Multi-Generational Planning: Linking Needs of Children and Elders

http://www.mildredwarner.org/webinar021513

Funding provided by the USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Presentation to Webinar
Child and Age friendly Communities:
Fostering communities as if all people mattered
Private Practice Division, APA
Feb. 15, 2013

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The Promise of Multi-Generational Planning
Core Principles

Child-Friendly Cities

- Basic Services
- Safe Water
- Safe Streets
- Opportunity to Play
- Civic Participation
- Family Support
- Protection from Exploitation

Age-Friendly Cities

- Housing
- Transportation
- Services (Health)
- Outdoor Spaces
- Communication
- Civic and Social Participation
- Respect

Many Common Elements
A Framework for Multigenerational Planning

The link between design and services

Early Life | Adult Life | Older Age
---|---|---
Full Capacity in an Enabling Environment

Improved Functionality | Average Functionality

Source: Author Addition based on Kalache and Kickbusch, 1997 and WHO, Global Age Friendly Cities, 2007
Three Challenges for Planning

Foster Individual Independence (Inclusive Design)

Support Informal Networks

Informal Networks: Family, Friends and Neighbors

Promote Community Services (Market and Government)

Community Services – Market & Govt.
Arguments for
Multi-Generational Planning

Why do we need to do this?

• Changing demographics
• Public expenditure challenges
• Economic development imperatives

What can we do?

• Planning and service design solutions
Changing Demographics

Total Population by Age and Sex: 1900, 1950, and 2000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, decennial census of population, 1900, 1950, and 2000.
Diversity and the Need for a New Social Compact

U.S. Population by Age and Race/Ethnicity

Federal and State/Local Spending on Elderly and Children

Spending per Elder

$760

$21,144

Total = $21,904

Spending per Child

$6,047

$2,895

Total = $8,942

Data Source: Isaacs, Julia, ‘How Much Do We Spend on Children And The Elderly?’ Urban Institute, 2009. Figure constructed by Mildred Warner.
Government Spending by Age (2004)

Economic Development Imperatives: Retain Families with Children

Average Annual Expenditures and Income, by age group (2010)

Family spending on children fuels the local economy.

$222,360: Average total spending by family per child (birth to age 17)

77% is spent in the local economy.

The Critical Role of Planning

• 2008 Family Friendly Planning Survey, American Planning Association
• Surveyed attitudes, barriers, actions, zoning and site planning
• 944 planners responded, Data tables that follow show % responding

See Warner and Rukus, *Planning for Family Friendly Communities: Motivators, Barriers and Benefits* [www.mildredwarner.org/p/165](http://www.mildredwarner.org/p/165)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planners’ attitudes towards families are positive</th>
<th>Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Families are important to community growth, sustainability and diversity.</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families represent a valuable consumer population.</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities that keep people for the whole life cycle (children, single adults, parents, elderly) are more vibrant.</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families are the most likely population group to reinvest in their community through time, money and other forms of civic engagement.</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The needs of families are similar to the needs of the elderly with regards to the physical environment (e.g. parks, transportation, affordable housing).</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most families do not generate sufficient tax revenue to cover the cost of services they demand.</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ACTIONS:**
Many local actions promote child and family friendly cities.

**Housing**
- Have a variety of types 67%
- Have an adequate supply of 2+ bedroom apartments 45%
- Promote transit-oriented development 45%

**Transportation & Mobility**
- Have sidewalks 97%
- Have bike lanes 76%
- Have walk-to-school programs 52%

**Education**
- Collaborate with school district to site schools 45%
- Co-locate services in schools 43%
- Have an adequate supply of child care 20%

**Use impact fees to subsidize...**
- Park and recreation facilities 45%
- Schools 22%
- Transit 16%
- Child care 7%

**Routinely use local, state, or federal funding to support...**
- Streetscape improvements 80%
- Affordable housing 57%
- Parks 58%
- Child care 21%

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**SITE PLANNING & ZONING:**
Key site planning and zoning elements can advance the interests of families.

**Housing: Zoning regulations promote...**
- Multi-family housing 66%
- Family-sized housing (2+ bedrooms) 60%
- Affordable housing 39%
- Accessory apartments by right 25%

**Child Care: Zoning regulations promote...**
- Siting child care centers 41%
- Family child care homes by right 34%

**Development: Zoning and subdivision regulations...**
- Allow for mixed use 90%
- Require parks/playgrounds 69%
- Provide density bonuses 58%

**Transportation and Mobility: Zoning and subdivision regulations...**
- Mandate sidewalks 80%
- Require street connectivity with adjacent developments 75%
- Consider pedestrian needs in site plan reviews 74%

**Design/Safety: Community has...**
- Traffic calming measures in residential neighborhoods 74%
- Lighting guidelines that address/promote safety 60%
- Design guidelines that facilitate neighbor interaction 53%
- Street furniture that facilitates "eyes on the street" 37%

Housing
• Family-sized housing (2+ BR) 60%
• Affordable housing 39%
• Accessory dwelling units 25%

Transportation & Mobility
• Sidewalks 97%, Bike lanes 76%
• Walk-to-school programs 52%

Child Care
• Adequate supply of child care 20%
• Family home child care by right 34%

Collaborate with Schools
• Collaborate in siting schools 45%
• Co-locate services in schools 43%
Use impact fees to subsidize…

- Parks & recreation facilities 45%
- Schools 22%
- Transit 16%
- Child care 7%
Family friendly planning reduces crime.

Family friendly planning:
Esp. Impact fees to fund community services

Community disorder:
Unemployment, poverty, drop-out rates, etc.

Barriers to Building Family-Friendly Communities

**Active Resistance**
- Public blocks multi-family housing: 76%
- Public blocks mixed-use development: 54%
- Blocks affordable housing: 65%
- No financial support: 68%
- Developer-driven development: 68%
- NIMBY-ism: 71%
- Regulatory barriers: 45%

**Lack of Awareness and Knowledge**
- Lack of voice for families: 65%
- Insufficient political interest: 63%
- Lack of community interest: 57%
- Complexity of issue: 66%
- Unaware of what is required to begin: 56%
- Lack of authority: 53%

*Source: APA Family Friendly Planning Survey, 2008, (944 planners responding)*
Planning Leads to Action, Ignorance Leads to Resistance

- Family Participation
- Site Planning and Zoning
- Positive Attitudes
- Lack of Awareness and Lack of Knowledge
- Comprehensive Planning

Key variables from regression results.

A Vision for the Future

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This presentation is available online at:
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