Reporting

This HIA report is the final reporting product of the HIA process. It has been made publicly accessible on the website www.behealthydenver.org. A limited number of copies of the full report have been printed. Other reporting products include the following:

1. A draft HIA was available for public comment from April 18 to May 12, 2014 online at http://www.denvergov.org/cpd CommunityPlanningandDevelopment PlanningandDesign/PlansinProgress GlobevilleNeighborhoodPlan/tabid/443230 Default.aspx. Public comments were accepted online via a dedicated email address. Public comments were addressed as needed in the HIA final report, and a formal written record of HIA report revisions was recorded and can be found online in the Appendices of the final report, at www.behealthydenver.org.

2. Executive Summary and Recommendations (English): posted online at www.behealthydenver.org and printed.

3. Executive Summary and Recommendations (Spanish): posted online at www.behealthydenver.org and printed.

Thus far, the HIA findings or recommendations have been used to inform Denver’s 2014 Climate Adaptation Plan and the City’s application for accreditation with the Public Health Accreditation Board. Further, it is anticipated that HIA findings will be included in public comments on the I-70 East Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement in October 2014.

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

The recommendations of this HIA should be monitored to ensure implementation by City agencies and other organizations, and to evaluate the short-, intermediate-, and long-term health impacts of the recommended actions as identified in the pathway diagrams (Figures 9 and 10).

Denver Environmental Health intends to monitor the progress of implementation of recommendations, and report that progress on a regular basis to stakeholders. Each recommendation has a lead agency assigned for implementation, and supporting agencies or organizations.

Changes in short-, intermediate-, and long-term health impacts should also be included in the progress reporting.

In addition to the health impacts, Denver Environmental Health intends to evaluate the effectiveness of the HIA process, including how the decision-making process was informed, any new capacity built among partners to consider health in future land use and transportation planning decisions, and any new partnerships established as a result of the HIA.
Conclusion and Next Steps

This Health Impact Assessment is an effort to address the community health factors that can be impacted by the Neighborhood Plans for Globeville and Elyria Swansea. The HIA findings highlight current health impacts of factors including environmental quality and physical infrastructure, and predict future health impacts that can result with the planning and development that is envisioned in the Neighborhood Plans.

The information and recommendations in this HIA are being incorporated into each of the Neighborhood Plans for Globeville and Elyria Swansea, which are anticipated to be adopted by the Denver City Council in late 2014 and early 2015. The Neighborhood Plans have the potential to create lasting positive impacts to health and wellness for years to come for residents, workers and visitors to these historic North Denver neighborhoods.

The findings of this HIA are designed to be used to inform future plans, policies or projects in Globeville and Elyria Swansea as well, such as the I-70 reconstruction, redevelopment of the National Western Center, new opportunities for access to healthy food, development of the South Platte River greenway, the opening of new rail transit stations, and other investment in the communities. Stakeholders including City departments, other agencies, local nonprofits, and community groups can work independently or together to implement the various recommendations; indeed, some activities are already underway. Implementation of these HIA recommendations will likely result in community design that contributes to better health for current and future residents of these neighborhoods.

Methodology and Limitations

This HIA used a mixed methods research approach, employing both quantitative and qualitative data including surveys, interviews, and health surveillance datasets. Some primary data were collected, and secondary data (surveys and listening conversations) were shared by local nonprofit and community organizations.

As with most HIAs, there were limitations in resources and data. The sample sizes in some of the surveys were small. The survey respondents were often self-selected versus randomized. The key informant interviews were conducted in an attempt to balance this limitation and collect more in-depth data.

Finally, the HIA used the Neighborhood Plan steering committees as guiding entities rather than selecting a separate HIA steering committee. Because the communities have small populations, it may have been unreasonable to invite residents to attend dual sets of steering committee meetings for two projects that were closely related.