the deleterious effects of the highways and revitalize the Boulder Highway Corridor. Eligible residents can receive a free environmental assessment of their property funded by the Environmental Protection Agency as well as free health screenings and treatment. Investments have also been made to enhance the safety of people walking or riding bikes by installing bike lanes and new street lights, and by shortening crosswalks in order to make sustainable improvements in the area.

Impact on the Built Environment

Consistent collaboration and focus on shared values between the city and health district have led to measurable improvements to accessibility of trails, and access to public and active transportation.



- More than **3 MILES OF TRAILS** were added over the last two years.



- More than **15 MILES OF BIKE LANES** were added over the last two years.



68%
OF RESIDENTS LIVE
WITHIN .25 MILE OF
A TRAIL



81%
OF RESIDENTS LIVE
WITHIN .25 MILE OF
AN ON-STREET BIKE
LANE



42%
OF RESIDENTS LIVE
WITHIN .25 MILE OF
A BUS STOP

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BUILDING STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

1

Identify areas of common concern.

2

Serve on coalitions or working groups with partners from a variety of entities.

3

Get to know people from many different divisions of the health department.