

Austin Troy: Best Practices for Healthy Neighborhood Design

Health and urban design are inextricably linked, yet relatively few resources exist to better integrate the two. This three-year project created the [CU Denver Health and Design Initiative](#). It brought together the work of numerous interdisciplinary graduate studios in the Urban Planning, Landscape Architecture, Architecture and Urban Design Departments with a graduate student research team to address the integration of health and design, using the rapidly changing Sun Valley neighborhood of Denver as a case study. It resulted in the creation of the “[Creating Healthy Places Guidebook](#),” a resource of best practices and tools for advancing 21st century solutions for integrating public health and wellness into planning and design. The Guidebook also provides real-world examples of places that have intentionally taken on actions and steps to improve health within the context of towns and cities. The Initiative also resulted in the creation of an extensive [collaborative network of partner organizations](#) and a “[guidebox](#)” of resources for towns and planners.

- Funder: Colorado Health Foundation (Dates active 2016-2019)
- Partners: [Over 20 partner organizations](#)
- Research Team: Michael Jenson (lead PI), Austin Troy (Co-PI), Rocky Piro (Project coordinator)+ over 50 CAP students and faculty

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