

<b>Topic:</b>	County HIA Process
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<b>State:</b>	Florida
<b>Jurisdiction Type:</b>	Municipal
<b>Municipality:</b>	Hillsborough County
<b>Year (adopted, written, etc.):</b>	2018
<b>Community Type – applicable to:</b>	Suburban
<b>Title:</b>	Health Impact Assessment Process
<b>Document Last Updated in Database:</b>	September 17, 2018

### ***Abstract***

There is an extensive required Health Impact Assessment process in Hillsborough County, Florida for any public projects that are proposed to the planning board. They have a six step HIA program, similar to an Environmental Impact Statement, which consists of a screening, scoping, assessment, recommendations, reporting, and monitoring phase. For all public projects being developed in the county, an HIA must first be completed before construction begins in order to mitigate the public health effects the development might have on the community. By conducting an HIA, the local government prioritizes public health in their community and can see tangible results in the health of their citizenry.

### ***Resource***

<http://hillsborough.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/community-health-planning-statistics/health-equity/health-impact-assessment/index.html>

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**Child Abuse and Death Review Committee** (</programs-and-services/community-health-planning-statistics/health-equity/child-abuse-death-review/index.html>)

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**Health in All Policies** (</programs-and-services/community-health-planning-statistics/health-equity/health-in-all-policies/index.html>)

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## Health Impact Assessment

### What is a Health Impact Assessment?

Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a practice that aims to protect and promote health and to reduce inequities in health during a decision-making process (Bhatia, et al., 2014). It is a step by step process that explores the possible positive and negative health effects of a proposed plan, project, program, or policy.

### Why Conduct an HIA?

This process evaluates both the obvious and not so obvious effects of the proposed plan and makes recommendations for improvements. HIAs are guided by the principles of equity and the wider determinants of health.



The six steps of the Health Impact Assessment process

(Source: [Mecklenburg County, North Carolina Health Department](https://www.mecknc.gov/HealthDepartment/CommunityHealthServices/Pages/Health-Impact-Assessment-(HIA).aspx) ([https://www.mecknc.gov/HealthDepartment/CommunityHealthServices/Pages/Health-Impact-Assessment-\(HIA\).aspx](https://www.mecknc.gov/HealthDepartment/CommunityHealthServices/Pages/Health-Impact-Assessment-(HIA).aspx))).

### Completed Health Impact Assessments

**[EPA Brownfields Redevelopment Area-Wide Plan HIA:](#)** ([\\_documents/report-hia-epa.pdf](/documents/report-hia-epa.pdf))

Evaluated the health impacts of constructing a community park, establishing a community garden and improving community walkability in the University Area. These community assets would provide safe places for children and other residents to play outdoors, increase residents' access to fresh food and services, thus improving the overall health of our community.

**[George Road Complete Streets HIA:](#)** ([\\_documents/report-hia-george-road2.pdf](/documents/report-hia-george-road2.pdf))

Evaluated the health effects of constructing a complete street connecting two trailways in the George Road area. This would improve the overall health of our community by increasing outdoor activities such as walking, biking and using trails. This HIA was conducted in collaboration with the [Hillsborough Metropolitan Planning Organization](http://www.planhillsborough.org/metropolitan-planning-organization-mpo/) (<http://www.planhillsborough.org/metropolitan-planning-organization-mpo/>).

**[Parks and Recreation HIA:](#)** ([\\_documents/report-hia-parks.pdf](/documents/report-hia-parks.pdf))

Florida Department of Health - Hillsborough County

**Phone:** (813) 307-8000 (tel:(813) 307-8000)

**Email:** [Info.HillsWeb@FLHealth.gov](mailto:Info.HillsWeb@FLHealth.gov) (mailto:Info.HillsWeb@FLHealth.gov)

**Fax:** (813) 273-3721

**Mailing Address:**  
 P.O. Box 5135  
 Tampa, FL 33675-5135

Evaluated the health effects of a policy that would permit local businesses to provide outdoor exercise classes in public parks at no cost to the community. This would potentially increase the use of local parks and provide physical activity opportunities for adults, thus improving the overall well-being of the community.

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[\(http://www.healthiestweightflorida.com/\)](http://www.healthiestweightflorida.com/)

  
[\(http://www.tobaccofreeflorida.com/\)](http://www.tobaccofreeflorida.com/)

Additional Resources in Hillsborough County  
HillsboroughCounty.org  
[\(http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/\)](http://www.hillsboroughcounty.org/)  
2-1-1 Tampa Bay  
[\(http://www.211tampabay.org/\)](http://www.211tampabay.org/)

State Surgeon General  
<http://www.floridahealth.gov/about/ssg/index.html>  
State Leadership  
<http://www.floridahealth.gov/about/ssg/leadership/index.html>  
County Health Department Leadership  
<http://www.floridahealth.gov/about/ssg/chd-leadership/index.html>

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<http://www.floridahealth.gov/provider-and-partner-resources/advisory-councils-stakeholder-groups/index.html>

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Public Records Requests  
<http://www.floridahealth.gov/about/sunshine-info/public-records-requests/index.html>

State Health Improvement Plan  
[http://www.floridahealth.gov/about/state-and-community-health-assessment/ship-process/index.html?utm\\_source=flhealth.gov%26utm\\_medium=text\\_linkredirect%26utm\\_campaign=ship\\_sha%26](http://www.floridahealth.gov/about/state-and-community-health-assessment/ship-process/index.html?utm_source=flhealth.gov%26utm_medium=text_linkredirect%26utm_campaign=ship_sha%26)

Annual Regulatory Plans—Florida Department of Health (pdf)  
[http://www.floridahealth.gov/\\_documents/annual-regulatory-plan-fdoh.pdf](http://www.floridahealth.gov/_documents/annual-regulatory-plan-fdoh.pdf)

Annual Regulatory Plans—Boards (pdf)  
[http://www.floridahealth.gov/\\_documents/annual-regulatory-plan-boards.pdf](http://www.floridahealth.gov/_documents/annual-regulatory-plan-boards.pdf)

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